



# FAIR HAVEN IS

<b>DATE</b>	September 22, 2019
<b>SPEAKER</b>	David Smith
<b>TITLE</b>	Lend a Hand
<b>SERIES</b>	If you take a close look at Fairhaven, what do you see? What's important to us? Why do we do what we do? And where do you fit in? Whether you're new to Fairhaven or have been with us for a while, you make us who we are.

Today we focused on the second part of how we at Fairhaven help the world to find hope in following Jesus: We carry each other's burdens (lend a helping hand) within and outside our church walls.

- 1) What is the most recent way that someone jumped in to lend a hand in your life and how did that impact you?
- 2) Burdens are unavoidable. Read John 16:33. Do you believe nothing is wasted in God's economy - why or why not? How can suffering, tribulations, or heavy burdens point us to Jesus? How does knowing Jesus "the overcomer" bring peace?
- 3) Pastor David said that when we carry other's burdens it can cause curiosity. How does that change your perspective about lending a hand to someone? Read 1 Peter 3:15. How can you prepare yourself to answer any questions of curiosity they may have? How ready are you to point them to the Lord Jesus?
- 4) We help others find hope when we lend a hand in lifting their burdens. How is the burden-lifting that Paul talks about in Galatians 6 like Jesus's command in Matthew 5:13-16 to be salt and light?
- 5) Pastor David said that burden lifters are not self-sufficient. Read John 15:5. When you feel your own burdens or your entanglement in sin prohibit you from being a burden lifter, how do Jesus' words reassure you that He will give you the strength to step into another's life and help them lift their burden? Have you experienced a situation where that verse rang true?
- 6) Our own heavy burden is often the biggest obstacle in preventing us from helping someone else with their heavy load. What solution to this dilemma can be found in 2 Corinthians 1:4?
- 7) Have you ever unintentionally become someone's enabler by lending a hand with something that wasn't a heavy load but rather their personal responsibility? Are you still doing it? How can you extricate yourself from this situation?
- 8) Can you think of a time when you missed an opportunity to lend a hand and regretted it? From this point on, how can you train yourself to be more alert, willing to act quickly, and develop the tenacity to stay in it for the long-haul when the next opportunity to be a burden lifter presents itself?

**Prayer focus:** Ask God to reveal a situation where you could lend a hand and ask for His strength and wisdom to see it through.