

“Intention-Action Gap”

What is it?

➤ When we don't do what we intended to do

Examples?

Why does it happen?

1

Matthew 21:28-32

²⁸ “What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’

²⁹ “‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

³⁰ “Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go.

³¹ “Which of the two did what his father wanted?”

“The first,” they answered.

2

Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him."

3

Peter's goal: real change

- "...so that you may
 participate in the divine nature..."
- Genuinely become more like God!

But real change is really hard!

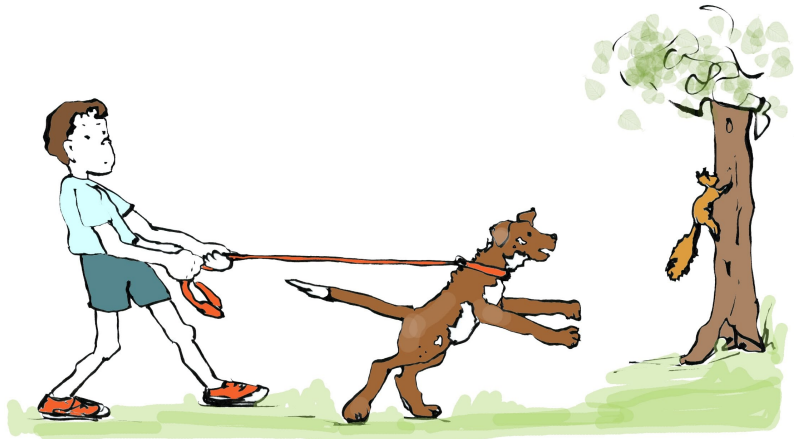
Pray

4

From Intention to Action

2 Peter 1:1-15

ref.ly/2P1;niv



5

2 Peter 1:1-15

Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,
To those who through the righteousness of our God
and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as
precious as ours:

² Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the
knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

6

³ His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. ⁴ Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

7

⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness;
and to goodness, knowledge;
⁶ and to knowledge, self-control;
and to self-control, perseverance;
and to perseverance, godliness;
⁷ and to godliness, mutual affection;
and to mutual affection, love.

8

⁸ For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.

9

¹⁰ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, ¹¹ and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

10

¹² So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have. ¹³ I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body, ¹⁴ because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. ¹⁵ And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things.

11

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12

"Knowledge" in 2 Peter

"Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the **knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.**" 1:2

"His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our **knowledge of him who called us** by his own glory and goodness." 1:3

"For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your **knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.**" 1:8

13

"Know God" in 2 Peter

"If they have escaped the corruption of the world by **knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...**" 2:20

"But grow in the grace and **knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**" 3:18

14

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“Know” (experience, relationship)

- **God**
- **His promises (the Gospel)**

15

Jeremiah 31:31-34

“The days are coming,” declares the Lord,
 “when I will make a new covenant
 with the people of Israel
 and with the people of Judah.
 It will not be like the covenant
 I made with their ancestors
 when I took them by the hand
 to lead them out of Egypt,
 because **they broke my covenant**,
 though I was a husband to them,”
 declares the Lord.

16

"This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the Lord.

"I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. **Transformation**

I will be their God, and they will be my people.

No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, **Relationship** from the least of them to the greatest," declares the Lord.

"For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." **Forgiveness**

17

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"Know" (experience, relationship)

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- **His promises (the Gospel)**
 - **Forgiveness**
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“Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.” John 13:17

“As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, ‘Blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you.’

He replied, ‘Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.’” Luke 11:27-28

19

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“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23

Bringing our thoughts, emotions, words, and actions into the promised work of Christ:

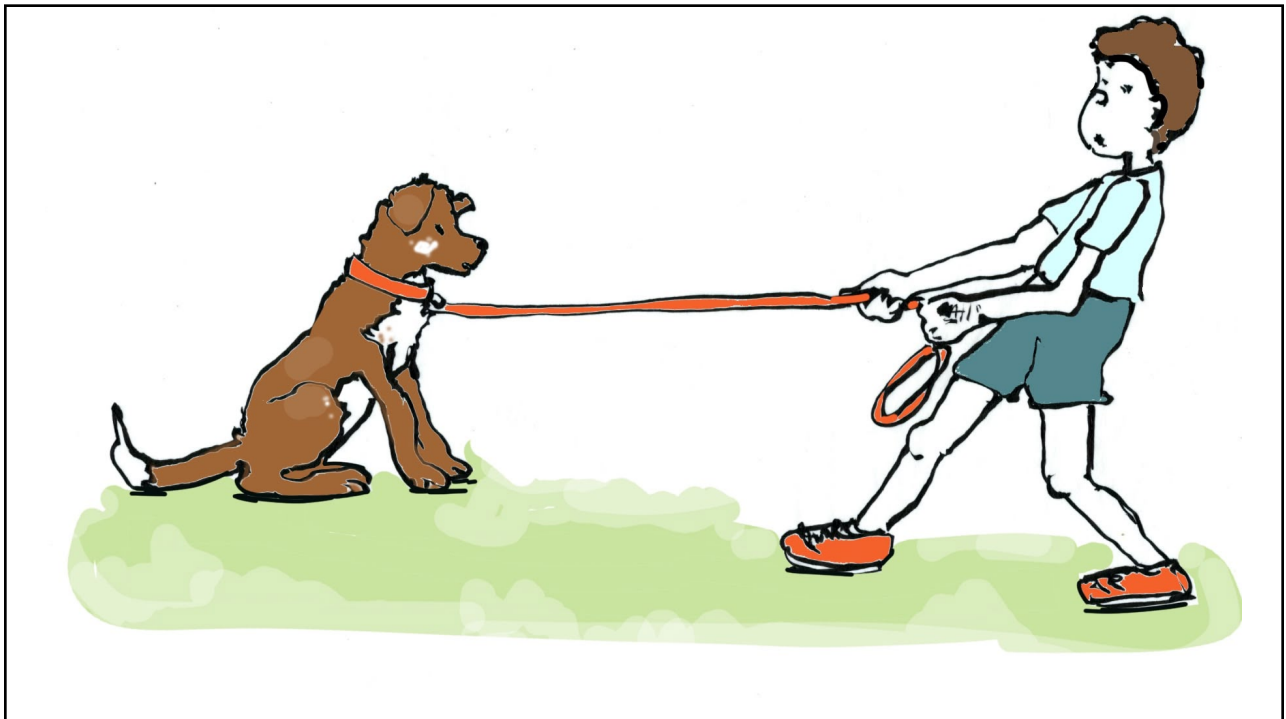
➤ Forgiveness, relationship, transformation

20

The Big Idea

Becoming more like God requires growing in knowledge and growing in self-control through human effort and divine power

21

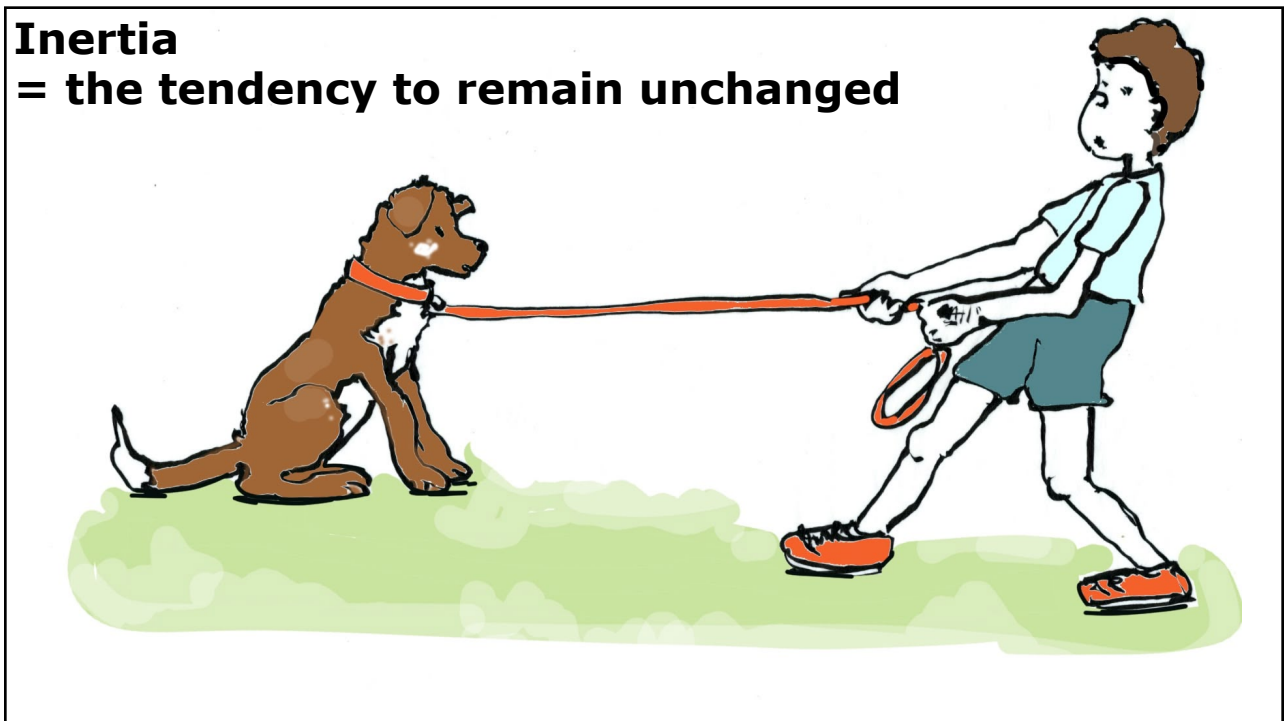


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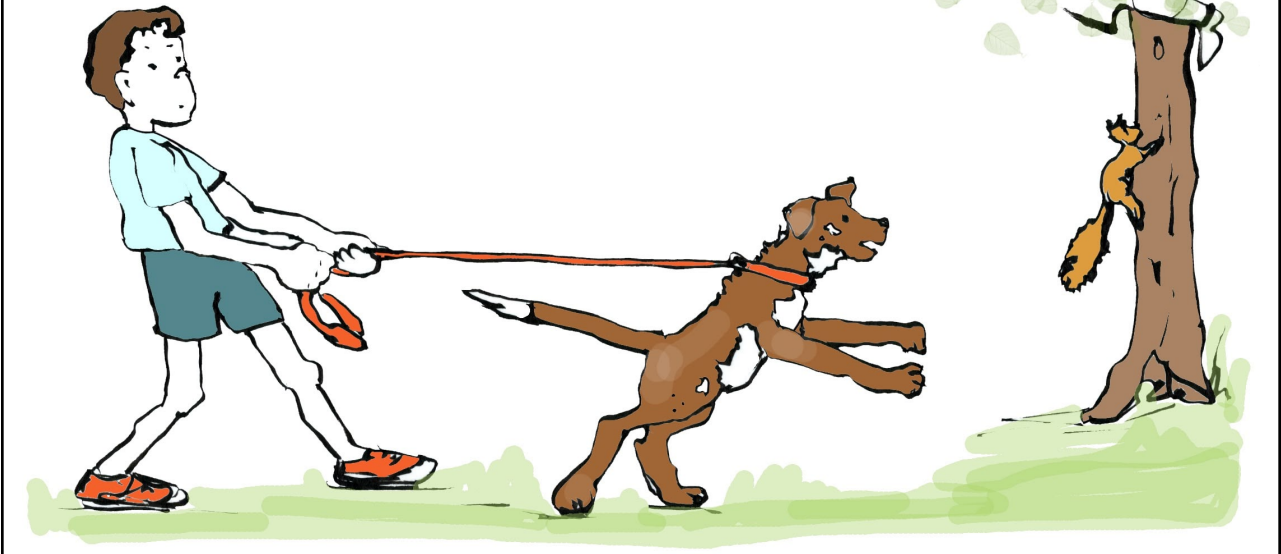
Inertia
= the tendency to remain unchanged



24

Impulse

= a sudden strong and unreasoning desire to act



25

"add self-control"

will-power:

- resist temptation in the moment

self-control:

- be strategic so we are less dependent on will-power

Plan ahead to overcome...

- **Inertia:** the tendency not to change
- **Impulse:** the tendency to follow the least challenging or most enticing path in the moment

26

The Big Idea

Becoming more like God requires growing in knowledge and growing in self-control through human effort and divine power

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Putting it into practice

- **Choose to grow in KNOWLEDGE**
 - Head PLUS heart and hands
 - **Of God:** relationship
 - “Pour out your heart to Him” (Psalm 62:8)
 - **Of the Gospel**
 - Forgiveness
 - Relationship
 - Transformation

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Putting it into practice

- **Choose to grow in SELF-CONTROL**
 - Plan to overcome inertia
 - Plan to overcome impulse

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Putting it into practice

- **Challenge: Where should YOU be growing?**
 - By August 15...
 - I want to stop...
 - I want to be doing... **Pick 1 or 2...or 3**
 - I want to change...
 - I want to have done...
 - Pray daily **Knowledge: God and Gospel**
 - Scripture: memorize, meditate, ...
 - Action items for this month **Self-control**
 - Find someone to do periodic check-ins

30

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No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’

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“For I will forgive their wickedness **Forgiveness**

and will remember their sins no more.”

Jeremiah 31:33-34

31

“Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. But **grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.”

2 Peter 3:17-18

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