

HOW TO DRIFT FROM GOD

Bad Advice – Part 1

August 28, 2016

PARABLE OF THE SOWER Matthew 13:1-23

Matthew 13:19 (NIV) *“When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.”*

Matthew 13:20-21 (NIV) *“The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.”*

Matthew 13:22 (NIV) *“The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.”*

Matthew 13:23 (NIV) *“But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”*

Hebrews 2:1 (NIV) *“We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.”*

BAD ADVICE...

HOW TO DRIFT FROM GOD

1. Neglect your time with God.

Psalms 63:1 (NIV) *“You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek You; I thirst for You, my whole being longs for You, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.”*

2. Hang around the wrong people.

1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV) *“Do not be misled: Bad company corrupts good character.”*

3. Give into temptation.

James 1:14-15 (NIV) *“...but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.”*

4. Love this world more than God.

1 John 2:15 (NIV) *“Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them.”*

5. If all else fails... fake it.

Isaiah 29:13 (NIV) *“The Lord says: ‘These people come near to Me with their mouth and honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me. Their worship of Me is based on merely human rules they have been taught.’ ”*

Revelation 3:1b (NIV) *“I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead.”*

THE RIGHT ADVICE...

RETURN TO YOUR FIRST LOVE

Revelation 2:4b-5a (NIV) *“You have forsaken the love you had at first. ⁵ Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.”*

What does repent mean?

The “re” means “to turn.”

The “pent” means “to go back to the highest point.”