

**WELCOME**  
**TO CHURCH**

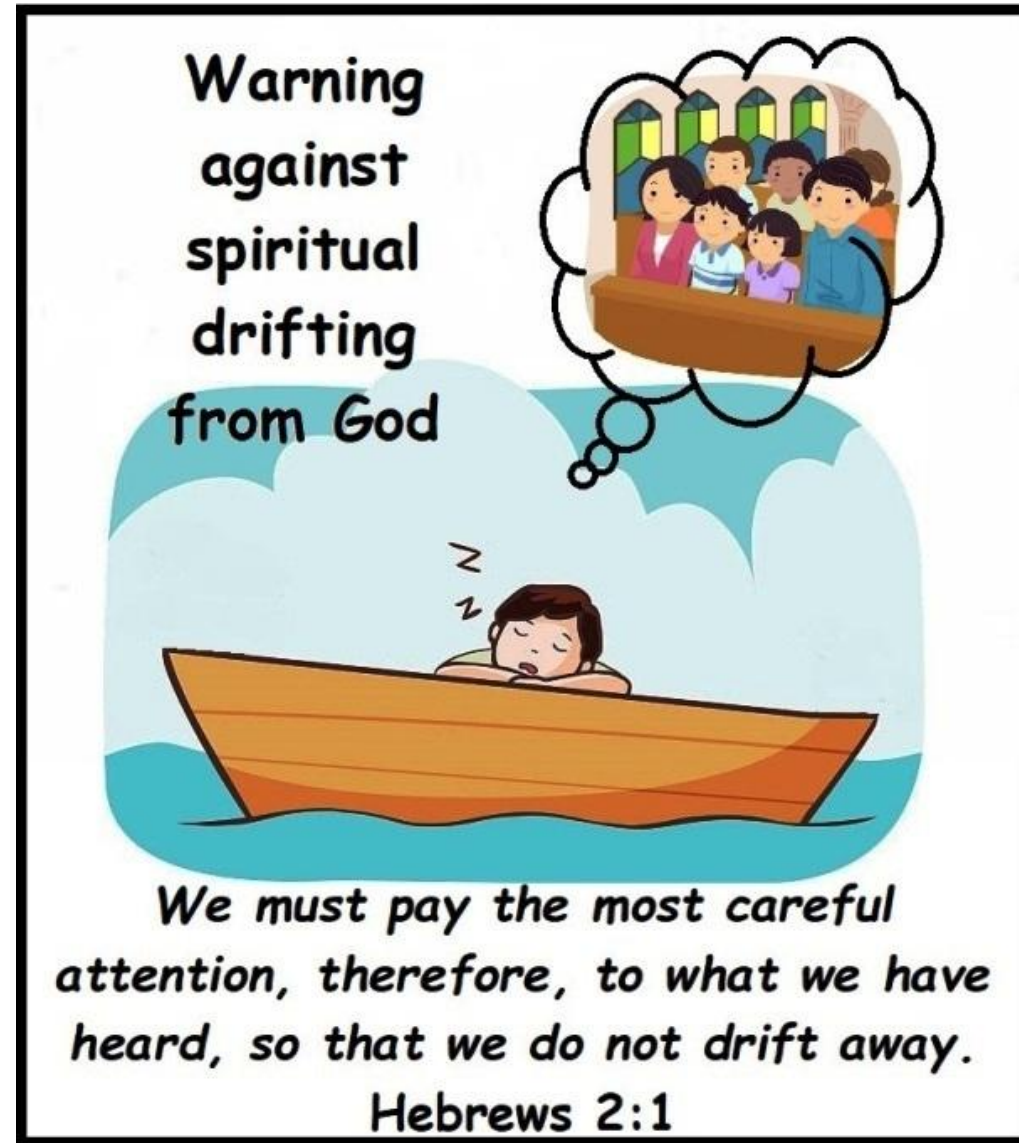




# Announcements and Wins of the Week

# The Danger of Drifting

Hebrews 2: 1-9 NIV





# Big Question

- Have you ever drifted without realizing it?
- Drifting doesn't feel dangerous at first—it's subtle, quiet, and unintentional.



# Today's Focus

- Today we will discover:
  - What drifting means
  - Why it's dangerous
  - How to stay anchored

# Scripture Hebrews 2: 1-4 (NIV)

- 1) We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.
- 2) For since the message spoken through angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment,
- 3) how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him.
- 4) God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

## Scripture Hebrews 2: 5-9 (NIV)

- 5) It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking.
- 6) But there is a place where someone has testified: “What is mankind that you are mindful of them, a son of man that you care for him?”
- 7) You made them a little lower than the angels; you crowned them with glory and honor
- 8) and put everything under their feet.” In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them.
- 9) But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

# What Do You Notice?

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What stood out to you in the text?

# Key Phrase 1

- See verse 1:
  - “Pay the most careful attention...” NIV
  - “We must give our full attention to...” CEV
  - “We must pay much closer attention to what we have heard...”ESV
- In other words: Focus. Be intentional.
- Question: What does it look like for a teenager to actually pay attention to God?

# Key Phrase 2

- Also found in verse 1
  - “...so that we do not drift away.” NIV
  - “...so we won’t drift away.” CEV
  - “...lest we drift away from it.” ESV
- If you do not pay attention, you drift.
- Drifting does not mean you decided to walk away from God—it means you slowly stopped focusing.

# Drifting. Why? How?

- Why is drifting dangerous?
- According to this passage, how does drifting happen?

# What is Drifting?

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Drifting = neglect.

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It is not rebellion. It's a lack of prioritization.

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Drifting is dangerous because it doesn't seem to be a big deal--at first. It's slow. It's subtle.

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It's also dangerous because you don't notice you have drifted until you look at where you were supposed to be--or you look at what you were supposed to be doing.

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Drifting is intentionally and slowly neglecting God. Someone might say—but I didn't mean to! But you did—because you stopped focusing on God.

## Therefore, Drifting:

Is not: “I quit God.”

It’s more like: “I just stopped paying attention.”



# Context!

- To whom was this text written?
- The author of this letter is anonymous. But we discover the author had a firsthand relationship with Jesus' disciples.
- We aren't exactly sure where the audience lived, but the author knows them well. Because we can tell the author expects the hearers of this letter know the stories in the Torah, we can assume they are Jewish Christians.
- Chapter 10 shows us these Jewish Christians were under an intense amount of pressure because of their association with Jesus. Some of them were abandoning their faith.

## Context (2)

- We see Jesus compared with angels.
- Why mention angels?
- In Jewish culture, angels were highly respected. They believe they were involved in delivering the Law.
- The author says ignoring the messengers and the message of God has consequences.
- The author says Jesus is higher than angels, So the writer argues: *if ignoring the Law had consequences, ignoring Jesus is even more serious.*

# Warning

- Verse 3—
- “How shall we escape...”
- The answer is implied: you won’t.
- Do not take lightly what God has done through Jesus.

# Key Word

Verse 3 we see the word *salvation*

Salvation is not just “I’m going to Heaven one day.”

In this context it means rescue, deliverance, and being made whole.

So, drifting would mean slowly ignoring the greatest rescue ever offered.

# Focus on Jesus

- There is an intentional shift in the text that points us back to Jesus.
- Jesus became human.
- Jesus suffered.
- He is now “crowned with glory”
- There’s an echo to Psalm 8 here.

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Drifting is subtle but serious

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Neglect leads to distance

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Jesus is not just a messenger—He is the message

# What Does Drifting Look Like for a Teen?

Prayer life fades

Bible reading becomes rare

Faith becomes “background noise”

Only engaging with God at church

Slowly adopting values that don't align with Christ

# Heart Check

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Pause: where might you be drifting right now?

# Remember:

You don't drift  
toward God--you  
drift away from  
Him.

Moving toward  
Him always takes  
intention.

# Centering Christ and Staying Anchored

Hebrews always points back to Jesus.

- Jesus became human
- He suffered death
- He is now crowned with glory
- He did it for us

Stay Anchored

- Spending time with God
- Paying attention
- Staying in His Word
- Being around other believers

# This Week's Challenge

- Finish this sentence in your mind—or write it down:  
'This week I will pay closer attention to God by...'
  - Examples:
    - Set a daily 5-minute Bible time
    - Pray intentionally once a day
    - Listen actively in church
    - Encourage a friend spiritually
- Make it real and specific

# Closing Prayer

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Ask God to help you stay  
anchored

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Thank Jesus for His sacrifice  
and authority