

What Makes A Christian Weak?

Ephesians 6:10-21

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What Makes A Christian Weak?

- It is evident that becoming strong is a necessary duty. 1 Peter 2:2; Ephesians 4:14-15; 1 Corinthians 16:13; 2 Timothy 2:1

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What Makes A Christian Weak?

- Warnings from Hebrews.
 - 2:1 Warning against drifting away.
 - 3:12 Departing from the living God.
 - 4:1 Coming short of the eternal rest.
 - 6:1ff Result of being weak.

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What Makes A Christian Weak?

- Poor study habits. Hebrews 5:11ff-6:1
 - Ignorance always a problem. cf. 1 Peter 2:1-2; Matthew 28:19
 - Note the expression, "*I would not have you ignorant ...*" 1 Corinthians 12:1; 2 Corinthians 1:8; 1 Thessalonians 4:13
 - Ignorance caused the Jews to be lost. cf. Romans 10:3; Hosea 4:6
 - Description of what happens when one is weak in knowledge. Ephesians 4:14; cf. 1:18

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What Makes A Christian Weak?

- Indifference. Hebrews 2:1-3
- Attitude makes a difference. Malachi 1:13 (Ephesians 4:31-32; cf. 2 Peter 1:9)
 - Easily distracted, discouraged ... mistakes.
 - These attack the heart. Proverbs 4:23
 - "*Give the more earnest heed.*" Hebrews 2:1
 - Diligence necessary. Hebrews 4:11; 6:11-12

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What Makes A Christian Weak?

Diligence ... (literally "to bring every effort to") to do one's very best in attempting to do something – "to do one's best, to make every effort to, to try as hard as possible."

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Note: Mark 14:32-41 Disciples slept.
Time to wake up. 1 Peter 5:8; Colossians 3:23

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What Makes A Christian Weak?

Lack of faith. Hebrews 11:1,6; 3:12

Faith – “a conviction or belief respecting man's relationship to God and divine things, generally with the included idea of **trust** and holy fervor born of faith and conjoined with it.” (Thayer)
– “firm persuasion,” a conviction based upon hearing (W.E. Vine)

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What Makes A Christian Weak?

Giving up.

Hebrews 3:6, 14
Hebrews 4:14
Hebrews 10:23

Must hold on!
1 Corinthians 15:58

Hebrews 10:36, “*For ye have need of patience, that, having done the will of God, ye may receive the promise.*” **Prompted the writing of chapter 11.** Note: Hebrews 12:1

Galatians 6:9, “*And let us not be weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*”

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What Makes A Christian Weak?

Limited exposure to brethren.

Hebrews 3:13 – Daily exhortation needed.
Hebrews 10:24-25 – Consider one another.

- Dismiss the importance of brethren and you will become weak! (Romans 1:8)
Hebrews 12:12-13 – Strengthen the brethren.
Hebrews 13:1, “*Let brotherly love continue.*”
cf. 1 Corinthians 15:33

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What Makes A Christian Weak?

When we let sin weigh us down.

Hebrews 12:1-2 – Set aside hinderances.

- 1 John 1:8-10 – We sin, but ...
Romans 6 – Sin must not reign.
Verse 23 – Results in death.
- Matthew 6:24 – Sin weakens.

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What Makes A Christian Weak?

Weak parents.

Hebrews 11:7 – Noah saved his house.

Ephesians 6:4 – Fathers teach your children. cf. Proverbs 22:6

2 Timothy 3:15 – Timothy taught from a babe.

Deuteronomy 6:6-9 – Teach your children.

Judges 2:10 – New generation.

Contributes to weak churches.

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Conclusion:

- Be aware of things that can put our hope of salvation in jeopardy.
 - Poor study habits. ▪ Limited exposure to brethren.
 - Indifference. ▪ Weight of sin.
 - Lack of faith. ▪ Weak parents.
 - Giving up.

2 Corinthians 2:11, “... *that no advantage may be gained over us by Satan: for we are not ignorant of his devices.*”

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