**Distraction!**

2 Corinthians 4:1-7 “4 Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. 2 But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. 3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 5 For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servant for Jesus' sake. 6 For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The title of this group of scriptures in my bible is The Light of the Gospel!

Focus on verse 4 “In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ!”

Distraction comes in many forms. Money, Media, Church, Relationships, Routine, Our Work, Hobbies, desiring a blessing instead of wanting more of God, Our Pastor, and finally Ourselves!

Money – bills, offering (reality last thing most think about), food, clothes, “fun stuff” – Matthew 6:33-34 “33 But seek first the kingdom of God[c] and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you. 34 Therefore don’t worry about tomorrow, because tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”

Distractions

Media – Too concerned with a policy, or who married who, “junk” – Colossians 3:2 “Set your minds on what is above, not on what is on the earth.”

Church and work – Too busy at church to remember why we are here, too busy looking the part of a Christian that you forget the one who got you there. Too busy at work to acknowledge how you got the job in the first place. Luke 10:38-42 – Story of Mary and Martha

Relationships – this one always gets me. Whether it was friends, family, or women. 1 John 3:11 “11 For this is the message you have heard from the beginning: We should love one another.” Don’t forget to make ample time for Jesus

Routine – Hitting snooze thinking that you can go the morning without time for God, only sticking to your routine because “change is baaaad”. Churches do this a lot. Revelation 3:1-6 “The dead church”

Hobbies – like hunting, like computers, like video games. (raise hand). When you are alone at home that is who you truly are “Pastor Dave Conley”. Sometimes our hobbies take the place of God in our lives. We only pray at church, we do not pray before doing “menial tasks”. We neglect to spend time with God, because we are doing something that if “FUN”. Hebrews 12:2 “2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Our Pastor – We should not rely only on our Pastor for the Word of God. We need to talk with God ourselves and read ourselves just not when the Pastor tells us to open our bibles on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Ourselves – This is the one that is most likely to distract us. We have a sinful heart, our body is corrupt, and we are easily swayed into sin. Satan really does not have to do much for us to sin. It comes natural to us. I Corinthians 2:14 states “14 But the unbeliever does not welcome what comes from God’s Spirit, because it is foolishness to him; he is not able to understand it since it is evaluated spiritually.” Or spiritually discerned, spiritually understood. We as humans have a way of getting in the way of our walk with God.

We all have things go on in our lives that will distract us from the God, it is our fallen nature that causes it. We need to constantly remind ourselves on what is important.

Prayer

http://livingforjesus.com/10-things-that-can-distract-us-during-our-walk-with-god/