

Why Christians Fall Off

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I. Introduction.

II. The obedient Christian life involves...

- A. Jesus as the hub or center of the Christian life. (Psalm 78:71-72; John 14:21; 13:13; Romans 14:9)
- B. The Word of God as the foundation spoke of the Christian life. (2 Timothy 3:17)
- C. Prayer as another spoke of the Christian life. (Luke 18:1; 1 Thessalonians 5:17)
- D. Fellowship as another spoke of the Christian life.
- E. Witnessing as the last spoke that is a result of the other three.

III. Foundation spokes of character:

- A. A positive attitude. (Philippians 4:8)
 - 1. Faith.
 - 2. Expectancy.
- B. Strong drive. (Proverbs 15:5)
- C. Steady persistence. (Hebrews 11:27; Romans 4:21)
- D. Mature personality.
 - 1. Reliability. (Proverbs 25:19)
 - 2. Thinking through. (Proverbs 22:3; Mark 3:9)
 - 3. Self-control.
 - 4. Decisiveness. (1 Corinthians 14:8)
 - 5. A servant heart. (Matthew 20:26-27; 1 Corinthians 9:19)

IV. Areas Christians fail psychologically.

- A. We should not expect perfect peace always. Psychological conflict is not abnormal or sinful. (Psalm 34:19-20)

B. We fail because we have the wrong mindset. We must look to Jesus and have our minds renewed. (Hebrews 12:2; 2:9; Psalm 34:5; Hebrews 3:10; Ephesians 4:23-24; Proverbs 23:7)

C. We fail here because of fear. (1 Corinthians 15:58; Galatians 6:9; Romans 8:1; John 5:21; Leviticus 26:13)

D. We fail because we are production oriented instead of God-oriented. (Luke 10:20)

E. We fail because of idolatry. (Isaiah 47:10; Ecclesiastes 10:10)

F. We fail because of worldliness. (Mark 4:19; Luke 8:14)

G. We fail because of the wrong theology. (Galatians 5:17; Ephesians 6:12)

H. We fail because we get mad at God or other people. (Hebrews 10:36; Isaiah 15:1-3; Proverbs 10:22; Romans 4:4-5; Jeremiah 17:5)

1. God expects nothing from us but failure. (Job 15:15; 1 Corinthians 3; Galatians 5:22-23; 1 Corinthians 12:6)

I. We fail because of family problems. (1 Samuel 2:29; 3:12-13; Proverbs 22:6, 15; 23:4-5)

J. We fail because of our response to tragedy.

1. Most is self-inflicted because of sin.
2. Some is because of the world we live in. (Hebrews 11:13; 1 Peter 2:11; Philippians 3:20)
3. Suffering is for purification when we allow God to use sorrow. (2 Corinthians 7:10; Romans 5:3; 2 Corinthians 12:7; 1:8-9)

K. We fail because of rebellion against authority and leadership. We must play to God instead of people. (Psalm 75:6-7; John 5:44)

V. Areas Christians fail physically.

A. We fail because of the opposite sex. (Job 31:1; Matthew 6:22)

B. We fail because of laziness. (Hebrews 6:12)

C. We fail because of hyper-activity. (Mark 6:31; Isaiah 28:16; Proverbs 21:5; 19:2)

D. We fail because we wear out. (Daniel 7:25; Psalm 71:18)

E. We fail because of poverty or prosperity. (Proverbs 30:8-9)

F. We fail because of negative association. (1 Corinthians 15:33; Proverbs 13:20)

G. We fail because of mismanagement of finances.

Application questions

1. What does the healthy Christian life look like?

2. How does Satan get to you most?

3. How can you better prepare for Satan's attacks in your areas of weakness? Be specific.
