



WOW: Word Of the Week

“Short-Circuit”

November 30, 2022

WOW! Short circuit. Spiritual short circuits.

Most of us think of short circuits in terms of electricity—electrical short circuits. Simply put, electricity flows through an unintended, shorter pathway instead of following the circuit. Some short circuits are obvious—the circuit breaker trips. Other short circuits are more difficult to discern—a slow drain ups the electricity bill or drains power from a car battery.

A couple of other factors concerning electricity and electrical short circuits before we think of applications. (1) In our homes, electricity works with a continuous circular flow of energy. Outlets and lights only borrow from the circuit, they do not interrupt the circuit. (2) In any electrical application, electricity chooses the path of least resistance, so when a shorter path is available, electricity follows the alternate path.

These two factors help explain short circuits and their causes. Some common causes of short circuits are that the energy flow is compromised by broken or frayed wires; foreign objects or substances (such as water) are introduced; relays and switches do not work correctly to start and stop current, and loose connections.

Application time! For this article, I want you to think about your spiritual life as powered by a spiritual battery that has to be recharged. Do you have any spiritual short circuits? What lessons can you think about for your spiritual life?

Is your purpose short-circuiting? Is enough spiritual energy available to fulfill God’s purpose in your life. God’s favor is sufficient to establish the work we are to do (Ps. 90:17), but often Christians become involved in multiplied good works and fail to fulfill God’s eternal purpose in their lives.

Some Christians experience spiritual short circuits because they are hooked up to so many different activities that draw energy that the incoming energy won’t power everything. This spiritual short circuit can be remedied by establishing clear priorities and unhooking from the energy draws that are not essential.

Involvement in numerous good works that contribute little to advance God’s kingdom agenda will drain energy away from your participation in God’s eternal purpose for the salvation of the world. This is an example of the path of least resistance. Many good activities are easier than sharing the gospel! And we take the easy way out.

A spiritual short circuit may occur because of broken or inadequate connections. Without a strong connection with the power source, the available energy is insufficient for the task. How’s your spiritual life? When and how are you recharging your spiritual battery? If you depend on a once-a-week Sunday recharge, you will be running on empty for much of the week!

Some Christians do not know how to recharge, spending time with God, his word and will, listening, sharing, meditating, sharpening spiritual perceptions.

I am certain you can think of many applications. Pray about it! God gives enough power to do more than we can imagine, he works in us and through us and energizes us (Eph 3:20).