

November Devotional: Too Busy for Christ? by Jerry Furniss

Satan called a worldwide convention of demons to catch up with the strong and growing Christian Movement;

In his opening address he said,

We can't keep Christians away from going to church. We can't keep them from reading their Bibles and knowing the truth. We can't even keep them from forming an intimate relationship with their savior. Once they gain that connection with Jesus, our power over them is broken. So let them go to their churches; let them have their covered dish dinners, BUT steal their time, so they don't have time to develop a relationship with Jesus Christ.

This is what I want you to do,' said the devil:

'Distract them from gaining hold of their Savior and maintaining that vital connection throughout their day!'

How shall we do this?' his demons shouted.

Keep them busy in the non-essentials of life and invent innumerable schemes to occupy their minds,' he answered. Tempt them to spend, spend, spend, and borrow, borrow, borrow. Persuade the wives to go to work for long hours and the husbands to work 6-7 days each week, 10-12 hours a day, so they can afford their empty lifestyles. Keep them from spending time with their children. As their families fragment, soon, their homes will offer no escape from the pressures of work! Over-stimulate their minds so that they cannot hear that still, small voice inside.

Entice them to play music or text whenever they drive.' To keep the TV, Phones, Music and their PCs going constantly in their home and see to it that every store and restaurant in the world plays non-biblical music constantly. This will jam their minds and break that union with Christ. Fill the coffee tables with magazines and newspapers. Pound their minds with the news 24 hours a day. Invade their driving moments with billboards. Flood their mailboxes and phones with junk, mail order catalogs, sweepstakes, and every kind of newsletter and promotional offering sales, discounts, and shopping on Thanksgiving.

Keep skinny, beautiful models on the magazines and TV so their husbands will believe that outward beauty is what's important, and they'll become dissatisfied with their wives. Keep the wives too tired to love their husbands. Also, give them all worries! If they don't have the love they need, they will begin to look elsewhere. That will fragment their families quickly! Even in their recreation, let them be

excessive. Have them return from their recreation exhausted. Keep them too busy to go out in nature and reflect on God's creation. Send them to amusement parks, sporting events, plays, concerts, and movies instead. Keep them busy, busy, and busy! And when they meet for spiritual fellowship, involve them in gossip and small talk so that they leave with troubled consciences. Crowd their lives with so many good causes they have no time to seek power from Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Soon they will be working in their own strength, sacrificing their health and family for the good of our cause. This will work! It will work!

It was quite a plan!

The demons went eagerly to their assignments causing Christians everywhere to get busier and more rushed, going here and there; allowing little time for their God or their families; having no time to tell others about the power of Jesus to change lives.

I guess the question is, has the devil been successful in his schemes? You be the judge! Do not let 'BUSY' mean: B-eing U-nder S-atan's Y-oke? Cherish your Christian family and church time, especially during the holidays.

* Previous monthly devotionals can be found at <http://crosskeyschurch.org> under the heading Ministries, then Prayer Devotionals.

* If you wish to place a prayer request on the e-mail prayer chain, please use the following e-mail address: prayerlist@crosskeyschurch.org.

* God hears our prayers but if we inadvertently missed your request on Sunday morning, contact Pastor Jeff at 629-7730 to add a prayer to our Sunday Prayer List.