

# IT IS EASY TO START MISSING

By Keith Greer

I was doing a little personal work down in the "lone star" state of Texas when I came upon a sheep who had strayed from the fold. He had been grazing on sneeze weed and running with goats so long that he had almost lost his identity. I said, "Brother, I haven't seen you in a month of Sundays." He replied, "Brother Hogland, it is so easy to start missing." Well, this straying sheep told the truth! Why is it so easy to start missing? Here are a few reasons.

1. It is easy because it pleases the old devil. He works hard to keep us from attending the services of the Lord.

2. It is easy to start missing because it is convenient. It takes some time to get ready and go to church on Sunday morning, Sunday night, and Wednesday night.

3. It is easy because there are other things we like to do. Selfishness kicks in, and we do what we desire, rather than what God commands.

4. It is easy because attendance is not high on the priority list. We had rather go visit aunt Mary and uncle John or play golf!

5. It is easy to miss because it is sinful and we enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season (Hebrews 10:24,25; 11:25).

6. It is easy to miss when I am tired and want to relax. Truth is I will still get up and go to work the next day no matter how tired I am.

7. It is easy to miss when the weather is not perfect, being too cold or too stormy. Yet, if I have tickets to see UK play basketball, no weather will stop me from attending!

8. It is easy to miss when I can just get into the devil's barrel of excuses and find one to use!

Yes, when we begin to make excuses, it becomes very easy to fall into bad habits. Habits are made and we can make a good one just as easy as a bad one. Where do you place the priority of attending all of the services? \*\*\* (Ward Hogland & edited by KMG)\*\*\*