

Seven Deadly Christian Work Sins – Part 1

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I. Seven deadly work sins of Christians.

A. The devil is very subtle in his approach.

B. The devil is out to get you and is a master of you.

B. The sins.

1. Self-depreciation.

a. A tendency to dump on oneself and therefore do the work of the devil.

b. The highest mark of spiritual maturity is a proper appraisal of oneself.

2. Hyper-sensitivity.

a. You can tell the quality of an individual by what it takes to stop him.

b. Most people are immobilized by criticism.

c. Questions to ask:

1) Is it profitable? Entertain it.

2) Is it unprofitable? Do not stoop to entertain it.

3. Resentment of authority.

a. Submission is the lifestyle of the Christian.

b. Most are by birth are independent. Christians are interdependent.

4. Lack of self-control.

a. Your ability to control yourself.

b. If there is any area that you do not have control, you need the filling of the Holy Spirit.

c. Nothing in your culture is characterized by discipline.

d. Unless you have real discipline you will fade in the stretch.

5. Inability to relate to people.

a. You must love people, not just the activity.

1) There are many who would be fantastic in their ministry if they would never have to work with people.

2) If you are uncomfortable with people, you remove yourself from them, and you become more afraid of them.

b. People, however, are exhausting.

1) It has been estimated that one hour with people is equivalent to eight hours of hard labor.

2) You have to get away from people.

c. You never grow weary in the work of Christ, but you often grow weary in the work.

d. Often, those you love get the short end of the stick.

1) You will never function successfully in the home apart from the Spirit.

2) Your ministry in the home should be the least neglected.

e. Jesus was moved by the multitudes.

1) What do people do to you? Do they move you or bother you?

6. Unwillingness to rest and relax.

a. Your greatest asset becomes your greatest liability.

b. We become compulsive. We become workaholics and develop an inordinate view of ministry.

c. Both play and work are good.

1) We need to work when we work and play when we play.

2) Playing is extremely valuable.

d. Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit—you must take care of it.

1) Shop for food—make sure you eat nutritionally.

2) Exercise.

3) Rest—some people sleep too much and some people sleep too little.

e. Most of us are not living—just existing.

7. Lack of courage.

- a. Bravery is different than courage.
- b. It is easier to die than it is to live courageously.
- c. Blessed is the man who endures testing. (James 1:12)
 - 1) To endure is to hold up courageously under fire.
 - 2) This is why God brings problems into your life.
- d. Personal example of running a race; you need to save up for the next lap.
 - 1) Most of us would be fabulous Christians if our walk was like track—but it is more like Cross Country.
 - 2) We have to develop the second wind.
- e. Problems are the megaphone God uses to get our attention.
 - 1) Far more important than God ministering through you is God ministering through you.

II. Question and Answer.

A. If people do not know that one has committed a sin against them, should one speak to them about it?

- 1. Generally speaking, you create a bigger problem than you can solve. You need to be let by the Spirit in that matter.
- 2. If it surfaces at a later date, then you need to approach it differently.

B. How do you deal with critics?

- 1. Criticism wears itself out, but not always.
- 2. Criticism is an occupational hazard.

C. What part does an individual have in determining the significance of their contribution?

- 1. They have a substantial part but not apart from other believers.
- 2. If it is not affirmed by the body, then it is less likely that the gift for certain things are there.
- 3. Feedback is important, but on the final analysis the individual needs to make the decision.

D. One of the most important things in relating to people?

1. Flow into their life and become interested in the things that interest them.
2. Most people are poor conversationalists because they don't know how to ask questions.
3. This is the key to marriage—you need to study your partner.

Application Questions:

1. How well do you relate to people? In what ways are you deficient? Why is this among the deadly work sins?

2. In light of the speaker's discussion on courage, how should the Christian view suffering? How is this any different than someone who is not a Christian?

3. Which of the seven deadly work sins stood out to you the most? What difficulties have you faced in this area? What steps can you take to address this issue in your life?
