



# Life Principles Notes™

## The Danger of Drifting Part 2: Avoiding Disaster

### Summary:

#### Are you drifting in your spiritual life?

You find that you're not reading the Bible as often or praying as you once did. Maybe you haven't attended worship services in a long time or you've stopped serving and giving. The most disturbing part of it is that you just don't feel God's presence in your life anymore. Something is happening to your spiritual life—and it isn't good. You're drifting, which means you're headed for trouble.

God wants to give you direction for your life—direction that will lead you to abundant life, rather than the ruin of drifting. God warns you about the consequences of drifting and teaches you how to avoid it.

### Key Passage: [Hebrews 2:1–4](#)

**Supporting Scripture:** *1 John 2:28; Hebrews 3:12–14; 12:6–8, 10; Psalm 119:15–16; 2 Peter 3:17–18; Revelation 2:4; 3:16, 19.*

### Scriptural Principles:

#### 1 Why do we drift?

It's very easy to drift because it doesn't take any effort; and it takes a great deal of effort to stay on track. That is why any one of us can drift. When we get tired we're all in danger of neglecting our devotion to Him. Yet, Hebrews 2:1 admonishes, "For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it." We can't be distracted in our relationship to God; He must always be our priority. Our salvation involves much more than just a moment in time when we made a decision. Rather, the Holy Spirit sealed us as children of God forever and we must understand what that really means and live it out.

#### 2 The consequences of drifting.

We must make an effort to live in a way that honors God. This is especially true because of the consequences of drifting, which are:

- You begin to ignore your conscience. You excuse yourself when you engage in activities that dishonor God and are contrary to His will.
- You drift out of the will of God into a life of sin.
- You begin to live in denial—you disagree that what you're doing is wrong.
- You avoid things that are spiritual so you don't feel the shame of your sinful life.
- You avoid contact with God so much that you lose your ability to hear God's voice.
- Your heart becomes hardened by sin and Satan's lies.
- You suffer and don't even realize it—even though it affects your mind, emotions, health, and spirit.
- You grieve God's heart because He loves you and knows the heartache and destruction you'll face when you sin against Him.
- You miss God's best for your life.
- You influence other people's lives negatively—especially those of your children and grandchildren.

### 3 God disciplines disobedience.

God put us on earth to be salt and light—to make a difference for the sake of His kingdom. When we drift, our influence deteriorates and becomes negative. That’s why God disciplines disobedience. Hebrews 12:10 tells us, “He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness.” God won’t allow us to drift away from His Word, His will, or His purpose for our life without divine discipline because He loves us and wants what’s best for us. However, God also wants us to have a positive, godly role in His kingdom work, and we can’t as long as we’re participating in a life of sin.

### 4 We prevent ourselves from drifting by anchoring to the Word of God.

How do we stop ourselves from drifting? First, we must be anchored to the Word of God. Everything we need to know—everything that will keep us safely on course—is in the Bible, and God wants to teach us through it. He lifts verses off its pages and applies them to our minds and hearts, giving us clear direction. Whenever we need counsel about what to do, we can always look to God’s Word.

### 5 We prevent ourselves from drifting by obeying the Word of God.

Psalms 119:15–16 says, “I will meditate on Your precepts and regard Your ways. I shall delight in Your statutes; I shall not forget Your word.” That means that we shouldn’t only read the Bible, rather, we should think about it, absorb it, and do as it tells us to do. In order to stop ourselves from drifting, we must obey God’s Word and make it an integral part of our life. We’ve got to be willing to submit to whatever God commands us to do.

### 6 We prevent ourselves from drifting by surrendering our lives to God.

The third way we stop ourselves from drifting is very simple, but also extremely difficult: We must surrender our life completely to God. In fact, one of the wisest things we can do to keep from drifting is to submit ourselves to God before we get out of bed each morning. Begin the day with this simple prayer: “Lord Jesus, I surrender my entire life to You today. I am completely Yours.” Then, when some conflict, challenge, or temptation comes along, the Spirit of God reminds us that we have committed ourselves to obedience. It’s amazing the impact that simple prayer can make because God gives us the ability to see trouble coming from far away, and He gently reminds us that we’ve already surrendered everything to Him today. Once He shows us what we need to avoid or correct, we have the ability to yield that area to His authority.

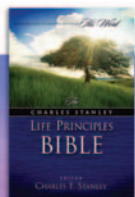
### 7 We prevent ourselves from drifting by staying on guard.

Understand that Satan is an enemy who will do whatever it takes to get you to drift away from God. Second Peter 3:17–18 warns us, “Be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” Our final defense against drifting is to stay on guard against the schemes of the enemy.

## Conclusion:

So, how do you get back on track when you’ve been drifting? First, acknowledge that you’ve been drifting away from God by confessing your sin. Second, repent by admitting what you should be doing, which is being wholeheartedly devoted to your Lord and Savior.

Repentance is an about face—it’s a change in your lifestyle. You get



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back on the course of godliness—the path that honors God. You surrender yourself to Him and allow Him to guide your life.

Have you been drifting? Do you lack the power and joy of the Christian life? Acknowledge to God that you’ve been drifting, ask Him to forgive your sin, and obey Him with all of your heart. If you don’t change your course, you’re ultimately going to destroy your life. If you get right with God, you’ll be back on track to experience His very best for your life. 🙏

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