

**“Spell Check” Christianity**

For those of you who spend time writing letters or emails on the computer you know that one of the handiest little devices on word processors is the “spell check.” Even the most difficult words are not a problem with the automatic correction.

But with this technology I have developed a problem. I am not as good a speller as I used to be. Words that I used to know how to spell, give me trouble. My reliance on the “spell checker” has caused my skills to deteriorate.

The spiritual application is that this very thing can happen in the church. By our reliance on some of the “specialists” in our brotherhood we can lose our sharpness in the study and application of God’s word. For example, some people don’t study as they should because they will let the Bible class teacher do it for them. The Bible class teachers may not be studying as they should because they will let the preacher do it for them. Preachers may not study like they should because they allow other preachers or university professors do it for them.

Anytime we depend on another to do our work for us we lose our sharpness in that skill. The same is true of visiting, evangelism, or in giving benevolent help. When we rely on others to do what we ought to be doing we are practicing “spell check Christianity.”

The only way I will become a better speller is to shut-off my computer’s spell-check function. And the only way I will mature in my Christianity is to stop allowing others to do my work and get busy myself. In your Christian life, are you doing it yourself or just “spell checking”?

See you Sunday! -gls