



# Why Some Believers Fall Away

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*Why do some believers fall away from Christ? Discover biblical insights from the Parable of the Sower, Matthew 24:13, and Psalm 1 on spiritual maturity, worldly influence, and how to stand firm to the end.*

## Why Do Some Believers Start Strong — But Fail to Finish?

IT is often said that many African American singers began in church choirs before transitioning into secular music. Beyond music, we also see many people living lifestyles completely contrary to biblical values who once professed faith in Jesus Christ.

This raises an important spiritual question:

**Why do some believers start strong in their faith but later drift away?**

The Bible reminds us that salvation is not merely about how we begin — but how we finish.

“But the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.” – Matthew 24:13

Spiritual endurance matters.

## The Parable of the Sower: Seed Among Thorns

In **Luke 8:7**, Jesus describes seed that fell among thorns:

“Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants.”

Later, He explains the meaning in **Luke 8:14**:

“The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life’s worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature.”

This passage describes believers who receive the Word of God but never grow to spiritual maturity.

Why?

Because they grow **among thorns**.

## **What Are the “Thorns” That Choke Spiritual Growth?**

Jesus identifies three powerful thorns:

**Life’s worries**

**Riches**

**Pleasures**

When believers surround themselves with people who pursue wealth, fame, status, and worldly success above all else, their spiritual sensitivity gradually dulls.

They are constantly exposed to:

Anxiety about the future

Obsession with material gain

Conversations rooted in hopelessness

Values contrary to God’s Kingdom

Jesus warned:

“For the pagans run after all these things...” – Matthew 6:32

It is difficult to mature spiritually while constantly immersed in environments that glorify what God warns against.

As the saying goes:

**“Show me your company, and I will tell you your character.”**

## **Can We Mature Spiritually While Growing Among Thorns?**

The honest biblical answer is no.

Spiritual maturity requires intentional separation in values — not isolation from people, but separation from systems that oppose God.

Psalm 1:1–2 gives us the blueprint for standing firm:

“Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night.”

The result?

“That person is like a tree planted by streams of water... whose leaf does not wither. Whatever they do prospers.”

This is the secret to endurance:

Guard your influences

Delight in God’s Word

Meditate daily

Choose company wisely

## **How Do We Be “Salt and Light” Without Compromise?**

A common concern is:

**If we avoid worldly influence, how can we reach people?**

Jesus Christ provides the perfect example.

He interacted with tax collectors, prostitutes, and sinners — but He did not adopt their values or seek their fellowship for companionship.

“...What fellowship can light have with darkness?” – 2 Corinthians 6:14

Jesus engaged sinners with purpose — not for validation, entertainment, or identity.

When religious leaders criticized Him, He responded:

“...Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you.” – Matthew 21:31

He influenced them.

They did not influence Him.

## **Salt Changes the Food — Not the Other Way Around**

When salt is added to food, the salt changes the flavor. The food does not change the salt.

Likewise:

When believers are around non-believers:

Our character should remain intact

Our values should remain stable

Our light should shine

Jesus said:

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” – Matthew 5:16

We are called to influence — not absorb.

## **Why Some Believers Drift Away**

Many believers fall away because:

They grow among thorns

They absorb worldly value systems

They prioritize riches over righteousness

They neglect meditation on God’s Word

They allow relationships to reshape their convictions

“Birds of a feather flock together.”

Influence is powerful. Over time, values shift subtly — then permanently.

## **The Key to Standing Firm to the End**

Spiritual endurance requires:

Guarding your associations

Prioritizing Scripture daily

Remaining rooted in Christ

Engaging the world with purpose — not compromise

Finishing strong is intentional.

It does not happen accidentally.

## **Final Encouragement**

The goal is not isolation but maturity.

Grow deeply rooted in Christ — so when you engage the world, you remain unshaken.

The one who stands firm to the end will be saved.

## **Prayer Points**

### **1. Repentance**

Ask the Lord to forgive you for areas where worldly influence has shaped your values more than His Word.

### **2. Empowerment**

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you be salt and light wherever you are placed.

### **3. Gratitude**

Thank God for calling you to be a co-laborer in bringing transformation to the world.