

## When Burdens Grow Greater

*Casting all your care upon Him, for He careth for you. –1 Peter 5:7*

This week I have been touched by numerous tragedies. I feel so drained because people I care about are suffering. My son-in-law made a trip to California to spend time with his mother who has stage 4 cancer; my co-worker is on his way to Florida because his father died suddenly from a heart attack; several of my students are going home on spring break and they will not find the friends they left last fall. Yesterday my niece's family attended the funeral of her 26 year old brother-in-law who died when a truck crossed over the center line. Last week, a young man drove his car into a tree near where I work, an apparent suicide. Early this morning my brother-in-law called to tell us his wife's mother passed away. I have a nephew who is dying and my 7 year old great-grandson was just taken by helicopter to a major hospital in Houston due to three coral snake bites.

I feel like sitting down and crying; crying for the people I care about.

Then I am reminded of the One, who suffered for me; the one who cares about my friends and family with unfailing love. I read the following by Erwin Lutzer, "We are sustained in our suffering by realizing the God has been suffering through Christ in this world. God Himself was left cold and rejected; God Himself endured the humility of the cross. A mark of the true church is to be always suffering."

Where do we find relief? At the cross. As we follow Christ unreservedly we find that His "burden is light." Whatever He requires of us, wherever He leads us, He gives us the strength to perform and the peace to press on.