

“PRONE TO WANDER, LORD, I FEEL IT”
James 5:19-20 // February 8, 2026 PM

Sincere faith evidences itself in gospel love toward the wandering.

I. Pursue straying souls (v. 19).

II. Participate in saving souls (v. 20).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. What is wandering? Is it ever cool or commendable?
2. What does James mean when he refers to wandering from the truth? Is he talking primarily about doctrinal error or ungodly living?
3. What does James encourage us to do when we see a fellow church member spiritually wandering?
4. How do we go about the actual work of restoring someone who is straying into ungodly paths?
5. How does James use the gospel to encourage us to pursue wandering souls?
6. Do we have the ability to save from eternal death and forgive sins? What does James mean when he says the restorer of the wanderer does these things?
7. Why is it significant for James’s very last words to be gospel, not law?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. Do I sense my proneness to wander? How should this drive me to Christ’s word and Christ’s people?
2. Do I sense my obligation to watch out for wanderers in my local church and to pursue them with gentle courage?
3. How does the gospel grace set forth in v. 20 inform the way I should read the entire letter of James with its emphasis on the law and works?