

### Chapter 1 : David Platt: Casual, Cultural Christianity Is Leading People to Hell

*a cure for casual christianity There is an easy cure for casual Christianity. We need to begin by taking the word of God seriously and putting it into practice.*

A Casual Christian can be described as lukewarm. Casual Christians present a mixed worship, live a mixed lifestyle, and send a mixed message. Casual Christians offer a Mixed Worship A. In the Old Testament, there are two primary words translated as worship. The most common Greek word for worship, found 60 times just in the New Testament, is proskuneo. It is another of those concrete terms. Literally it means "to kiss toward. Of course, this originated in bowing down and kissing the earth in front of someone or something that one might worship. Worship is therefore an inner reverence for God demonstrated outwardly in obedience, adoration and praise. Tremble before Him, all the earth. Casual worship often is either irreverent or indifferent, at times both: Irreverent worship is worship that is focused on satisfying the individual, the congregation or the community rather than the exaltation of an infinitely holy, righteous, and omnipotent God. It is focused on man and not on God. If worship is all about meeting my needs, my experiences, my feelings "me" then it is not the worship of God. We will do the same. Pleasing worship will be whole-hearted. We must love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul and mind Matt. Half-heart or indifferent worship is not acceptable to Him. Someone has said that our every act ought to be a worshipful adoration of our Almighty Lord. When we pray, we should bow not just our heads but also our hearts! When we sing praises to Him, we should sing with passion, adoringly, reverently, exalting and worshipping the Most High God. We should worship the Lord with the best we have to offer. Give God your best attention and effort in worship and your best gifts as offerings. We therefore ought to feel comfort in coming before Him. He is our Father, and loves us more than we can imagine. However, we must be careful not too casual in our relationship that we carelessly approach the throne of grace. We must remember who God is and who we are. God is the Sovereign Ruler of the universe. If then I am the Father, Where is My honor? And if I am a Master, Where is My reverence? Casual Christians live a Mixed Lifestyle.

### Chapter 2 : What Are Informal Prayers? - God Loves You More, than You Can Possibly Imagine

*Informal Christianity reviews the personal and informal realities involved in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ that provide the foundation of Christianity. Where the internal and subjective realities of regeneration are absent from the lives of church members, churches find themselves on a foundation of sand.*

Many denominations that adhere to a liturgical tradition use specific prayers geared to the season of the Liturgical Year , such as Advent , Christmas , Lent and Easter. Prayer to saints[ edit ] Main articles: Communion of saints and Intercession of saints The ancient church, in both Eastern Christianity and Western Christianity , developed a tradition of asking for the intercession of deceased saints , and this remains the practice of most Eastern Orthodox , Oriental Orthodox , Roman Catholic , and some Anglican churches. Churches of the Protestant Reformation however rejected prayer to the saints, largely on the basis of the sole mediatorship of Christ. Aspects of Christian meditation A Carmelite nun meditating on the Bible Christian meditation is a structured attempt to get in touch with and deliberately reflect upon the revelations of God. Christian meditation is the process of deliberately focusing on specific thoughts such as a bible passage and reflecting on their meaning in the context of the love of God. Meditation serves as a foundation on which the contemplative life stands, the practice by which someone begins the state of contemplation. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. October Learn how and when to remove this template message This kind of prayer involves the believer taking the role of an intercessor, praying on behalf of another individual, group or community, or even a nation. It is a traditional prayer, liturgical or non-liturgical, with a very informal structure, sometimes non written and ending with a rhyme See also in Bible: Lc 18,38; Mt 8,1; Lc 23,42; Gv 20,28; At 7, This section does not cite any sources. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. October Learn how and when to remove this template message Listening prayer is a type of Christian prayer. When their prayers seemed unanswered, some would feel that God did not hear them or did not respond to them. Listening prayer requires those praying to calm their minds down and read the Scripture. During the reading, some sentences may pop into mind, as if in answer to their prayers but listening prayers are also of two types one is normally listening to church father and second is prayer with music nowadays prayer with music is considered as payer music or prayer song. Prayer books and tools[ edit ] Prayer books as well as tools such as prayer beads such as chaplets are used by Christians. Images and icons are also associated with prayers in some Christian denominations. There is no one prayerbook containing a set liturgy used by all Christians; however many Christian denominations have their own local prayerbooks, for example: Book of Common Prayer the traditional Anglican prayer book, still in use or modified by the constituent churches of the Anglican Communion , and one of the most influential prayerbooks in the English language.

Chapter 3 : Christian prayer - Wikipedia

*Informal Christianity reviews the personal and informal realities involved in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ that provide the foundation of Christianity. It deals with personal discipleship, what it means to be born again, to live in regeneration through the Holy Spirit in a way that produces a genuine spiritual life in Christ.*

What would you say is the greatest enemy of the Christian faith? Instead, our greatest enemy is complacency and apathy in the hearts of believers. Apathy is the enemy that is destroying the church. Several years ago an "Apathy Club" was formed on a certain college campus. The officers of the club advertised a meeting of the membership. Not one soul showed up. They were too apathetic to attend. Perhaps that story causes us to laugh. Yet, apathy is a serious spiritual virus that is invading the church. The dictionary defines apathy as "lack of feeling or emotion; impassiveness; lack of interest or concern; indifference. Do you believe that some Christians are living apathetic spiritual lives? Presently, would you say that you have a great spiritual passion for the work of the Lord, or are you in a spiritual lull? In Matthew 26, Jesus, while in the garden of Gethsemane, asked His disciples to keep watch while He went to pray. After prayer, Jesus returned and found His disciples asleep. After rebuking them, Jesus went off again to pray. When He returned, He found them asleep again. Three times Jesus left and returned to find His disciples sleeping. How often has Jesus checked on you and found you sleeping, instead of serving Jesus? Why do you suppose there are close to one hundred million church members in America, and yet they are not making the moral and spiritual impact they should? Why is it that on Sunday morning thousands of churches have more empty pews than full? If God is really a prayer-answering God, and if He meant for us to ask, seek, and knock, why is there so little genuine praying going on? If you and I believe there is a heaven and a hell, why do we keep so quiet about the gospel of Jesus Christ? If "there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved," then why are we not sharing the message of His amazing grace? Why are we keeping the Good News to ourselves? There is a common answer to all of those questions. There is a vast difference between a decision to do something and a commitment. Many people who are saved were convicted by the Holy Spirit, and the Word of God and made these kinds of decisions: They made a decision to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior. They did not want to spend eternity in hell. They wanted to enter heaven; they wanted to leave that disgusting old life. They invited Jesus Christ into their lives, and were baptized for the forgiveness of their sins, and that was a definite decision. But yet, many of these Christians are not living fruitful and devoted lives. Because no one explained to them the difference between a decision to do something and a commitment to the Person, Jesus Christ. As Christians, we must not only make a decision to follow Jesus, we must commit our lives to Him. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple" Luke In this passage, Jesus is talking about commitment. He is saying that we must count the cost before we become His disciples. In other words, He is saying, if we are not willing to give up everything we have for Him, then we might as well not even start. Commitment is vitally important to Jesus. What does commitment mean? There are about ten different Greek words that are translated commitment in the New Testament. Without going into much detail, commitment means, "to turn something over to someone. When a person makes a commitment in the New Testament, it is a fully devoted commitment. We cannot be partially committed, or sort of committed. We are either committed or not committed. My friends, many of us have already made the decision to follow Jesus, now it is time for us to commit our lives to Him. Have you ever wondered what motivated Jesus to clear out the temple courts? The answer is found in Jn. His disciples remembered that it is written: I wonder how many of us, after seeing the sin and corruption in the temple courts, would have just walked on by and did nothing? Jesus had the heart to do something about it. His zeal prompted Him to get involved. Just as Jesus was zealous for spiritual living and for the things of God, we must be zealous as well. Zeal is an enthusiastic and diligent pursuit of God and His will. We should be so excited

and thrilled to be children of God, that we crave and desire to fervently serve Him every day of our lives. God wants us to be zealous. I came across an illustration that may help us to understand better what zeal is. An interviewer once asked J. Zeal is not only an enthusiastic and diligent pursuit of God and His will, but it is also caring and serving God like blazes. I believe that there are many people in churches today who have a genuine zeal and love for God. However, I also believe that there are some people who have lost their spiritual zeal and desire to serve Him. If you have lost your spiritual zeal and desire for Christian living, here is how you can recapture it. To recapture our zeal, we must start refocusing our lives on Jesus. On March 6, , Eamon Coughlan, the Irish world record holder at meters, was running in a qualifying heat at the World Indoor Track Championships in Indianapolis. With two and a half laps left, he was tripped. He fell, but he got up and with great effort managed to catch the leaders. With only 20 yards left in the race, he was in third place—good enough to qualify for the finals. While finishing the race, Coughlan looked over his shoulder to the inside, and, seeing no one, he let up. But another runner, charging hard on the outside, passed Coughlan a yard before the finish, thus eliminating him from the finals. Often times in our lives, we run with a lot of zeal and energy in our Christian walk. And after running so hard for so long it is easy to take our eyes off of Jesus and let up and try to coast into heaven. Brethren, if we lose our zeal and enthusiasm for the Lord, we may not finish the race. The Lord has called us to remain faithful to the very end. We are to finish with the same amount of zeal that we started with. We must focus on Jesus and fervently remain zealous to the end. Nothing in this world is more important than fervently loving and serving our Master. When we put Jesus first in our lives, we will become zealous for Him. The Apostles in Acts 5: That is the kind of zeal and enthusiasm that we are to have as Christians. If you feel that your zeal tank is running low or is on empty, then I would like to encourage you to fill your tank back up with Jesus. When we start refocusing upon Jesus and our commitment to Him, then our zeal will return. In closing, apathy is the greatest enemy of the church today. Many people have lost their enthusiasm and zeal for the Lord and His work. Brethren, we need to start living passionately for Jesus and the work that He has called us to do. To avoid living complacent and apathetic spiritual lives, we must make a commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ. We have made the decision to follow Him, now we must make a commitment to Him. And, we must recapture our zeal for spiritual living. This morning, if you would like to dedicate your life to Jesus, and be a genuine follower of His, please come now as we stand and sing.

**Chapter 4 : Informal Christianity by Phillip A. Ross**

*Casual Christianity I preached Sunday February 13, on the Subject "A Day In Thy Courts" dealing with meeting with the Lord for worship. In a nutshell, I described what is taking place in our time like no other time in my Christian life.*

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### Chapter 5 : [blog.quintoapp.com](http://blog.quintoapp.com) - Informal Christian Science Groups

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### Chapter 6 : What Does The Bible Say?

*David Platt spoke on the issue of discipleship at this year's Verge Conference, asking what it means to know Christ biblically and to be an actual disciple of Jesus Christ. "How we answer the question will affect in every way how we make disciples," Platt told thousands of attendees Friday at the.*

### Chapter 7 : Informal Acts of Worship

*BARRY CAMERON Senior Pastor. Barry L. Cameron has been the Senior Pastor of Crossroads since when the church was averaging in morning worship. Pastor Cameron and his wife, Janis, have three children and two grandsons.*

### Chapter 8 : formal vs. informal prayer | Christian Meditation

*To be casual today is usually regarded as a good thing; it is cool. To be 'non-casual' (stiff? formal? intense?) is not good. You need to chill. One of the first books I read as a Christian was *The Best That I Can Be* by J. Oswald Sanders. On the front cover is a photo of Lillian Board, the.*

### Chapter 9 : Confronting Casual Christianity: A Call to Total Commitment by Charles F. Stanley

*God lovingly requests that each of us say informal prayers, several times each day, because each of us need to pray several times each day, but it is not His loving will for us to say formal prayers, every time that we need to pray to Him.*