How To Prevent Back Sliding

Greg Kline · Psalm 119:1–16

INTRODUCTION

- The first and foremost struggle that I face is with myself.
- If you want something to bear fruit, it has to be nurtured, has to be cared for.
- If you're growing closer to God, you're going to have your defense up against falling away.

1 Listen to God Every Day

Psalm 119:33–40; Psalm 119:105; Psalm 1:1–6

- How am I going to prevent backsliding and grow closer to God? I'm going to listen to him every day.
- If we're going to be Christians, if we're going to be pleasing to God, we have to be in God's word.
- Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
- There's no other relationship that would possibly work with zero communication or with communication once a week.
- His delight is in the law of the Lord. And on this law he meditates day and night.
- To know God, we've got to listen to Him. We've got to listen to God every day.

2 Speak to God Every Day

Psalm 119:169–176; Psalm 66:16–19; Isaiah 59:1–2

- Let my cry come before you, O Lord. Give me understanding according to your word.
- I cannot claim to be thankful for what he's done and not speak to God thanking him.
- If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened.
- Our iniquity, our sin does what to our relationship? It separates us from God. That includes this avenue of prayer.
- Not just to speak to God every day because it's something we have to do before bed or before the meal, but because we're thankful.

3 Say Something for God Every Day

Psalm 119:41–48; Acts 8:4; Colossians 4

- I will also speak of your testimonies before kings and shall not be put to shame, for I find my delight in your commandments, which I love.
- They went about teaching the word. Why? Because if you're a Christian, that's what you do.
- We ought to be God's hands, his feet, his mouth.
- Are we looking for opportunities to speak for God? Or are we looking for opportunities to get out of it?
- If I haven't spoken about Jesus much at all to others, that I have to at least raise the question, is he truly on my heart?

4 Do Something for God Each and Every Day

Matthew 7:24–27

- Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.
- If we're going to listen to the words of life and we're going to be pleasing to God, we're going to do them.
- Just one good deed for God. One unselfish, charitable act.
- If I said something for God every day, that it might not just impact other lives, but it will continually strengthen my own.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Do you want to pass the test? Do you want to please God?**

MY NOTES