



I THINK. I FEEL. I AM ... *apathetic*

MARK 9:24

Three sources of and solutions to spiritual apathy ...

I. Spiritual apathy can be a result of _____.

Who is Jesus to you?

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Psalm 51:9-12

SEE JESUS AS THE HOLY ONE WHO FORGIVES AND RESTORES.

II. Spiritual apathy can be a result of my _____.

Who do you run to when you're dry?

O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. Psalm 63:1

RUN TO THE ONE WHO CAN SUSTAIN AND REFRESH HIS PEOPLE.

III. Spiritual apathy can just ____.

Who do you trust in your desperation?

How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me? ... But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me. Psalm 13:1-2, 5-6

STAY FOCUSED ON THE ONE WHOSE GOODNESS NEVER ENDS.

A CAUTION

As we evaluate potential apathy and search for rekindled passion ...
Spiritual passion and emotion are not the same as spiritual maturity and love.

When I think, I feel, I am apathetic ...

■ I AM ... _____ by God's grace through faith in Christ. (Col 2:13-15)

■ I THINK ... about this _____ in the "already" and the "not yet." (Col 3:1-3)

■ I FEEL ... sparks as my _____ increases. (Mark 9:24)



DEVOTIONAL & HOME GROUP STUDY

"What shall we do with our faith? We must use it. Weak, trembling, doubting and feeble as it may be, we must use it. We must not wait until it is great, perfect and mighty, but like the man before us, turn it to account and hope that one day it will be more strong. 'Lord,' he said, 'I do believe.' What shall we do with our unbelief? We must resist it and pray against it. We must not allow it to keep us back from Christ. We must take it to Christ as we take all other sins and infirmities and cry to Him for deliverance. Like the man before us, we must cry, 'Help my unbelief!'"

WILLIAM BARCLAY

"The mundane tasks of everyday life can lull you to apathy and push God to the back of your mind. Refuse to become self-sufficient in life. You need God every day, whether you're facing a storm or not."

PAUL CHAPPELL

"Perseverance is not the result of our determination, it is the result of God's faithfulness. We survive in the way of faith not because we have extraordinary stamina but because God is righteous, because God sticks with us. Christian discipleship is a process of paying more and more attention to God's righteousness and less and less attention to our own; finding the meaning of our lives not by probing our moods and motives and morals but by believing in God's will and purposes; making a map of the faithfulness of God, not charting the rise and fall of our enthusiasms. It is out of such a reality that we acquire perseverance."

EUGENE PETERSON

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.

- 1. What does spiritual apathy look like for you? How do you usually try to move past it?
2. Read Mark 9:14-27. What did Jesus say the disciples neglected, which caused their failure here?
3. God has given us a great gift of living close to Him through the power of the Holy Spirit. What happens to that gift when we don't nurture it?
4. What should we be doing each day to nurture His gift? How much of a priority would you say that is for you?
5. Read aloud the following passages. How did David express his spiritual dryness? How well do you relate to his words?
Psalm 51:9-12
Psalm 63:1
Psalm 13:1-6
6. With Christ we may do all things; without Him we can do nothing at all, and apathy may overcome us. How can you strive every day to realize and live out your need of the grace and presence of Christ?

FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

For those feeling spiritual apathy, retreat to a quiet place and read through the following passages. Write on cards the ones that apply to your need, posting them in prominent places to renew your thinking and keep your focus on the Lord. Ask for His help!

- Ps 19:7-8 Rom 12:1-2 Phil 2:12-13
Ps 42:5-6 1 Cor 15:57-58 Phil 3:12-14
Ps 119:10 2 Cor 3:18 Col 3:16
Ps 119:105 2 Cor 4:8-9 Heb 4:12
John 15:5 2 Cor 4:16-18 Heb 12:1-2
John 17:17 2 Cor 7:1 2 Pet 1:5-7

A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

- 1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)
"Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD Wonder why there's suffering if there's a good God? It's a common question God's people wrestle with. Even in the Old Testament, one of God's prophets, Habakkuk, began a conversation about God's sovereignty, mercy and justice. Want to listen in? Women in the Word study, Conversations with God, starts this summer! Visit www.ccbcfamily.org/wiw to read more!

FIREPROOF FAITH God is mighty and faithful, and his design for the men who follow him changes the world for His glory and their good. Ready to run the race with brothers? This summer, our men's ministry's bible study, Band of Brothers, is heading into a study of Galatians — focused on a fireproof faith. Get suited up and visit www.ccbcfamily.org/bob to sign up today!

AVENUE WEEKEND Are you dating, engaged or newly married? There's a weekend dedicated to you and your relationship, and we'd love to have you join us! Hosted at Common Grounds coffee shop from Friday, May 17, to Saturday, May 18, we'll have an open conversation about finances, communication, God's purposes for marriage and more. The registration deadline is approaching fast, so save your spot today at www.ccbcfamily.org/avenuew.

DISCORD OR JOY: TUNING YOUR EMOTIONAL PLAYLIST Starting this month, Discord or Joy: Tuning Your Emotional Playlist, will be a four-week class for anyone to join, and it's happening here at the Fort Worth Campus. Designed to complement our current sermon series, I Think. I Feel. I Am., we'll find ways to tune our emotions into a melody that sounds just right. Read more about this class, see details and complete your registration by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/emotions.

ELDER PRAYER The elders and their wives would love to spend time with you and pray for any encouragement or healing you need in your life right now. God does extraordinary things when we go to Him, and we're excited to do this together Sunday, May 19 at 12:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Learn more at www.ccbcfamily.org/elderprayer.

DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE A 5 P.M. SERVICE? We created the 5 p.m. service with the BE, MAKE and REACH vision in mind, opening more opportunities for others to meet Jesus. So come and meet more of the staff, welcome new families and use this as a REACH opportunity for those around you! We'll see you there!



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy-text GIVE to 24253 to get started.