

RESTORING WANDERERS WITH GRACE

James 5:19–20; Galatians 6:1–2

Because we are members of the same family, we care about each other. When our brothers or sisters stray onto paths that are sure to lead them into unwholesome and even dangerous places, we don't shrug our shoulders and look the other way. Our love for them prompts us to pray for them. There are times, however, we must do more than pray; we are led by God to get involved in helping them realize how far they have wandered from the truth as we step into their lives and assist in their restoration. This is a delicate process; therefore, it must be done correctly—with much wisdom, skill, gentleness, patience, and humility. In a word, *grace*. As James comes to the end of his helpful letter, he addresses this sensitive subject, reminding us that when we help restore another, we're relieving that person from the misery of a death-like existence.

I. Let's Compare James with Jesus and Paul

- Considering Scripture

- Applying wisdom

II. Let's Understand James' Counsel

- Answering important questions

- Having the right attitude

- Restoring the wanderer

III. A Simple Summary of the Letter of James