

# SERMON OUTLINE James 5:19-20

Bring Sinners Back!

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## ***THE GOODNESS OF BRINGING SINNERS BACK***

## ***THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TRUTH AND SIN***

## ***HOW TO BRING SINNERS BACK***

*The Right Heart and Motives*

*Different Approaches for Different Kinds of Sinners*

- 1. Sinners who don't know they need to be brought back.*
- 2. Sinners who don't want to be brought back.*
- 3. Sinners who want to be brought back, but seem stuck.*

## ***RESPONDING IN GODLY WAYS TO CONFRONTATION***

*Ask For Help*

*Make it Easy*

*Take the Initiative*

# SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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## MAIN POINT

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My main hope and prayer is that God would use this sermon to do three things: 1) Convince you of, or further solidify in your mind, the biblical basis for confronting sin in one another, 2) Help you to do so in a gracious manner, and 3) Help you to receive that kind of correction in a gracious manner.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. Have you ever had to address sin in another Christian? How did you know that you needed to do it? How did you go about it? How did they receive it? Did their attitude change at all over time? Were you at all encouraged? Were they?
3. What is the hardest part for you about confronting sin in other Christians?
4. Has anyone ever called you out on a specific sin? How did they go about it? How did that feel? What did you do? Did it end up helping you to act in a more Christ-like way? What was the most helpful and unhelpful thing they did? Would they describe their experience with you as “welcomed”?
5. Pastor Dave said that there are times when a sin is so serious and immediately dangerous that addressing it well looks more like helping someone who doesn't know they are in shark-infested waters? Have you ever been in a situation like that?
6. Love, humility, gentleness, and dependence on God. Which seems most important to you for helpful confrontation?
7. Which of the three types of sinners mentioned by Pastor Dave have you seen most? Which have you been most often?
8. Have you ever thought of confronting sin as a means of grace? As good, beautiful, and true? Does this text/sermon have any impact on your answer?
9. In what way do you most clearly see the greatness of God in this passage?

## AREAS OF APPLICATION

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10. Get a list of the members and regular attenders of Grace Church so that you can consistently pray for them.
11. Work on developing deeper relationships at Grace Church, (in part) in order to get to know people better, (in part) in order to be better able to help them see and turn from the sin in their lives.
12. Find someone to ask if they see any sin in your life. Ask them what area of godliness you might focus on growing in.
13. Rehearse the gospel and its implications for sin in your life. Share it with someone.
14. Read Gentle and Lowly.
15. Talk with someone about sin in their life this week in a loving, humble, gentle, and dependent way.
16. What is one specific thing you mean to do differently in the power of the Spirit as a result of the things you saw or heard in this text or sermon?

## PRAYER POINTS

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17. Adoration. Praise God for being merciful and gracious. Praise God for being without sin; for being holy.
18. Confession. Confess any sin of failing to confront sin in Christians. Confess any sin of making it hard on Christians who have tried to help you turn from sin. Confess any indifference you have to sin, in yourself or others.
19. Thanksgiving. Thank God for the gracious and sufficient sacrifice of Jesus for all your sins. Thank God for filling you with the Holy Spirit to give hatred for sin and empower repentance. Thank God for a Church that takes sin seriously.
20. Supplication. Pray for your own sins. Pray for the sins of others. Pray for Grace Church and all churches to be places of swift repentance and a longing for righteousness. Pray for us to find the right balance between confrontation and gentleness.