

# OUR GOD SPEAKS

Part 6 DRIFTING from the Bible

JOHN MARK - engaged, engaged, drifted, returned

Acts 12:12, 25, 13:5, 13; 2 Timothy 4:11

DEMAS drifted – faithful, faithful, gone

Col. 4:14; Philemon 1:24; 2 Tim. 4:10

Drifting is a NATURAL maneuver

- Our nature – our internal PROPENSITY
- TEMPTATION – from within and from without
- UNCLEAR answers to HARD questions

Drifting's END GAME

- Cave to CULTURAL values
- Trade hard truths for EASIER truths

Drifting begins in our ROOT SYSTEMS

- A slow erosion of TRUST in God; His love, His PLAN, His Word, His PEOPLE
- A final OUTBURST to be free, a FIRM will to follow a new path

Drifting manifests itself in THREE ways

- Drifting from time with GOD'S PEOPLE Hebrews 10:25
- Drifting from time with JESUS John 15:4-5
- Drifting from time in personal SPIRITUAL practices  
Acts 2:42; Hebrews 4:12

**Challenge: Do you want God more than you want the PROMISE LAND?** Exodus 32-33

## Life Group Questions – August 4, 2019

**Hebrews 3:12-13** 'Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.'

### QUICK REVIEW

1. What does "Sola Scriptura" mean? What was its significance in the Protestant Reformation? Has its significance changed over time? Why do you think this is?
2. When God moves supernaturally (miracles), He violates the Natural Laws of Science. Discuss a popular biblical narrative where science has attempted to explain away the divine phenomenon. What is the relationship between miracles and faith?
3. Compared to other leaders, teachers and prophets, what makes Jesus unique?

### MY STORY

1. Have you ever found yourself drifting away from God's Word? Why did you drift? What does this imply about your trust in the Bible? How do unclear or no answers to difficult questions undermine your faith in the Word of God?
2. Are you able to see the roots of drifting in your life right now? What can you do to short-circuit this propensity? How can you avoid drifting from the authority of God's Word?

### GOING DEEP

1. What is biblical illiteracy? Why does it seem to be rising even among professing Christians? What does a drifting church look like?
2. Read Psalm 116. How can this passage stir us to walk near the Lord?
3. Read John 15:4-5. Abiding says something about choosing. Our free wills must be directed to electing to do things that draw us close to the Lord. What do these verses indicate about our efforts of eternal value and our relationship with Jesus?
4. God created us to have fellowship with Him (Genesis 3:8, Leviticus 26:11-12, John 17:3, Revelation 21:3-4). This should be reflected not only in our knowledge of God's Word but also in our prayer life. How frequently do we pray? How fervently do we pray? What keeps us from truly knowing Him now?

### PUTTING IT TOGETHER:

1. What do you think are some of the challenges to living out each point?
2. Which of the above teaching points are most important for you to remember?