

HOW TO LIVE IN A POSTMODERN CULTURE

Part 2: THE DANGERS OF DRIFTING

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DRIFTING

Drifting (sometimes called “backsliding”) refers to going backwards spiritually and morally, and can happen easily in a postmodern society. When a believer drifts, he falls back in some way into a less desirable condition. His lapse may be a relatively minor one and unintentional. He may simply fall back through neglect by not praying, reading the Bible, and keeping his focus on living for God.

On the other hand, a believer may drift by deliberately choosing to indulge in this life’s sinful pleasures. This type of drifting can carry disastrous consequences. It can bring dishonor to the One who laid down His life for us, Jesus Christ. It can also sadden and bring grief to the lives of loved ones. Of course, drifting can bring turmoil into the believer’s own life. He may be plagued by guilt or even a feeling of despair or condemnation.

“We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.”

Hebrews 2:1

SEVEN SIGNS OF DRIFTING

1. You lose your desire for [the Word of God](#)
2. You lose your desire to [pray](#)
3. You lose your desire to [fellowship with other Christians](#)
4. You lose your desire to [talk to others about Jesus](#)
5. You lose your [awareness of God's presence](#)
6. You develop an increased desire for [the world's ways](#)
7. You develop an attitude of [self-sufficiency...you don't need God.](#)

THE DANGERS OF DRIFTING



- Drifting diverts us away from God's best for your life
- Drifting makes sin look more attractive
- Drifting grieves God's heart
- Drifting can harm other Christians
- Drifting makes you restless

FIVE WAYS TO AVOID DRIFTING

1. Ask God to make you [aware of any drifting.](#) (Psalm 139:23-24)
2. Know and avoid the [harmful influences](#) of a postmodern society. (1 John 2:15-16)
3. Guard your [loving relationship with God.](#) (Mark 12:30)
4. Spend regular time [growing in God's Word.](#) (2 Tim. 2:15)
5. Keep your [prayer life fresh.](#) (Eph. 6:18; Phil. 1:4)

THERE'S HOPE FOR DRIFTERS

But there is good news for the drifter! God does not condemn him. God's loving concern for the drifter is steadfast and sure. The Lord calls that person back to Himself through the work of the Holy Spirit. We can see this clearly in the parable of the prodigal son. In the parable, the father saw his son returning while he was still far off. But the father did not lock the doors or demand that his son leave. Instead, the father welcomed his return.

