



Matthew 13:3-8 (NIV) ³Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.

My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge... (Hosea 4:6)

Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. (Joshua 1:8)

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

1. We Neglect Our _____ with God.

I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word. (Psalm 119:15-16)

2. We _____ God and Other Christians.

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. (James 1:2-3)

3. Our Closest Friends Are Bad _____.

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." (1 Corinthians 15:33)

4. We Love the Things of This _____ More Than We Love God.

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (1 John 2:15)

5. If All Else Fails, We _____ It!

These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. (Isaiah 29:13)

(over)

...You have forsaken your first love. Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first... (Revelation 2:4-5)

Want to Go Deeper?

- Memorize Psalm 119:15-16.
- Are you closer to God today than in the past? Why or why not?
- Thinking of the ways that we drift away from God, what is the one area you need to work on most? What specific action step are you going to take?
- If you are ready to accept God's invitation to a new life, let us know and we will help you with next steps.
- Read *Don't Waste Your Life* by John Piper.

Please let us know the commitments you are making to God by using the Communication Card. We will pray for you.