



Psalm 1

1 Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, or set foot on the path of sinners, or sit in the seat of mockers.

2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night.

3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water, yielding its fruit in season, whose leaf does not wither, and who prospers in all he does.

Psalm 1

4 Not so the wicked!

For they are like chaff driven off by the wind.

5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

6 For the LORD guards the path of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

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10 Lies that separate me from God

Lie #1

“I should be most concerned with all the ‘noise’ of the world because it is very important”

- There is an unending parade of things to be outraged over, worried about, and caught up in

Truth

First, fight the battle that is closest to you

- Be most concerned with the war within you

10 Lies that separate me from God

Lie #2

“I don’t have time; life is too busy”

Truth

Disciples are soul-focused, not life-focused

Mark 8:35 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and for the gospel will save it.

36 What does it profit a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul?

37 Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?

10 Lies that separate me from God

Lie #3

“Spending time praying and reading is boring”

- There is always a danger that the glorious can lose it's luster in familiarity

Truth

It is through revelation that we see His glory

Luke 24:32 They asked one another, “Were not our hearts burning within us as He spoke with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”

10 Lies that separate me from God

Lie #4

“Obsessing over the gift won’t hurt my devotion to the giver”

- “The heart is a factory of idols”

Truth

The human heart is bent on worshipping something ...

...but it simultaneously has a natural resistance to worshipping the one true God

Matthew 13

22 The seed sown among the thorns is the one who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

10 Lies that separate me from God

Lie #5

“Look to be offended – the shortcomings of others will make you feel better”

- Focusing on the faults of others distracts us to the things that God is working on in us

Truth

God will someday make everything right

- Trusting Him for His perfect justice is part of what it means to walk in faith

2 Corinthians 2

10 If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And if I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven it in the presence of Christ for your sake,

11 in order that Satan should not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

10 Lies that separate me from God

Lie #6

“I’m not being fed. I’m not being disciplined.”

- The enemy works hard to get us to think our lack of growth is someone else’s fault

Truth

God wants a one-on-one relationship with you, and no one else can do that for you.

Romans 14:12...each of us will give an account of himself to God.

10 Lies that separate me from God

Lie #7

“I want to grow but I want to do it painlessly”

- Sacrifice-less Christianity is a mirage

Truth

**If my walk with God costs me nothing,
then I am probably worshipping me, not Him**

Mark 8:24 Then Jesus told His disciples, “If anyone wants to come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

10 Lies that separate me from God

Lie #8

“If my motivations are wrong, I should stop doing what I’m doing”

- The enemy would rather you quit than repent

Truth

Repent of impure motives and pursue Christ with godly ones

Colossians 3

1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

10 Lies that separate me from God

Lie #9

“If I have to work this hard at it, I must be doing something wrong”

- We falsely think our walk with God should be effortless

Truth

Patience, persistence, and perseverance are marks of a true disciple of Christ

- what starts as a discipline soon turns into something I can't live without

Hebrews 5

11 We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain, because you are dull of hearing.

12 Although by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to reteach you the basic principles of God's word.

You need milk, not solid food!

13 Everyone who lives on milk is still an infant, inexperienced in the message of righteousness.

14 But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained their sensibilities to distinguish good from evil.

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Lie #10

“I am not able to read or pray because my mind won't stay focused”

- We are easily convinced that we have no control over our thoughts

Truth

Self-control of the mind is absolutely possible for the Spirit-filled believer in Christ

1 Peter 1:13 Gird up the loins of your mind...

2 Timothy 3

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for instruction, for conviction, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

17 so that the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.

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- 1. Search for something rather than just read**
- 2. Look-up cross-references to a text**
- 3. Study a controversy**
- 4. Read the same book for a whole month**
- 5. Have an open Bible on your passenger seat**
- 6. Stop taking people's word for things and look up the scriptures for yourself – be a Berean**
- 7. Combine reading with other things you enjoy**
- 8. Pray before, during and after reading the Word**
- 9. Have a reading partner**
- 10. Do a topical study**
- 11. Ask "What did I read today that I can put into practice?"**

- 1. Read, pray and praise through the Psalms**
- 2. Have a prayer journal** Use a Journaling app for your phone
- 3. Use a written prayer list**
- 4. Keep your prayers simple**

Matthew 6:7 And when you pray, do not babble on like pagans, for they think that by their many words they will be heard.

8 Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.

- 1. Read, pray and praise through the Psalms**
- 2. Have a prayer journal**
- 3. Use a written prayer list**
- 4. Keep your prayers simple**
- 5. Learn to have an “on-going” discussion with God**
- 6. Pray for others right when you say you will**
- 7. Pray the Lord’s prayer (or other prayers in the Bible)**
- 8. Lace your prayers with thanksgiving**

