COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

GALATIANS 6:1

The Ministry of Mending

How Spirit-Led Believers Gently Restore the Fallen

The Litmus Test of Walking by the Spirit

Galatians 5:25–26

"If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another."

1. The Anatomy of a Fall: How a Believer Gets Stuck

V1a “Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression,

1 Cor 10:12–13 “Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you [lambanō!] that is not common to man."

Pr 5:22 "The iniquities of the wicked ensnare him, and he is held fast in the cords of his sin."

2. The Identity of the Rescuers

V6b "you who are spiritual ....."

Galatians 5:22–25:

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control... If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit."

V6b "you who are spiritual ....."

Ro 15:1 "We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves."

3. The Question of Repentance: Must They Be Repentant First?

Gal 6:1:
"Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness."

2 Tim 2:24–25 "And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will."

James 5:19–20 "My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, 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."

Step 1 (Matt 18:15): "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother." Here, you go to an unrepentant brother gently and privately. If he listens and repents, the bone is set! Restoration is complete.

Step 2 (Matt 18:16): "But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you..." Why? Because hardness of heart requires greater spiritual weight and witness.

Step 3 (Matt 18:17): "If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector."

4. The Surgery of Gentleness:

Gal 6:1:

"...restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted."

