

Love God, Love People, Serve The World



FROM THE PASTOR

Found this article and thought I needed to share it with you. I have made several editorial changes. Karen

7 Warning Signs You Are Drifting From God - By Stephen Altrogge

Most Christians don't suddenly fall into terrible sin. A guy doesn't simply wake up one day and say to himself, "Boy, today is a great day to start a raging heroin habit," or, "You know what, I'm in the mood to commit adultery today." That's not how it happens.

Big sin is always the sum of a thousand tiny choices.

That's why the author of Hebrews says:

Therefore, we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. (Hebrews 2:1)

One of our greatest temptations as Christians is simply to drift away from Christ. We're not actively running away, just slowly drifting along with the lazy, warm, comfortable current of the world. And the scary thing is we don't usually notice when we're drifting. We raise our heads and suddenly realize that we're a mile away from land.

How can you tell if you're drifting? Here's a list of early warning signs:

1. You spend little, if any, time reading God's Word and praying – "I'm just too busy right now to read and pray."
2. The gospel doesn't affect you like it used to – "I've heard it a thousand times before...it just seems a little old."
3. You don't spend much time fellowshiping with other Christians – "I've worked hard, I'm tired, the last thing I want to do is go and be with other people."
4. The sins that used to bother you don't really bother you anymore – "This show isn't that bad. It doesn't really tempt me too much."
5. You find yourself quieting your conscience more frequently – "I know it was wrong, and I'll pray about it tonight."
6. You keep promising yourself that you will stop – "OK, this is the last time I"
7. You find yourself making excuses for things – "I'm only [chatting on Facebook](#) with the guy; it's not like we're sleeping together."

The good news is if you find yourself drifting, you can put a stop to it!

God loves to help us stop drifting. He loves to give us the power to change. If you find yourself drifting, there are some things to do:

- [Repent of your sins](#) and receive the wonderful, complete, forgiveness from Christ. Christ delights to forgive drifters.
- Return to the things you used to do, and don't let condemnation stop you. Go to God's Word, prayer, fellowship, [fighting temptation](#) and listening to the promptings of your conscience.

Don't let yourself drift. Drifting is dangerous. Sometimes, it's lethal.

FINANCE UPDATE

2018 Budget

\$414,701.00

Needed weekly

\$7,975.02

Received on 8/19/2018

\$9,317.00

Received to date (week 33)

\$235,445.55

Needed to date 8/19/2018 (week 33)

\$263,175.66

Difference

-\$27,730.11

August 20th Attendance

Sunday School	43
8:30 am Worship Service	68
11:00 am Worship Service	62
Total in Worship	130

Memorials

Roy Masterson

Tinkle Runnels SS Class

Alice Smith

Judge & Mrs. Guy Griffin

Lou Ella Menefee Langston

Judge & Mrs. Guy Griffin

J.W. Adams

Judge & Mrs. Guy Griffin



Sunday Schedule:

8:30am – Worship

9:30 am – Coffee Fellowship

by Tinkle Runnels SS Class

10am– Sunday School for all ages

11am- Worship



Shelby County Outreach Ministries is in need of canned foods. Their pantry is low. Drop off in red bin by the office.

FOOD DRIVE



“I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord.” (Psalm 40:1-3 KJV)

Recently I saw a sign over a desk that declared, “Please, God, give me patience, and give it to me now!” It’s hard to wait. We spend our lives waiting for something. Babies cry because they can’t wait to be fed. Children can’t wait to grow up. Young people can’t wait to have a job or be in love. Older people can’t wait to retire. It seems just about everything we do requires some waiting. As Christians, we are often in a position that we are called to wait on God. But it is in that waiting that we grow stronger. Victory is won by standing still and quietly waiting on the promises of our Lord and Savior. And, it is in our waiting upon God, that others see our prayers in action, and they, in turn, begin their trust in the Lord. Father God, we thank You for Your Word which helps us to discover the victories won by Biblical characters as they learned to trust and lean on You for their strength. Help us to learn that our rewards for waiting upon Your Holy Spirit last way beyond our earthly existence, carrying us toward everlasting life with You! Give us the “wings as eagles” as we rise above our daily problems. Teach us to sit quiet and still and truly wait to hear Your voice above all the noise of our world, calling us toward Kingdom living.

You may send your prayer requests and praises to Terri Lacher at btlacher@sbcglobal.net or at (936) 598-3484 or (936) 332-2717



Kids Grow 'N Christ starts Wednesday, August 29th. Will we be able to pick your kids up from school??? Do you know of any children that might like to come? We have several open spaces for 1st-4th graders. See Nancy to get them registered.

Dearest members of the First United Methodist Church,
The cross was a beautiful work of art and is truly appreciated. My Mom loved it... Your thoughts and prayers give her strength to heal.

Gratefully yours,
Mary Helen Campbell's daughter, Renee Colyer

Dear FUMC,
I sincerely appreciate the prayer cross and FUMC for your prayers and kindness. I am blessed and my health continues to improve.

Hugs and Love,
Sequinn Lee

Thank you for the cookies that were provided to the CISD teachers and staff. We appreciate your support!

Mrs. Dickerson
Joyce Jackson
Christy Dutton
Patricia Helms
Sherry Cougler
Johanna Ruiz-Siso
Shelia Fisher
Lana Whitworth
Mitzi Lengl
Luz Perez
Amanda Radney
Shelia Gregston
Janelle Gibson
Janet Parker
Rosa Barbee
Shelia Childress
Jessica Arcibar
Erika Cordray
Liz Ideker
Katie Hroncich

Angie Baldwin
Perla Araiza
Kathy Nichols
Zonia Corbell
Shanell Ruiz
Andrea Clary
Kristy Jurecka
Alisha Murray
Savannah Bates
Tiffany Crouch
Mayra Lopez
Kelly Foehner
Celia Gonzalez
Shelby Wheeler
Amber Matthews
Heather Bybee
Crystal Chisenhall
Amber Hill
Mrs. Combs
Maegan Haddox

Rachel Penner
Elizabeth Benett
Ms. Trahan
Jenny Bartlett
Courtney Palm
Karen Stewart
Maegan Keggler
Jennifer Tomlin
Abbey Shultz



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