

Lay Aside Every Weight

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Hebrews 12:1-2.

B. In light of the witness of Christians before us, we are to lay aside every weight and every sin.

C. The reason we must do this is so that we may finish well.

D. Life is not easy—few Christians end well. (John 5:35)

E. There are six weights and sins that tend to hold us back.

II. Laziness. We must not let idleness get the best of us. (Ezekiel 16:49, Proverbs 15:4)

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

A. We ought to have priorities.

B. It is hardest to get people to think and then do things in order of importance.

C. Busyness comes from pressure. Jesus pulled back from the crowd for prayer. He received power as a result. (Luke 5:15)

IV. Indecisiveness. (I Kings 18:21)

A. We cannot have two masters. (Joshua 24:24)

B. We must give Jesus unqualified availability and put both feet down on the Bible.

C. We cannot go through life just waiting for life to happen.

V. Prayerlessness. (Isaiah 64:7)

VI. Short-sightedness. (Colossians 4:14)

VII. Unconfessed sin. (Judges 16:20)

A. The blood of Jesus will cleanse sin. (I John 1:9)

B. We must call our wrongs sin in order to receive forgiveness.

Application questions:

1. Why is busyness such a threat to finishing well?

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.
