

Christian Casualties

Skip Gray

I. Introduction.

- A. We are to give our lives to people—there are no ribbons in heaven.
- B. There are hindrances to a Christian's development over the long haul. (II Peter 1:12)

II. Laziness. (Ezekiel 16:49)

- A. This is abundance of idleness. (Proverbs 10:4; 13:4, Ecclesiastes 5:10)
- B. We need to be enthusiastic and keep up with the basics.

III. Busyness. (I Kings 20:39-40)

- A. We must learn to work smarter not harder.
- B. Not every open door is the will of God. (II Corinthians 2)

IV. Operate with a margin—time, money and emotional resources. (Luke 5:15-17)

- A. We should avoid categorizing what faith means in any circumstance. (Luke 22:35)
- B. We have to trust God for time, money and energy.

IV. Prayerlessness. (Isaiah 64:7)

- A. We have to stir up ourselves to take hold of the will of God.
- B. We have not because we ask not. (James 4:2)

V. Indecisiveness. (I Kings 18:21)

- A. We have to make up our mind and be committed. (John 6)
- B. We must choose today. (Joshua 24:15)
- C. We must decide whether Jesus is the Lord of our lives and whether the Scriptures are authoritative and sufficient. (Isaiah 6:8-9)

VI. Short-sightedness. (Hebrews 12:15-17, I John 1:9, II Timothy 4:10)

VII. Unconfessed sin. (Judges 16:40)

A. Sin has four steps: I saw, I coveted, I took, and I hid. (Joshua 4; 7:20)

B. Do not play around with unconfessed sin. (I John 1:9)

Application questions:

1. How is busyness a sign of laziness? Explain

2. What things do you wish you had prayed more fervently for in hindsight? Explain.

3. Spend some time praying to God for forgiveness in any unconfessed sin in your life.
