



“Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then **the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts**, lest they should believe and be saved.” (Luke 8:12)



Boredom

Why talk about boredom?

- 54% of all Americans go to work primarily to escape the boredom of life at home
 - 70% of American teenagers say they are bored with school
 - 25% of teenagers said they got drunk on the weekend because they were so bored
 - Young people ages 12 to 17 who are frequently bored are 50 percent likelier than those not often bored to smoke, drink, get drunk, and use illegal drugs (Columbia University study)
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What is boredom?

- Bored - feeling weary because one is unoccupied or lacks interest in one's current activity
- Types of boredom:
 - Forced to be engaged in an activity they are uninterested in
 - Not allowed to do something they want to do
 - Unable to stay interested in the current activity



Is boredom a sin?

- “But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.” (Matt. 12:36-37)
 - “When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. Then he says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ And when he comes, he finds it empty, swept, and put in order. Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation.” (Matt. 12:43-45)
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Dangers

- Alcoholism
 - Drug addiction
 - Eating disorders
 - Reduced productivity at work
 - Anger and irritability
 - Gambling addiction
 - Anxiety problems
 - Comfort eating when bored can lead to obesity
 - Depression
 - Poor performance at school
 - Experience a lot of hostility towards other people
 - Family problems
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Spiritual Dangers

- Parable of 10 Minas
 - “For I feared you, because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.” (Lk. 19:21)
 - “For I say to you, that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.” (Lk. 19:26)
 - We will be held accountable for our gifts/talents/opportunities
 - What we have may be taken away from us
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Causes of boredom

- Overstimulation
 - Under commitment
 - Spiritually: We stop moving upward
 - “But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same **image from glory to glory**, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”
(2 Cor. 3:18)
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Remedy

- Strategize
 - Start moving upward
 - Train yourself to set limits for media
 - Redeem the time
 - “He who gathers in summer is a prudent son, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who brings shame.” (Prov. 10:5)
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Conclusion

- Remember the laborers of the 11th hour
 - “And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’”
(Matt 20:6)
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