BRINGING BACK THE WANDERER

James 5:13–18

1. We are all **PRONE** to **WANDER**. (Isaiah 53:6; Psalm 119:10, 67, 176; Matthew 26:35; John 6:66; 1 Timothy 1:19-20, 4;16, 6:10; 2 Timothy 4:10; Revelation 2:4)

2. Wandering happens **GRADUALLY**, not **SUDDENLY**. (Proverbs 6:10-11; Hebrews 2:1; 1 Timothy 6:21; 2 Timothy 2:18, 25-26, 4:3-4)

3. It only takes **ONE** observant brother or sister to **NOTICE** that someone might be wandering and to lovingly **PURSUE** that person with a heart to bring them back. (Genesis 4:8-10; Psalm 51:13; Proverbs 27:5-6; Ezekiel 34:16; Luke 15:4-7; Galatians 6:1-2; Hebrews 10:24; 1 Peter 2:25)

4. When pursuing a wanderer, it is a very **BIG DEAL** with **SO MUCH** on the line! (Psalm 32:1; Proverbs 10:12; Ezekiel 18:27, 33:11; Matthew 18:15; Romans 6:23; 1 Peter 4:8)

Taking it further to help you THRIVE...

THRIVE Groups are where life and growth take place. We don't want to just say *"See you next week"* as we leave each Sunday - we want to connect!
For more info on joining a THRIVE Group, visit thrivekg.org/thrive-groups.

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

2. In today's verses James is talking about wandering away from believing in and practicing Biblical truth. Why should we not be so quick to think or assume that we would never do that?

3. What are some signs that someone might be wandering/drifting away from truth or otherwise struggling? What would keep us from noticing this, and what can we do better recognize when this might be happening?

4. In response to an illustration John used on Sunday, what might be some "holes in *your own* bucket"?

5. When bringing back a wanderer, we are to meet them where they are and walk alongside them - not drive them or make demands. What would it look like to lovingly walk alongside someone who might be drifting? How do we strike a balance between speaking truth and not being harsh or judgmental?

6. What would be some reasons why we would be hesitant to reach out and pursue someone who is drifting spiritually? What perspectives should we have that would motivate us (even if it is hard) to pursue them?