

"Bring Back the Wanderers"

James 5.19-20

Kelly Kinder 8/4/19



LIVING
FAITH

It's easy for any of us to end up on the wrong trail. Sometimes it happens by accident, and sometimes we make foolish decisions that lead us to a dangerous place. When we wander off the path, will anyone come after us? If they do, will they get to us in time?

James closes his letter with a warning, an observation, a challenge and a promise ...

The Danger Described

"My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth"(v.19a).

It is possible for any of us to wander at any point in our journey. Therefore, we should watch out for _____ and for _____ (1 Pet. 5.8, 1 Cor. 10.12)

The Deception Revealed

"... from the truth" (v.19a)

1. Wandering is a deception of the _____.
2. Wandering is a departure from the _____.
3. Most of the time when Christians fall to temptation (wander) it is because they yield to temporary _____ and ignore the _____ of Scripture.

The Decision Required

"And someone brings him back" (v. 19b).

It will not be easy to do what James is asking us to do. The question is, will we care enough to get involved? (Gal. 6.1, 2 Tim. 2.25)

How can we help them? _____ (Luke 22.31-32), _____ (1 Tim. 4.12), _____ (Eph 4.15)

The Deliverance Promised

"Let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins" (v. 20).

1. _____ from eternal death.
2. _____ from the burden of sin.

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Fill-ins:

- ourselves, one another
- heart, truth, facts
- pray, live, love
- rescue, forgiveness

Questions for Discussion:

1. Why do people wander from the truth that they have heard? What part do their feelings often play? Their intellect?
2. What are some reasons we might want to avoid the task of bringing back a wanderer?
3. What motivations does James give for bringing back those who wander into sin?
4. What does it mean to "cover" someone's sins? (cf. Ps. 135.2, 32.1)
5. Who do you know that needs rescuing from a path of destruction? What will you do about it?