

Restoring Fallen People in The Community

Galatians 6:1 (ESV)

*Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should **restore** him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.*

According to Pew Research, the number of people in the U.S. who identify as a Christian has decreased by 16% since they began their study in 2007.

Some who have left Christianity have switched to other religions and belief systems, while the remaining numbers have fallen away and no longer identify with any religion.

As we work to win lost souls in the community, we will also have to be purposeful about restoring former believers who have fallen.

I.

One of the reasons people fall is when they get trapped in secret sins.

Most sinful activity enters our life through the door of temptation.

Consider *1 Corinthians 10:13*

When we have given into temptation, we can become too ashamed to talk to someone about what's going on and we become isolated.

II.

As fellow believers, we may become aware of someone struggling with a secret sin.

Galatians 6:1a *Brothers, if anyone is **caught** in any transgression*

The way we handle people in their fallen state may determine if they come back to God, or if they stay away permanently.

We must handle people the way we would want to be handled if we had fallen into temptation.

Galatians 6:1c... *Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.*

III.

Instead of condemning people for falling, we should help them restore their relationship with Jesus with care.

Galatians 6:1b says, "*you who are spiritual should **restore** him in a spirit of gentleness*"

Fallen people need to be encouraged that God can restore them in such a way that they will be better than before they fell.

There is a harvest of fallen people in the community waiting for someone to help them get restored back to Jesus.