

Restore One Another

Galatians 6:1-5

Introduction

Every Sunday Christians come to church who are struggling with a sin that has an unshakeable grip on their lives. While most of these believers want to live a life that is pleasing to God, they are unable, on their own, to get free of the sin that entangles them. In light of this, the church should be a place where these Christians not only receive a diagnosis of their sin, but also a place where they receive help from fellow believers to overcome that sin. When a spiritually minded person walks with another believer through the process of dealing with sin, he or she ministers to their brother or sister in Christ. Restoration thus goes further than prayer or even encouragement. Restoring another person requires believers to actively interpose themselves in another person's life, in order to help a struggling Christian overcome a sin that they cannot defeat on their own.

Getting Started

1. What one point resonated with you from this week's sermon?
2. What are some differences between a Christian who is in rebellion and actively pursuing a life of sin and a Christian who is caught or entangled in sin (Galatians 6:1)? *How do these differences affect the ministry of restoring a fellow believer?*

Let's Get Personal

1. *Have you ever been stuck in a sin that you struggled to get free of in your strength? If another believer came to your aid, how did this help you? What did they do?*
2. *What are some characteristics of a spiritually minded Christian (Galatians 6:1)? Do you consider yourself to be spiritually minded? Why or why not?*
3. James 2:13 says, "For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy." Mercy triumphs over judgment. When your day comes, God is going to look on your record to see what kind of mercy you've shown, to determine what kind of mercy you receive. *Where have you been quick to judge and slow to extend mercy? What kinds of sins particularly evoke this reaction of judgment from you?*

Take the Next Step

1. Think for a moment if in your own life there is a person who needs restoration. *What are the things that hold you back from interposing yourself into their lives to help them? What steps can you take this week to begin the process of restoration?*
2. *What can you do this week to work on becoming a more spiritually-minded person?*

Renew Your Mind

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2

"...he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins." James 5:20
