

Mark Tough – Sunday 3 August 2025  
Temptations we face - Power

1) Jesus' followers need to stand firm against temptations because Jesus has saved us to do g\_\_\_\_\_

Titus 2:11-14

- S\_\_\_\_\_ tempts us (e.g. Genesis 3, 1 Corinthians 7:5)
- Our e\_\_\_\_\_ d\_\_\_\_\_ tempt us (James 1:13-14)

2) Power is the ability to i\_\_\_\_\_ others because of a position we hold or qualities we possess

*a) Power isn't necessarily a b\_\_\_\_\_ t\_\_\_\_\_ because God has put authority structures in place for our good*

Romans 13:1, 4a

- In s\_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. Romans 13:1-7)
- In c\_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. Ephesians 4:11-13)
- In f\_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. Ephesians 5:22-6:4)

*b) Jesus calls upon us to use power for the b\_\_\_\_\_ of others as he did*

Mark 10:42-45

*c) Those with positional power can be tempted to use it for their b\_\_\_\_\_ rather than for the b\_\_\_\_\_ of others*

- People with positional power can be tempted to c\_\_\_\_\_ or r\_\_\_\_\_ those under their authority in unjust and manipulative ways (e.g. King David in 2 Samuel 11)
- It seems that the people who are particularly prone to this temptation are those who find their sense of i\_\_\_\_\_ and/or security in positional power and those who have t\_\_\_\_\_ issues

*d) There are personal qualities we might p\_\_\_\_\_ that can give us power even if we're not in a position of authority*

*e) Those with personal power can be tempted to use it for their b\_\_\_\_\_ rather than for the b\_\_\_\_\_ of others*

| Personal Quality            | Possible Temptations                 |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Expertise or Skill          | Pride, G_____                        |
| Connections                 | Manipulation, S_____                 |
| Information                 | G_____, Black mail                   |
| Moral or Spiritual Standing | Self-righteousness, Spiritual A_____ |
| Attractiveness              | Pride, Manipulation, F_____          |
| Strength                    | Intimidation, B_____, Violence       |

*f) People with high levels of personal power can be tempted to u\_\_\_\_\_ those with low levels of positional power*

3) R\_\_\_\_\_ actions that will help us to resist the temptations that come with power

- L\_\_\_\_\_ from God's word – Romans 12:2
  - That God fully a\_\_\_\_\_ us as we are in Christ
  - That we need to follow Jesus' example by using any power we have for the b\_\_\_\_\_ of others
  - That we are a\_\_\_\_\_ to God for how we use the power we have
  - That we are s\_\_\_\_\_ to those that God has put in authority over us
- P\_\_\_\_\_ – Hebrews 4:14-16
- Learn about and understand the d\_\_\_\_\_ that misusing and abusing power can do to others
- Examine honestly our m\_\_\_\_\_ for wanting to have power or hold onto the power we have
- Give up positional power or a\_\_\_\_\_ for positional power if we think we cannot use it rightly
- Have someone hold us a\_\_\_\_\_

4) Through Jesus we can be f\_\_\_\_\_ of our misuses or abuses of power

Mark 10:45