

Mark Tough – Sunday 24 August 2025

Temptations we face - Pleasure

1) God wants us to experience pleasure both now and for e\_\_\_\_\_

Definition: Pleasure is the enjoyment or delight in the b\_\_\_\_\_ of life

1 Timothy 6:17

John 10:10b

2) A lack of trust in God and pride lead us to be tempted to seek pleasure in ways that are outside of God's good b\_\_\_\_\_

Isaiah 48:17

a) Through s\_\_\_\_\_ activity outside of m\_\_\_\_\_

Romans 13:13

b) Through the e\_\_\_\_\_ consumption of good things created by God

1 Timothy 4:3-5

Proverbs 23:20

c) Through unloving actions that are at the expense or m\_\_\_\_\_ of others

Romans 13:10

d) Through actions that governments deem i\_\_\_\_\_

Romans 13:1

3) The way our culture thinks at present a\_\_\_\_\_ the temptation of pleasure

*'Living in the age of authenticity is all about expressing my individualism in order that I might flourish. In the pain-pleasure world, the purpose of life is to flourish as a human being... And the way I will flourish in the age of authenticity is through me expressing my freedom and happiness in whatever way is true to me. My freedom and happiness is the greatest good. So anything that restricts my freedom and happiness must be removed. (David Williams)'*

Romans 5:3-4

4) The sinful pursuit of pleasure is like a tree that produces bad f\_\_\_\_\_

a) Poor h\_\_\_\_\_

b) A\_\_\_\_\_

c) Others being hurt or h\_\_\_\_\_

d) S\_\_\_\_\_ and regret

e) P\_\_\_\_\_ - Proverbs 21:17

f) P\_\_\_\_\_ not being answered - James 4:3

g) S\_\_\_\_\_ suffocation - Luke 8:14

h) Not i\_\_\_\_\_ the kingdom of God - 1 Corinthians 6:9-10

5) Regular actions that will help us to resist the temptation of pleasure

- *Learn from God's Word*

- That God wants us to have life to the f\_\_\_\_\_
- That we can trust that God knows what is b\_\_\_\_\_ for us (Isaiah 48:17)
- That our bodies b\_\_\_\_\_ to God and we are to honour God with them (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
- That there are no good o\_\_\_\_\_ with the sinful pursuit of pleasure
- That suffering can be used by God for our b\_\_\_\_\_

- *Pray*

- With t\_\_\_\_\_ for the good things that God gives us that bring pleasure (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)
- That God would give us the w\_\_\_\_\_ needed to pursue pleasure rightly in the face of the world's messages
- That God would help us to think about pleasure from an e\_\_\_\_\_ perspective

6) God provides s\_\_\_\_\_ for those who have succumbed to the temptation of pleasure

Titus 3:3-5a