

School Supplies

Pt. 2 - Drop Outs

- Life is one big class room and we are students. God wants to supply what we need to prevent us from being drop outs.

Luke 9:62, Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

Note - Satan's desire to inspire dropouts is so strong he went as far as to invent a doctrine that suggests that it's impossible to do so! (Unconditional eternal security)

Biblical Evidence of Spiritual Truancy

Note - Backsliding is a conscious decision of the will.

1. Jesus promises the overcomer that his name will not be blotted out of the book of life.

Revelation 3:5, He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels.

Note - Why would He promise to not do something if it weren't possible for Him to do it in the first place?

2. The entire book of Galatians was written to a group of backslidden Christians.

Galatians 1:6, I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel

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Galatians 5:7-8, You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth? 8 That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you.

3. God promises not to disown those who refuse to disown Him.

2 Timothy 2:12, ...if we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us...

4. The Bible warns that the dropout would have actually been better off to have never known God.

2 Peter 2:20-22, If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning. 21 It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, then to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them. 22 Of them the proverbs are true: "A dog returns to its vomit," and, "A sow that is washed goes back to her wallowing in the mud."

Why People Drop Out

Note - For a lot of the same reasons kids drop out of school.

1. We get bored.

Romans 12:11, Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

Note - Faith is boring when it's all about you! Make it about God and make it about others.

2 We struggle with the learning process

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Proverbs 23:12, Apply your heart to instruction and your ears to words of knowledge.

Note - You will not drift toward God.

Hebrews 2:1, We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.

3. We get interested in other things.

Acts 17:28, For in him we live and move and have our being.

Colossians 3:17, And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Example - The parachute

· What God has provided to help us stay in school is His Holy Spirit.

Philippians 2:13, For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

Example - The foolish virgins in Matthew 25

Note - God's keeping power is just as real as His saving power!

Jude 1:25, Now to the one who is able to keep you from falling...

· Staying in school will require us to take some tests.

2 Corinthians 13:5, Examine yourselves to see whether you are still in the Christian faith. Test yourselves!

Questions on the Exam

1. Am I walking in fellowship with God?

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2. Am I participating in what I know displeases God?
3. Am I connecting with God's people?
4. Is my life bearing fruit?

Example - The man who performed my mom and dad's wedding