

Introduction:

Spiritual entropy is a fact of life!

- **The Symptoms:**

- Internal –
- External –

- **The Danger:**

- **The Question:**

- **The Obstacles – from the outside the inside:**

Paul models A “Rescue 911” Response:

1. Paul thanks God continually for the manner in which the Thessalonians received the Word of God.

1 Thessalonians 2:13-16

Your 1st step in a “Rescue Intervention”:

Communicate your _____ for the authenticity of their faith in the midst of spiritual opposition.

2. Paul expresses his deep affection and longing for the Thessalonians.

1 Thessalonians 2:17-20

Your 2nd step in a “Rescue Intervention”:

Express your _____ for them as a person, with words and ways that make sense to them.

3. Paul's deep concern and genuine fears motivate him to send Timothy to encourage the Thessalonians.

1 Thessalonians 3:1-5

Your 3rd Step in a "Rescue Intervention":

Pursue a specific means of _____ with them for the purpose of spiritual encouragement and protection.

4. Paul explodes with joy and breaks out into prayer over Timothy's report of the Thessalonians positive spiritual progress.

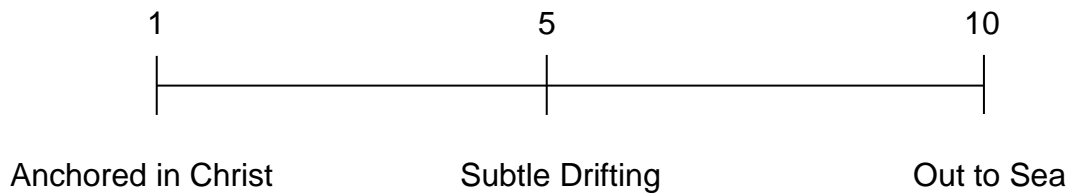
1 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Your 4th Step in a "Rescue Intervention":

Rejoice with them and "over them" at any and every step of _____.

Application / Discussion Questions:

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, what manner of “spiritual drifting” is occurring in your life right now?



2. Quickly list those who come to your mind whom you sense are spiritually drifting. Which one of these people do you care enough about to attempt a “rescue intervention?”
3. What specific obstacles or fears make you “less than eager” to take this step of “rescue intervention?”
4. What positive factors (obedience, consequences of failing to do so, support and help from others, etc.) “most motivate” you to step out in faith and help someone in spiritual danger?
5. When will you start “operation rescue?”