

Sunday, March 12, 2017  
Did You Know?

## Prone to Wander

The third verse of the beautiful hymn, “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”, goes like this:

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above.

This stanza describes the state of our hearts; even as saved people, who have within us the seal of the Holy Spirit, we are still prone to wander, prone to leave the God we love. Whenever I sing those lines, I make it my personal confession, and I ask the Lord to take my heart and to allow grace to be like a fetter, like a shackle, that keeps me near to God.

What's amazing about this hymn is not that it was written in 1757 by 22 year old Robert Robinson, but the profound description he has of the Christian experience. We all can echo these words because temptations are strong and our hearts are weak. We feel the pull away from God, and it's only by God's grace that we haven't drifted completely from him.

However, there are many people that we know, our friends and family members, that we love so much, who were once walking with God, but have drifted. They may have drifted because of personal sin, or by isolating themselves from the church, or they've experienced a personal tragedy. They may have drifted because they were never Christians in the first place. Whatever the reason, we should not write them off. Wouldn't it be great if this were the year where we witnessed many of them returning to the Lord? Consider the parable of the lost sheep, the lost coin and the prodigal son and the efforts that were taken to find that which was lost. Ask God to change your doubt into faith, your apathy into compassion, and pray for them as well. Reach out to them. Send them a text or give them a call and meet up for a meal. See where they are in the faith. Some may need a gentle rebuke or some encouragement, perhaps even some, accountability. God will give you the words to speak. You are the right person for this task.

*Pastor Peter*