## Are You Watching Out For Your Own Soul?

by Wayne Goff

There are many distractions these days that can pull you away from your faithful, loyal service to the Lord and His church. Health concerns especially over Covid-19 are at the top of our list right now. Staying home and watching Bible Class and Worship livestream or by delayed broadcast can be a blessing but also a hindrance. You are missing "fellowship" with the saints and are not "assembling with the saints" ~ both of which can be spiritually debilitating in time. Churches across America and the world are dealing with these problems. Elders are wrestling with how to deal with chronic absenteeism.

But what about you?! Are you doing everything you can to strengthen your soul and your faith in these difficult times? (1) Study diligently to show yourself an approved workman, 2 Tim. 2:15. (2) Faith can be weak or strong depending on how well you are fed from the Word, Psalm 1:2. (3) Examine yourself in the light of the objective New Testament to see if you are in the faith, 2 Cor. 13:5. Self-deception in the form of "I'm okay. My situation is unique." can be the most damaging of all. Nobody wants to admit that they are spiritually weak, or even lost! (4) Ask a brother or sister in Christ to hold you accountable, Romans 12:10-11; 1 Cor. 12:25-26. It's better to have a close friend in the church as opposed to a mate, but even your mate can help if you can stand the constructive criticism! But the bottom line is YOU are responsible for your own salvation, and you need to be proactive in the matter!

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