

## Calling it Quits!

(Reasons Many Walk Away From Their Faith)

6.11.23

**1 Timothy 1:19** Cling to your faith in Christ, and keep your conscience clear. For some people have deliberately violated their consciences; as a result, their faith has been shipwrecked.

**John 6:66** At this point many of his disciples turned away and deserted him.

1. They may have stopped confessing

**1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2. They may have quit or weakened in the “big 3”

--They may have stopped connected to Jesus through prayer

**1 Thess 5:17** pray continually,

--They may have stopped connected to Jesus through reading or hearing the Bible

**1 Peter 2:2-3** Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, <sup>3</sup> now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

**John 17:17** Sanctify them by<sup>[d]</sup> the truth; your word is truth.

-They may have stopped connected to Jesus through Jesus’s people.

**Heb 10:25** not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

**Prov 27:17** As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

3. They may have quit serving

**John 15:16** You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit

**Eph 2:8-10** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

**4. They may have avoided forgiving**

**Ephesians 4:31**

<sup>31</sup>Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice

Eph 4: <sup>32</sup>Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

**5. They may have “resisted” suffering**

**II Tim 3:12** In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,

**James 1:** <sup>2</sup>Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters,<sup>[a]</sup> whenever you face trials of many kinds, <sup>3</sup> because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. <sup>4</sup> Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Close:

**I John 2:19** These people left our churches, but they never really belonged with us; otherwise they would have stayed with us. When they left, it proved that they did not belong with us.