Follow-up Studies: Laziness, Idleness, Discipline —

How many of us have had great dreams for how God was going to use us—how he would mold us into what he wanted us to be—and just when the going got rough, and the process became painful, we resisted, and perhaps even took a couple of steps backwards! Few of us are naturally disciplined; discipline must be learned. And yet without it, how do we suppose we will really grow? Surely that is fantasy! Discipline, therefore, must be built into our Christian lives from the earliest moment.

Introduction
- 1 Timothy 4:7-8—Train yourself to be godly. Physical training (sports) is of limited value, but spiritual training is immeasurably valuable. The Christian life is a process of training in righteousness.

Laziness
- Hebrews 6:12—Don't become lazy. Laziness is a constant threat to the life of every Christian, young or old. Imitate those who are patient, faithful and disciplined. Look for good examples; learn from them. Realize laziness is a sin!
- Suggested reading: Proverbs 12:1, 24:30-34, 26:13-16.

Idleness
- 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12—Be constructive members of society and of the church. Hard-working people win the respect of others. Try not to be dependent on anybody (do not go into/remain in debt). Both unemployment and underemployment can be detrimental to spiritual growth.
- 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15—Follow the example of disciplined people. Don't be a "busy-body"—appearing busy but not really achieving anything.

Discipline
- Hebrews 12:10-12—No discipline is pleasant, but it yields a more satisfying life. Make your life count!
- Suggested: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, 2 Timothy 2:4-6, Hebrews 5:14.

Practicals
- Make a timetable of how you use your time. Get some suggestions.
- Set goals and revisit them often.
- Spend time with a disciplined person and learn from him or her.
- If you are not a punctual person, make an effort to be early.
- Suggested: *The Disciplined Life* by Richard Taylor and *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* by Stephen Covey.