SPIRITUAL DROPOUTS # 2

INTRODUCTION:
1. Parents and school systems all over the land are concerned about school dropouts.  
   A. And they rightfully should be.
2. But there should be a greater concern when it comes to the church and the number of  
   spiritual dropouts that we experience.
   A. It has been said by some that the church loses 50% of its new members within the  
      first seven years following their conversion.
   B. If this is true, then the number is staggering.
3. The N.T. teaches the possibility of such - Galatians 6:1; 2 Timothy 4:10; James 5:19,  
   20; 2 Peter 2:20, 21.
4. Let’s notice some reasons why men leave God and become spiritual dropouts.

BODY:
1. THEY FAIL TO BE LED BY THE WORD OF GOD
   A. They do not study as they should - 2 Timothy 2:15
   B. We need to daily study the word.
   C. We need to daily search the scriptures - John 5:39.
2. THEY FAIL BECAUSE OF THE WILL TO BE RICH
   A. 1 Timothy 6:6-10
   B. No matter how rich we are, we will not take it with us.
   C. Christians are cautioned to love not the world - 1 John 2:15-17.
   D. We are to “seek first the kingdom” - Matthew 6:33.
3. THEY FAIL BECAUSE OF FALSE DOCTRINE
   A. Acts 20:28-30
   B. We often believe what man says rather than what the Bible says.
4. THEY FAIL BECAUSE THEY ARE SET IN THEIR OWN WAYS
   A. Often man would rather be “right” than to be obedient to God - Proverbs 14:14.
   B. We believe it is okay if it is wrong so long as it is our way - Proverbs 14:12.
5. THEY LOSE THEIR LOVE FOR GOD
   A. John 14:15
   B. Matthew 24:12
   C. We say we love God, but we are unwilling to prove it - Revelation 2:4, 5.
   D. We are not willing to do what He would have us to do - James 4:17.
6. THEY FAIL DUE TO INACTIVITY
   A. James 2:24
   B. We believe all we need to do is attend from time to time, but we are wrong -  
      Matthew 6:33.

CONCLUSION:
1. Are you a spiritual dropout?
   A. If so, now is the time to repent - Acts 8:22.