

“For this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious for you, nor is it far off.” (Deut 30:11)

TWO MOST COMMON EXCUSES FOR IMMATURITY OF FAITH:

- 1. It takes too much time and effort**
- 2. I'm not smart enough**

I. It takes too much time and effort

If you **read 85 verses a day**, you can read the whole Bible in a year.

An average reader can do this comfortably in **20 minutes**.

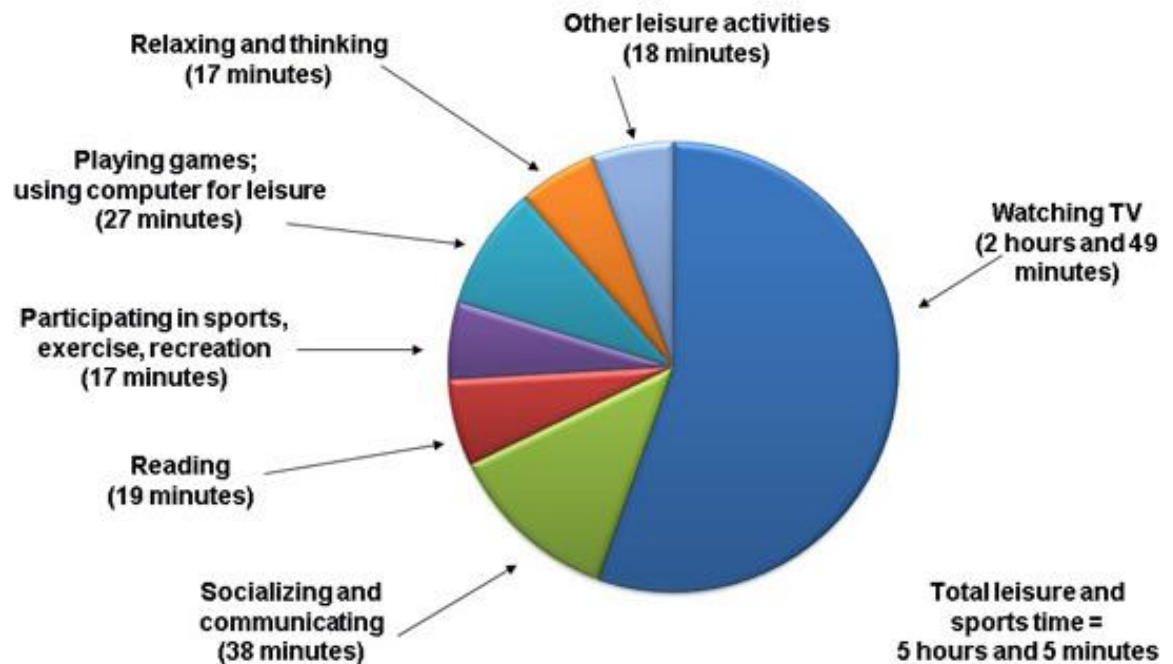
If you attend all services on Sunday and one mid-week class, you are committing a total of 6 hours a week (that includes an avg. 20 min commute each way).

That is **3.5% of your time** every week committed to study and worship collectively.

THE VAST
MAJORITY OF
BEHAVIOR GOD
EXPECTS OF US
DOES NOT TAKE
EXTRA TIME

Eccl. 11:9?
1 Cor 7:33-35?
Deut 6:6-9?
Eccl 9:9-10?

Leisure time on an average day



NOTE: Data include all persons age 15 and over. Data include all days of the week and are annual averages for 2014.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, American Time Use Survey

2. I'm not smart enough

But how are they to call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? (Rom 10:14)

And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, (Eph 4:11-12)

READING LEVELS OF BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

King James Version (KJV): 12th grade

Revised Standard Version (RSV): 12th grade

New American Standard Bible (NASB): 11th grade

New Revised Standard Version (RNSV): 11th grade

English Standard Version (ESV): 10th grade

New International Version (NIV): 8th grade

Holman Christian Standard Version (HCSV): 8th grade

New King James Version (NKJV): 7th grade

New Living Translation (NLT): 6th grade

God's Word (GW): 5th grade

The Message (MSG): 5th grade

There are thousands of commentaries available – many for completely free

There are thousands of audio classes available... hundreds from this congregation alone.

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?... For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. (1 Cor 1:20, 26)

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(Deut 30:11)