



How To Ensure Spiritual Failure
(*How To Ensure Spiritual Success*)

How To ENSURE SPIRITUAL FAILURE

Different Kinds of Failure



- ◆ Secular education –
- ◆ Material / Financial –
- ◆ Relationship / Marriage –
- ◆ Temporary Set Backs –
- ◆ Spiritual / Eternal –

How To ENSURE SPIRITUAL FAILURE

Luke 8:4-15 (NKJV)

⁴ And when a great multitude had gathered, and they had come to Him from every city, He spoke by a parable: ⁵ "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. ⁶ Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. ⁷ And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it.

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Luke 8:4-15 (NKJV)

⁸ But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold." When He had said these things He cried, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" ⁹ Then His disciples asked Him, saying, "What does this parable mean?" ¹⁰ And He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that '*Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.*'"

How To ENSURE SPIRITUAL FAILURE

Luke 8:4-15 (NKJV)

¹¹ "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. ¹² Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. ¹³ But the ones on the rock *are those* who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away.

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Luke 8:4-15 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Now the ones *that* fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. ¹⁵ But the ones *that* fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep *it* and bear fruit with patience.

How To ENSURE SPIRITUAL FAILURE

Failures In The Parable



- ◆ The Failure To Receive God's Word – (12)
- ◆ The Failure To Be Wholly Converted – (13)
- ◆ The Failure To Properly Value Spiritual Things – (14)

How To ENSURE SPIRITUAL FAILURE

Fail To Receive, Respect, Love and Study God's Word!



- ♦ **Must receive with meekness** – Prov. 1:24-26; Acts 17:11; Jam. 1:21
- ♦ **Must respect God's word with reverence** – Ps. 119:161; Prov. 1:7,29; Isa. 30:9-12; 66:2,5
- ♦ **Must Love God's Word – value and desire it** – Ps. 19:7-10; 119:97-104; 1 Pet. 2:2; 2 Thes. 2:10-12
- ♦ **Must study it** – Jer 15:16; 1 Tim 4:12-16; 2 Tim 2:15

How To ENSURE SPIRITUAL FAILURE Fail To Attend Bible Studies and Worship Services



- ♦ **Must worship God** – John 4:24; Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1,2; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16
- ♦ **Must build up and encourage one another** – Heb. 10:24,25; Eph 4:12-16
- ♦ **What is your attitude about attending worship services and Bible studies?** – Ps. 63:1-3; 84:2,10; 119:111; 122:1

How To ENSURE SPIRITUAL FAILURE

Fail To Obey The Gospel and Grow Spiritually



- ♦ **Must hear, believe, repent, confess and be baptized** – Rom 10:17; John 8:24; Luke 13:3,5; Rom. 10:9,10; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 19:1-5; Gal. 3:26,27; 2 Thes. 1:7-9; 1 Pet. 4:17
- ♦ **Must continue to grow spiritually** – Eph. 4:15; 1 Pet. 2:2; 2 Pet. 1:5-10
- ♦ **Must persevere** – Col. 1:23; 1 Cor. 15:58; Heb. 3:14; 2 Pet. 2:18-22

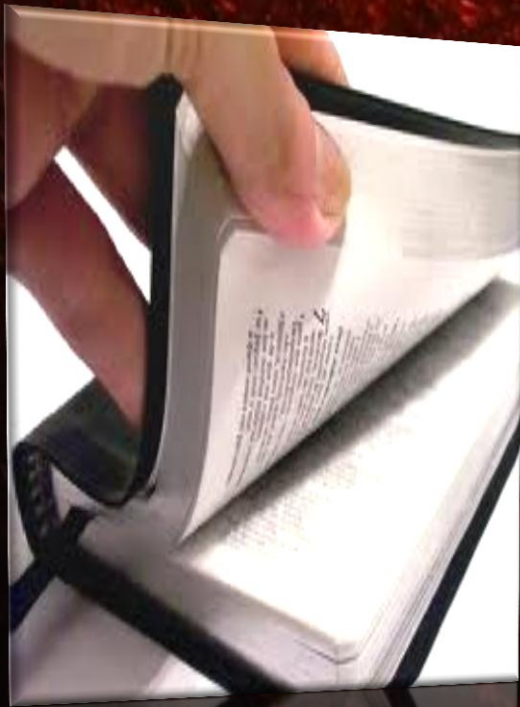
How To ENSURE SPIRITUAL FAILURE Fail To Surround Yourself With Godly People



- ♦ **Must realize the power of influence** –
(*for good or bad*) – Mat. 13:33; 1 Cor. 5:6; Gal 5:9
- ♦ **Must heed the warnings of scripture**
– Prov. 1:10-18; 9:6; 13:20; 1 Cor. 15:33; Heb. 12:15
- ♦ **Must keep ourselves pure and separate** – (*cf. Israel* – Deut. 20:16-18)
– 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1; 1 Pet. 1:13-17

How To ENSURE SPIRITUAL FAILURE

Fail To Think On and Focus On Spiritual Things



- ♦ **Must realize the powerful pull of the world** – 1 John 2:15-17
- ♦ **Must realize the danger of compromise** – Mat. 6:19-24; Jam 4:4
- ♦ **Must make great effort and give all diligence to overcome the world's influence** – Rom. 12:1,2; Col. 3:1-3; 1 Tim 6:11; 2 Pet. 1:5-10
- ♦ **Must focus** – Mt. 6:22,23; Phili 4:6-13

How To ENSURE SPIRITUAL FAILURE

Joshua 1:7-9 (NKJV)

⁷ Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. ⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, . . .

How To ENSURE SPIRITUAL FAILURE

Joshua 1:7-9 (NKJV)

but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. ⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is* with you wherever you go."

How To Ensure Spiritual:

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- ◆ Fail To Respect, Love and Study The Scriptures –
 - ◆ Fail To Attend Bible Studies and Worship Services –
 - ◆ Fail To Obey The Gospel and Grow Spiritually –
 - ◆ Fail To Surround Yourself With Godly People –
 - ◆ Fail To Think On an Focus On Spiritual Things –

- ◆ Respect, Love and Study The Scriptures
- ◆ Attend Bible Studies and Worship Services
- ◆ Obey The Gospel and Grow Spiritually
- ◆ Surround Yourself With Godly People –
- ◆ Think On an Focus On Spiritual Things –

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