

THE PERILS OF APATHY AND APOSTASY

Hebrews 5:11–6:8

Each week, read the entire Scripture passage before you begin. Record verses where you find your answers.

Discuss review questions from the previous lesson.

DAY 1: HEBREWS 5:11-14—THE BASIC POSITION: INFANCY

1. a. It is normal and healthy for babies to mature physically, emotionally, and mentally. When children fail to grow and mature, what is the impact on them? On those who care for them?

b. What signs of delayed or arrested development does the author of Hebrews mention concerning the recipients of his letter?
2. What impact do you suppose this immaturity may have had on both the people themselves and the community they were part of?

DAY 2: HEBREWS 5:14–6:1A—THE BASIC PROMPTING: LEAVE/GO

3. a. What do you think “*milk*” and “*solid food*” refer to in this passage?

b. According to verse 14, what do those who are “*mature*” do to grow spiritually?

c. In what practical area of your life do you need to learn to distinguish between good and evil?
4. a. How do “*leave*” and “*go on*” express different actions (6:1)?

b. Is there anything you need to leave behind and/or go toward in your life right now?

c. What are some deeper concepts of Christianity that you would like to explore?

DAY 3: HEBREWS 6:1-3—THE BASIC PLAN: CHANGE

5. “*Basic principles*” consist of information familiar to Jewish Christians. List the principles the author considers basic (6:1-2).

6. In verse 3, the author expresses his desire for his readers. Restate what he says in your own words.

DAY 4: HEBREWS 6:4-6—THE BASIC PROBLEM: REPENTANCE

7. List the four elements of Christian experience cited in verses 4-5.

8. In your own words, what do you think is the author’s hope in issuing this warning?

DAY 5: HEBREWS 6:7-8—THE BASIC POINT: PURPOSE

9. In what way does an illustration or picture improve on the straightforward use of facts alone?

10. a. What happens to the land that produces a good crop?

b. What happens to the land that produces a bad crop?

11. How does the illustration about the two types of land apply to your own Christian growth?

DAY 6: PARTICIPATE IN CLASS

APPLY what you have learned. *Walk, don’t walk, yield, and caution* are familiar warnings on highway signs. They don’t predict injury; in fact, they warn with the hope of preventing it. The passage we have just studied is similar to these warning signs. If people choose beliefs and behaviors that contradict the gospel, they put themselves in great danger. What should we do? We can pursue maturity, pay attention to warnings against indifference, guard against abandoning our faith, and train ourselves “*distinguish good from evil*” by the “*constant practice*” of the “*solid food*” (5:14) of God’s Word.