

# *The Casual Christian*

*This life is filled with strong distractions - One pulls from the left one from the right  
I've already made up my mind - Going leave this world behind  
I'm going to live my life as a living sacrifice*

*I don't wanna be, I don't wanna be a Casual Christian  
I don't wanna live, I don't wanna live a lukewarm life  
Because I wanna light up the night - with an everlasting light  
I don't wanna live the casual Christian life*

Did you hear about the guy who complained to his wife about the music at their church? “Honey,” he said, “I’m so tired of the same old music every time we come. It’s either, ‘Joy to the World’ or ‘Christ the Lord Has Risen Today!’” That’s a amusing story, but there’s nothing funny about people having a casual attitude toward Christ and His church in such critical times.

The lyrics above are from a song called “*Casual Christian*” by one of my all-time favorite Christian bands, *Degarmo & Key*. After 20 years of recording together Eddie Degarmo became one of the founders of Christian music label ForeFront Records and Dana Key became a Pastor of a church in his hometown of Memphis, TN. They became my Christian heroes and I even had the opportunity to meet Dana Key twice. Dana Key was also a direct descendant of Francis Scott Key, the author of The Star-Spangled Banner. Sadly, he passed away in 2010.

Dr. Charles Stanley wrote in his book, *Confronting Casual Christianity*, “Apathy, complacency, indifference, spiritual drowsiness and insensitivity are hydra-headed sins which are an affront to God Almighty ... it is a numbing lack of concern, an anesthetized attitude of ‘I don’t care. I have a fire insurance policy against hell.’ That is lulling the church of the Lord Jesus Christ to sleep.” Another Pastor is quoted as saying, “Casual Christians are those folks who use the local church when it is beneficial to them. They come to church when it is expected. Their contributions are criticisms. Their walk with God becomes *flippant* and *relaxed*.” The Laodicean church speaks of these kinds of church attenders. God know their deeds, that they are neither cold nor hot but lukewarm. He wishes they were either one or the other! (Rev 3:14-21).

Take personal inventory of your walk with the Lord and ask yourself these questions: “Have I become *casual* in my commitment to Christ and His church? Have I become *Apathetic* in my witness for Christ? Have I become *Indifferent* to spending time alone with God in prayer, bible study, or in my tithing? Have I *allowed* the devil to lure me away from witnessing and the very things that used to hold my feet to the fire for God?”

As the days get warmer with summer, it’s easy for some to cool off in their commitment to Christ and His church; to take it easy, relax regarding spiritual things. After all, it’s *vacation* time. However, one of the deadliest things any of us can do is take a *vacation* from our Bible, our church and most of all, our God.

Keep the Faith,

*Bro. Andrew*