

Option 2 – Going Lukewarm
(appropriate for High School Graduates)
Michael R. Daily October 2016

Other youth bible studies by Michael Daily available at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

Congratulations! You have graduated from High School and have begun your adult life. Things are going to change for you.

You are on your own. The authority of your parents over you (and their protection) is rapidly disappearing. Your childhood training has been completed. Now, its time to find out who the real you is. You have some very important decisions to make that will have impacts on the rest of your life. Choose wisely.

Young adults emerging from a “Christian” childhood typically end up doing one of three things:

- 1) They go “Prodigal”
- 2) They go “Lukewarm”
- 3) They go “Wholehearted”

The Path of the Lukewarm

Tonight we will look at the path of the Lukewarm. As a young engineer I had been working for about a year when the man who recruited me decided to retire. He was in his late 60s and 100 people came to his retirement celebration, including me. As he gave a short speech to the crowd he talked about what he was going to do in retirement. He said that, now that he would have some time, he was going to start studying the Bible. He seemed quite pleased with himself for saying this to the crowd. I was shocked! This man had put God on the backburner his whole life and now, with the energy of youth gone and his mind slowed, he was going to give God his leftovers and was quite pleased with himself for doing so! It gave me a sick feeling.

Revelation 3:15-17

‘I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. ¹⁶ So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth. ¹⁷ Because you say, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,” and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked,

Worse than the prodigal is the one who is Lukewarm! God is glorified by the blessings on those who obey Him and He is glorified by the damaged life of the prodigal but the lukewarm person just does not move the needle! He is worthless. Let’s review some things that lead to lukewarmness and how to avoid them.

As people make their decisions some will choose to reject God and live for themselves (cold). Some will choose to live for God (hot), and some will become lukewarm. Being lukewarm is the worst because these are people who are self-deceived. They go to church every Sunday and they really believe that they are doing great spiritually. But they are not and they can’t tell.

Mark 4:14-20

The sower sows the word. ¹⁵ These are the ones who are beside the road where the word is sown; and when they hear, immediately Satan comes and takes away the word which has been sown in them. ¹⁶ In a similar way these are the ones on whom seed was sown on the rocky *places*, who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy; ¹⁷ and they have no *firm* root in themselves, but are *only* temporary; then, when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they fall away. ¹⁸ And others are the ones on whom seed was sown among the thorns; these are the ones who have heard the word, ¹⁹ but the worries of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. ²⁰ And those are the ones on whom seed was sown on the good soil; and they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold.”

Mark 4:19 (AMP)

but the worries and cares of the world [the distractions of this age with its worldly pleasures], and the deceitfulness [and the false security or glamour] of wealth [or fame], and the passionate desires for all the other things creep in and choke out the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

Verses 18 and 19 talk about the Lukewarm. This person is focused on the worries and distractions of this life, money issues, and the desires for other things. As a result they do not bear fruit. In addition to thinking they are doing great another characteristic of the lukewarm is, no fruit. Notice that the lukewarm are not really doing anything evil or bad (by the world's standards) but they are not seeking to know and obey God. They don't teach the Bible, they don't share the Gospel, in fact they don't share much of anything, and they have no fruit.

Before we talk more about the characteristics of the Lukewarm and ways to avoid it, let's talk about what the Lukewarm person loses out on:

- 1) Loss of Eternal Rewards – compared to the wholehearted, the Lukewarm are forfeiting a great deal of eternal rewards. This means their experience of eternity will be significantly and permanently affected. God commands us to lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven but the lukewarm lose out on these.

Matthew 25:24-29

“And the one also who had received the one talent came up and said, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no seed. 25 And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.’ 26 “But his master answered and said to him, ‘You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no seed. 27 Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my money back with interest. 28 Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.’ 29 “For to everyone who has, more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away.

Matthew 6:19-21

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; 21 for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

- 2) Loss of a Close Personal Relationship With God

(Mark 7:6)

And He said to them, “Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: ‘This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far away from Me.

Matthew 6:24

“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

- 3) A Life With No Purpose and No Meaning

Mark 8:34-35

And He summoned the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. ³⁵ For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.

- 4) In some cases, Loss of Eternal Life - The Lukewarm may or may not be Christians. There is no way to tell from the outside since they look the same.

(Matthew 13:24-30)

Jesus presented another parable to them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field.²⁵ But while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went away.²⁶ But when wheat sprouted and bore grain, then the tares became evident also.²⁷ The slaves of the landowner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?’²⁸ And he said to them, ‘An enemy has done this!’ The slaves said to him, ‘Do you want us, then, to go and gather them up?’²⁹ But he said, ‘No; for while you are gathering up the tares, you may uproot the wheat with them.³⁰ Allow both to grow together until the harvest; and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, “First gather up the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them up; but gather the wheat into my barn.”’”

What is the most effective way to make a growing Christian lukewarm?

The most effective way to make a Christian lukewarm is to get them to marry one!

II Corinthians 6:14-17

Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?¹⁵ Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?¹⁶ Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, “I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE.¹⁷ “Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE,” says the Lord. “AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; And I will welcome you.

I Kings 11:1-2, 4, 6, 11 (Solomon)

Now King Solomon loved many foreign women along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women, 2 from the nations concerning which the Lord had said to the sons of Israel, “You shall not associate with them, nor shall they associate with you, for they will surely turn your heart away after their gods.”

4 For when Solomon was old, his wives turned his heart away after other gods; and his heart was not wholly devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been.

6 Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, and did not follow the Lord fully, as David his father had done.

11 So the Lord said to Solomon, “Because you have done this, and you have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you, and will give it to your servant.

(Judges 14:3 - Samson)

Then his father and his mother said to him, “Is there no woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?” But Samson said to his father, “Get her for me, for she looks good to me.”

(Proverbs 7:21-23)

With her many persuasions she entices him; With her flattering lips she seduces him.²² Suddenly he follows her As an ox goes to the slaughter, Or as *one in* fetters to the discipline of a fool,²³ Until an arrow pierces through his liver; As a bird hastens to the snare, So he does not know that it *will cost him* his life.

The second best way to make someone lukewarm is to surround them with fellowship from lukewarm Christians. You need to increase fellowship with wholehearted Christians and reduce it with lukewarm people.

I Corinthian 15:33

Do not be deceived: Bad company corrupts good morals.

What are some of the indicators that someone is Lukewarm?

Because lukewarm people think they are doing great it isn't always easy to tell from talking to them and we may not see it in ourselves because we feel like we are doing great. But here are some things to look for in ourselves and those we are considering marrying or imitating.

(Hebrews 13:7)

Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith.

Lukewarm people are focused on the worries and distractions of this life, they don't put the same energy and resources into the life to come.

Bible study, witnessing and ministry is not given the same priority as college class work. This leads to similar priorities once out working. Without even realizing it the person has put the things of God second to their work and they become lukewarm. If I am behind on my Bible study preparations I will take a day of vacation and spend it on making sure I put together a high quality Bible study – but the lukewarm won't do that – they give God their leftover time, money, and energy.

The man who discipled me was a full time minister. He noticed that many of his predecessors put their ministries and careers before family. In obedience to God he decided he would work 40 hours a week and minimize his travel for the sake of his marriage and family. He was not sure it was possible to be successful in his job and do that. But after praying about it he decided, "We are going to find out." So, that is how he lived his life. Many of his co-workers and superiors did not think he was doing the right thing but God blessed him and he was successful in his career, family, and marriage.

I made a similar decision early in my career. I would work 40 hours a week and move to jobs with minimal travel so that I could put my family and ministry first. I was not sure if I could be successful doing this but God has blessed me and I have done just fine for over 30 years.

Years ago during one of my performance reviews as a manager my boss said, "Mike, you don't work a lot of hours. Some people say the boss should set the example for the troops and work a lot of hours. Others say if you manage things well you shouldn't have to work a lot of hours. Interesting. Well, I think you are doing a great job" (then he gave me a nice raise). People will notice what you are doing and will question your decision and give you a hard time but God will be with you and bless you.

Matthew 6:25-33

"For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? 27 And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life? 28 And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, 29 yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. 30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith! 31 Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' 32 For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

(Proverbs 23:4)

Do not weary yourself to gain wealth, Cease from your consideration of it.

(Philippians 3:18-20)

For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are enemies of the cross of Christ,*¹⁹ whose end is destruction, whose god is *their* appetite, and *whose* glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things.²⁰ For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;

(II Timothy 4:9-10)

Make every effort to come to me soon; 10for Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia.

Lukewarm people lay up money for themselves on the earth. They don't like to lay up treasure in heaven or use it as a tool for furthering God's kingdom.

Lukewarm people are stingy when it comes to spending money on other people or God's work because they need it for their own comfort. They want to build a literal mansion on earth, not in heaven. If you marry a lukewarm Christian and you want to give hundreds of dollars to a missionary, don't be surprised if your spouse gets angry and comments that the money could be better spent on something for the house! When its their turn to be hospitable or bring refreshments don't be surprised when they give you the bargain refreshments instead of the "good wine".

(John 2:9-10)

When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom,¹⁰ and said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first, and when *the people* have drunk freely, *then he serves the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now.*"

If you want to encourage some teens to learn the Bridge Illustration, a \$10 gift card can be very effective – but the lukewarm would never spend a few hundred dollars of their own money to encourage 20 teens to learn how to share the gospel. Its just not worth it to them!

Matthew 6:24

"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

I Timothy 6:17-19

Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.¹⁸ *Instruct them* to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share,¹⁹ storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.

(I Timothy 6:8-11)

If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content. 9 But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. 11 But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness.

Lukewarm Christians love to gain Bible knowledge as long as they don't have to put it into action. They want to spend their time and efforts on the things they really desire in life.

Putting Bible knowledge into action would divert them from the things they really want to spend effort on in this life. As a result, they seek Bible teachers who don't make them feel bad for not obeying God. Unfortunately, knowledge without application is not a good thing – it makes them arrogant! They are not only disobeying God, they think they are doing better than everyone else! The wholehearted realize that the only part of their Bible knowledge that has any value is the part they have put into obedient action – the rest is worthless!

I Corinthians 8:1

Now concerning things sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies.

James 4:17 - Therefore, to one who knows *the* right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

James 1:22-25

But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. ²³For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. ²⁵But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

Delude: *to cause (someone) to believe something that is not true*

Luke 6:46-49

Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? ⁴⁷ Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: ⁴⁸ he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. ⁴⁹ But the one who has heard and has not acted *accordingly*, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great."

John 14:15 & 21

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.....²¹ He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him."

Lukewarm people rarely share their faith outside the church. They do not want to be rejected, nor do they want to make people uncomfortable by talking about private issues like religion.

Lukewarm people would rather have the approval of men than the approval of God!

John 12:42-43

Nevertheless many even of the rulers believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they were not confessing *Him*, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³ for they loved the approval of men rather than the approval of God.

Matthew 10:32-33

"Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. ³³ But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.

(Mark 8:38)

For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

The Prayers of the Lukewarm

The prayers of the lukewarm tend to center on their own comforts rather than the will of God. Most of the time the motivation of their prayers is for God to restore their comfort that has been disrupted by something:

“Lord, please heal me of my sickness so I can be comfortable again”

“Lord, I’m having money troubles. Please fix them and restore my comfort”

“Lord, I’m having trouble in my marriage. Please fix it and restore my comfort”

“Lord, please help me find a nice house for a low price so I can be comfortable”

“Lord, please give us a big house so we can do ministry” (but then the ministry never materializes)

Rarely will you here the lukewarm pray:

“Lord, please give us more opportunities to share the Gospel.”

“Lord, please give us more opportunities to serve others.”

“Lord, please give us relationships with mature, obedient Christians whose example will challenge us and who we can imitate.”

“Lord, please reveal to us where we are falling short in our obedience to You.”

“Lord, please keep me in the center of Your Will and use whatever means are necessary.”

“Lord, please continually provide opportunities to use our spiritual gifts to help the church and strengthen the faith of others.”

“Lord, please maximize our lives for Your glory and to have an eternally valuable impact in the lives of others.”

Actions to Take

Minimize your church time spent around the Lukewarm. Instead spend your church time with those least likely to be lukewarm:

- 1) Those learning to share the gospel and doing it, not just talking about it or casually referring to it.
- 2) Those who pray the prayers of the wholehearted and who understand the power of prayer.
- 3) Those learning and practicing having a regular quiet time with God.
- 4) Those who are learning and practicing scripture memory.
- 5) Those who diligently serve, particularly in low glory ministries.
- 6) Those who serve with a commitment to excellence and high quality – knowing that they are serving Christ.
- 7) Those who are intentionally laying up treasure in heaven, not on the earth.
- 8) Those who are unusually zealous about obeying God’s Word with all their energy and resources.

Zealous: *showing strong and energetic support for a person, cause, etc.*

This is where you will find your future spouse and people whose examples will encourage you (by their existence proof) to persevere even when they are no longer around.

You don’t want to end up married to someone who is going to laugh at you when you try to do these things.

Appendix: Additional Characteristics of the Lukewarm (from the work of Francis Chan)

Lukewarm people attend church regularly. The traditions of religion are often as or more important than what the Word of God says.

Mark 7:6-9

And He said to them, “Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: ‘This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far away from Me. 7 ‘But in vain do they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.’ 8 Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men.” 9 He was also saying to them, “You are experts at setting aside the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition.

Lukewarm people tend to choose what is popular over what is right when they are in conflict. They care more about what people think of their actions than what God thinks of their hearts and lives. Invisible service opportunities do not appeal to them.

Luke 6:26

Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.

Matthew 6:5-6

“When you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. 6 But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.

Mark 10:42-44

Calling them to Himself, Jesus said to them, “You know that those who are recognized as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them; and their great men exercise authority over them. 43 But it is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant; 44 and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all.”

Lukewarm people don't really want to be saved from sin; they only want to be saved from the penalty of their sin. They don't genuinely hate sin and aren't truly sorry for it. Lukewarm people don't really believe that this new life Jesus offers is better than the old one. They don't see themselves as having been “forgiven much”.

Revelation 3:19 - Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent.

Luke 7:41-43

“A moneylender had two debtors: one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² When they were unable to repay, he graciously forgave them both. So which of them will love him more?” ⁴³ Simon answered and said, “I suppose the one whom he forgave more.” And He said to him, “You have judged correctly.”

Lukewarm people gauge their morality by comparing themselves to the secular world. They feel satisfied that while they aren't as hard-core for Jesus as so-and-so, they aren't as horrible as the guy down the street.

Luke 18:11

The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

Lukewarm people say they love Jesus but he isn't allowed to control their lives.

Luke 9:59-62

And He said to another, "Follow Me." But he said, "Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father." ⁶⁰ But He said to him, "Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God." ⁶¹ Another also said, "I will follow You, Lord; but first permit me to say good-bye to those at home." ⁶² But Jesus said to him, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Lukewarm people do not love God with all their mind, heart, soul, and strength. They are quick to assure you that they try to love God that much, but that sort of total devotion isn't really possible for the average person; its only for pastors and missionaries and radicals.

Matthew 22:36-40

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ And He said to him, "'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' ³⁸ This is the great and foremost commandment. ³⁹ The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

Lukewarm people do not love others as much as they love themselves. Their love for others is typically focused on those who love them in return, like family, friends, and other people they know. There is little love left over for those who cannot love them back, much less for those who intentionally slight them. Their love is highly conditional and very selective, and generally comes with strings attached.

Matthew 5:43-47

"You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on *the* evil and *the* good, and sends rain on *the* righteous and *the* unrighteous. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing *than others*? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?"

Luke 14:12-14

And He also went on to say to the one who had invited Him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, otherwise they may also invite you in return and *that* will be your repayment. ¹³ But when you give a reception, invite the poor, the crippled, *the* lame, *the* blind,¹⁴ and you will be blessed, since they do not have *the means* to repay you; for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Lukewarm people want to do the bare minimum, to be "good enough" without being inconvenienced.

Matthew 13:44-46

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls,⁴⁶ and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."

Luke warm people do not live by faith. They don't genuinely seek out what life God would have them live—they have life figured and mapped out. The truth is, their lives wouldn't look much different if they suddenly stopped believing in God.

Luke 12:16-21

And He told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man was very productive. ¹⁷ And he began reasoning to himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸ Then he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years *to come*; take your ease, eat, drink *and* be merry.'" ²⁰ But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and *now* who will own what you have prepared?' ²¹ So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

Lukewarm people are double-minded, unstable, and can't be counted on. They're not faithful to God or man.

James 1:5-8

But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. ⁶But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, ⁸being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

Luke 16:10-15

"He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much. ¹¹ Therefore if you have not been faithful in the use of unrighteous wealth, who will entrust the true riches to you? ¹² And if you have not been faithful in the use of that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³ No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth." ¹⁴ Now the Pharisees, who were lovers of money, were listening to all these things and were scoffing at Him. ¹⁵ And He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts; for that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God."

James 4:4-8

You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us"? ⁶But He gives a greater grace Therefore it says, "GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE." ⁷Submit therefore to God Resist the devil and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God and He will draw near to you Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Lukewarm people don't really believe the Bible has final authority above all things in life

John 3:12

If I told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?

II Timothy 4:1-5

I solemnly charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: ² preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, ⁴ and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths. ⁵ But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Option 2 – Going Lukewarm*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Revelation 3:15-17*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Mark 4:14-20*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Matthew 25:24-29*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Option 2 – Going Lukewarm*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Matthew 6:19-21*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Mark 7:6, Matthew 6:24*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Mark 8:34-35*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Option 2 – Going Lukewarm*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Matthew 13:24-30*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *II Corinthians 6:14-17*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Kings 11:1-2,4,6,11*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Option 2 – Going Lukewarm*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Judges 14:3, Proverbs 7:21-23*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Corinthians 15:33, Hebrews 13:7*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Matthew 6:25-33*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Option 2 – Going Lukewarm*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Proverbs 23:4, Philippians 3:18-20, II Timothy 4:9-10*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *John 2:9-10*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Timothy 6:8-11, I Timothy 6:17-19*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Option 2 – Going Lukewarm*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Corinthians 8:1, James 4:17*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *James 1:22-25*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Luke 6:46-49*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Option 2 – Going Lukewarm*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *John 14:15&21*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *John 12:42-43*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Matthew 10:32-33, Mark 8:38*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?