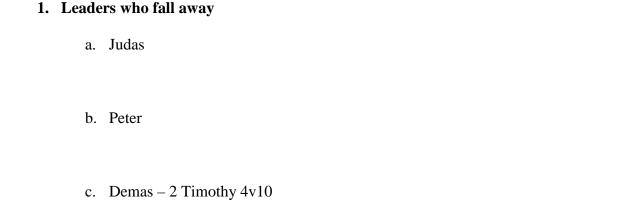
Understanding and Avoiding Apostasy

Tragically several high-profile Christian leaders have fallen from the faith in the last year. This workshop will consider three crucial theological and pastoral questions about apostasy: (1) Why do leaders fall away? (2) How can we guard against falling away? (3) How should we treat those who fall away?

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- d. Alexander 2 Timothy 4v14
- e. Hebrews

2. Why do leaders fall away?

- a. Mark 4v1-20
- b. Hebrews 3v7-19; 5v11-6v12

- c. Unbelief because of...
 - i. False teaching
 - ii. Suffering
 - iii. Distraction
 - iv. Disappointment

3. How can we guard against apostasy?

- a. Have Biblical expectations of the Christian life John 15v18-25; Acts 14v22
- b. Listen to God's word and trust his promises Hebrews 3v7-18
- c. Pray for Jesus' help Hebrews 5v14-16
- d. Encourage one another Hebrews 3v13; 10v23-25
- e. Be honest about doubts and disappointments
- f. Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus/heaven Hebrews 12v1-3; Romans 8v18; 2 Corinthians 4v16-18

4. How should we treat those who fall away?

- a. Intervene to save those who are falling away Jude 22-23
- b. Seek after those who have fallen away Matthew 18v10-14
- c. Accept that those who do not repent and return were never true believers Hebrews 6v4-8; 1 John 2v9

Suggested Readings:

Peter Brain, Going the Distance – How to Stay Fit for a Lifetime of Ministry Paul Tripp, Dangerous Calling
John Piper, Brothers we are not Professionals
John Stevens, How can I be sure?
Peter Scazzero, The Emotionally Healthy Leader
Julian Hardyman, The Joy of Service