

## ARE YOU DRIFTING? 132

TEXT: Heb. 2:1-3.

### INTRODUCTION:

A. Anything can float along with the tide.

1. Driftwood.
2. Dead fish.
3. Garbage.
4. Etc.

B. The song "Throw Out the Life-line."

Throw out the life-line across the dark wave,  
There is a brother whom someone should save;  
Some-body's brother! O who then will dare,  
To Throw out the life-line, his peril to share?

Throw out the life-line to danger-fraught men,  
Sinking in anguish where you've never been;  
Winds of temptation and billows of woe  
Will soon hurl them out where the dark waters flow.

Soon will the season of rescue be o'er,  
Soon will they drift to eternity's shore;  
Haste then, my brother, no time for delay,  
But throw out the life-line and save them to-day.

C. Christians and whole churches can very easily drift with the tide.

1. Rev. 2:4-5.
2. Matt. 24:11-13.

D. Today we want to consider several things which might be good evidence that you are drifting.

### BODY:

I. YOU ARE DRIFTING IF YOU ARE BEGINNING TO NEGLECT ATTENDING CHURCH SERVICES.

A. Heb. 10:23-26.

B. You are drifting if you are becoming a "oncer" (once a week at 10:30 a.m.).

C. James 4:17.

D. Heb. 2:1.

II. YOU ARE DRIFTING IF YOU ARE LOSING INTEREST IN THE STUDY OF GOD'S WORD.

A. 1 Pet. 2:1-2.

1. Desire the word-have an appetite.

2. New converts desire to know-older member sometimes lose this.

B. Heb. 5:12-14.

C. It is possible to taste the word of God then lose it- Heb. 6:4-6.

D. Remember the desire you once had for learning God's Word and try to rekindle the flame of learning.

III. YOU ARE DRIFTING IF YOU ARE DOING LESS AND LESS WORK IN THE CHURCH-PUBLICLY OR PRIVATELY.

A. 1 Cor. 15:58.

B. :Phil. 2:12.

C. Tit. 3:1.

D. Eph. 2:10.

IV. YOU MAY BE DRIFTING IF YOU ARE GIVING A SMALLER PERCENTAGE OF YOUR INCOME AND MAKING FEWER SACRIFICES FOR THE LORD'S WORK.

A. Rom. 12:1.

B. Matt. 6:19-21.

C. 1 Cor. 16:1-2.

D. Prov. 3:9-10 "**Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first-fruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.**"

V. YOU ARE DRIFTING IF YOU ARE EITHER CEASING TO PRAY, OR LOSING INTEREST IN PRAYER.

- A. 1 Thess. 5:17 "**Pray without ceasing.**"
- B. James 5:16.
- C. Jesus prayed fervently, earnestly and often.
  - 1. Jn. 17:
  - 2. Lk. 22:42 (Garden of Gethesemane).

VI. YOU ARE DRIFTING IF YOU ARE BECOMING MORE AND MORE SATISFIED WITH YOUR CHRISTIAN GROWTH.

- A. Matt. 5:6.
- B. Rev. 3:14-19.
- C. 1 Cor. 10:12. "Therefore let him that thinketh..."

VII. YOU ARE DRIFTING IF YOU HAVE A DECLINING INTEREST IN SAVING SOULS- Prov. 11:30 "**...he that winneth souls is wise.**"

VIII. YOU ARE DRIFTING IF YOU HAVE AN INCREASING INTEREST IN MONEY AND WORLDLY POSSESSIONS.

- A. 1 Tim. 6:6-10.
- B. Prov. 30:8-9 "**Remove far from me vanity and lies; give neither poverty nor riches; fed me with food convenient for me: lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my god in vain.**"

IX. YOU ARE DRIFTING IF YOU ARE FALLING MORE AND MORE IN LOVE WITH WORLDLY PLEASURES- 1 Jn. 2:15.

X. YOU ARE DRIFTING IF YOU ARE BECOMING MORE AND MORE CRITICAL OF THE BRETHREN AND THE CHURCH. James. 4:11.

XI. YOU ARE DRIFTING IF YOU ARE BEGINNING TO OFFER FOOLISH EXCUSES FOR NEGLECT OF DUTY.

- A. Too busy.

- B. Too cold.
- C. Too hot.
- D. Clothes not good.

XII. YOU ARE DRIFTING IF YOU ARE TAKING UP BAD HABITS.

- A. Smoking.
- B. Drinking.
- C. Cursing.
- D. Worldly living. ETC.

CONCLUSION:

- A. Are you drifting?
- B. 1 Cor. 9:27.