

LONG HAUL DEVELOPMENT
Colossians 1:22-23 • October 23, 2022
Dr. Scott Koenigsaecker, Sequim Community Church

INTRODUCTION:

- A. We have a tendency to drift away from God.
- B. Some people walk away from their relationship with God.
- People walk away from God for selfish reasons.
 - Others walk away from God because they don't like the "whole package of the Bible"
 - A very small percentage of people have a historical/factual dissidence with Jesus, his ministry and resurrection.
- C. And when it comes to character development drifting needs to be addressed.

***So we must listen very carefully to the truth we have heard,
or we may drift away from it.*** — Hebrews 2:1

***But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it.
Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard
(and responded, believed) the Good News.*** — Colossians 1:23

I. A GODLY CHARACTER FIGHTS THE DRIFT

- A. We notice the drift when things get tough — we need to look to God's love to be our comfort.

***All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, God is our
merciful Father and the source of all comfort.*** — 2 Corinthians 1:3

- B. We notice we've drifted when we get challenged — let God's Word be your source of strength.

My soul weeps because of grief; Strengthen me according to Your Word. — Psalm 119:76

- C. We know we are drifting because our goals in life have gotten fuzzy.

- We need re-focus on God's will as our goal in life and faith.

***I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God
in Christ Jesus.*** — Philippians 3:14

- What is God calling you to do?

- It will take all that God has given you
- It will take even more so we need God's add-in
- It will take a few others.

- D. When we become anxious, stressed, depressed — signs we are not hopeful about what's up ahead. Looking to God's grace renews our hope.

***He has brought us by faith into this experience of God's grace, in which we now
live. And so we boast of the hope we have of sharing God's glory.*** — Romans 5:2

***Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who loved us and by
His grace gave us eternal comfort and a wonderful hope...*** — 2 Thessalonians 2:16

CONCLUSION: