

3/29/2026

I HAVE A FRIEND WHO...HAS DRIFTED FROM GOD

"We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away." Hebrews 2:1 (NIV)

I. Self Assessment

- On a scale from 1 – 10, where are you, with God, right now?
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
- Can you remember a time you were closer to God? Yes No
- What do you think you could do to move up one number this week?_

II. Case Study: Simon Peter

A Close Friend of Jesus Who Struggled with Drift (*Mark 14:27-72*)

III. How Do We Come Back Home?

1. **Wake up** and **Repent** of the drift.

"When he [Prodigal Son] finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you..." Luke 15:17-18 (NLT)

Common Causes of Drift

a. **Overconfidence**

"Peter said to Him [Jesus], 'Even if everyone else deserts you, I never will.'" Mark 14:29 (NLT)

b Being **tired** or **distracted**

"Then He [Jesus] returned and found the disciples asleep. He said to Peter, 'Simon, are you asleep? Couldn't you watch with Me even one hour?'" Mark 14:37 (NLT)

c. **Fear of Criticism**

"But Peter followed Him [Jesus] at a distance..." Mark 14:54a (NKJV)

2. Realize God wants you to **Come Home!**

Communion Reminds Us....

- ◆ God's love for me is **unconditional**.

"...He [Jesus] saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy." Titus 3:5a (NLT)

- ◆ Jesus **paid for my sin** on the cross and offers forgiveness as a **gift**.

"He [Jesus] Himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world." 1 John 2:2 (NLT)

- ◆ God doesn't hold a **grudge**.

"He will not constantly accuse us, nor remain angry forever. He does not punish us for all our sins; He does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve... The Lord is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear Him." Psalm 103:9-10, 13 (NLT)

"So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus." Romans 8:1 (NLT)

3. Return to Him **NOW!**

"But now is the time. Never forget the warning, 'Today if you hear God's voice speaking to you, do not harden your hearts against Him...'" Hebrews 3:15a (TLB)

"Now return to Me, and I will return to You," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies." Malachi 3:7b (NLT)