

Reaching for the Backslider

Galatians 6:1-2 (NLT)

Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer^[a] is overcome by some sin, you who are godly^[b] should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself. ² Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ.

A Backslider is described as a person whose life has become distanced from God.

A Backslider is described as a person who once walked with the Lord but is no longer practicing the Christian faith.

As servants serving others, we need to reach for those who have backslidden.

I.

Even after becoming a Christian, we still remain a work in progress.

Temptation will visit us regardless of how long we have walked with the Lord.

The word temptation is defined as the desire to do something, especially something wrong or unwise.

Being tempted doesn't make us a bad person; it just means that this is an area we are still trying to get victory over.

Consider **1 Corinthians 10:13**

II.

Because temptation is common, there is a possibility that we may become aware of another Christian who has given into temptation and become backslidden.

There is a right and wrong way to handle people who have backslidden.

The text encourages us to restore the backslider gently and humbly.
Consider *Jeremiah 31:3* and *Romans 12:4*

The text also reminds us that we ought to treat backsliders the way we want to be treated.

Proverbs 14:14 (MSG) says, “A mean person gets paid back in meanness, a gracious person in grace.”

III.

As Servants of Christ, we should share each other’s burdens (v2).

The word share means to lift or carry, and the word burden speaks of a heavyweight.

Sin has a way of weighing us down.

By reaching for those who have backslidden and restoring them to the faith in love, we fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 5:14 (TLB) says, “*For the whole Law can be summed up in this one command: “Love others as you love yourself.”*”

*Rhema Christian Center
Minister Tony Ransom
Saturday & Sunday, January 20 & 21, 2024
9:30 a.m.*