



The Power to Defeat the Temptations that Rule You

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Memory Verse - 1 Corinthians 10:13

“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.”

Study Aim

- To learn what temptation truly is and understand the power that temptation has in our lives.
- To discover how Jesus defeated every temptation that Satan brought and how we can do the same.
- Read Matthew 4:1-11

Set the Stage

- Who and what rules you?
 - Temptations are powerful tools Satan uses in our lives to rule us. Every time you give in to temptation you are letting it rule and control you. You may think you are controlling it but it is controlling you.
- The basic idea of temptation is that God is lying to us and trying to deprive us of something good so we take things into our own hands to get what we want
 - Temptation is not sin. Once we inwardly say yes to the temptation it moves from a temptation to sin.

THE BIBLE WAY TO HEAVEN

Realize That God Loves You.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”
(John 3:16).

The Bible Says That All Men Are Sinners.

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”
(Romans 3:23).

God’s Word Also Says That Sin Must Be Paid For.

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

The Good News Is That Jesus Christ Paid for Your Sins.

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8).

You Must Personally Call on Jesus Christ to Save You.

The Bible Says, *“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”* (Romans 10:13).

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Take it to the Next Level

1. **The temptation to question God's love. (vs. 3-4)**
 - This was a temptation to doubt love and thus His character.

 - *How can this temptation affect our faith and how we live it out?*

2. **The temptation to question God's Word. (vs. 5-6)**
 - This was a temptation about mis-using God's Word

3. **The temptation to question God's will. (vs. 7-9)**
 - This was a temptation to take a short cut on God's will.

 - *Why is the temptation to take a short cut so strong?*

Put it into Action

- **Fight the temptation with the Word of God.**
 - Know and memorize scripture. Use it in the midst of temptation.

- **Flee temptation.**
 - Identify what your temptations are. Make whatever adjustments are needed to stay far away from the temptation.

- **Filter everything through the truth of God's Word.**
 - Compare your thoughts, activities, and behaviors against God's Word. Take any thoughts captive that go against the truth. (2 Corinthians 10:5)

Taking it Further

- Read James 1:13-15. What is God's role in temptation? What is the progression from temptation into sin? What causes us to act on the temptation?

- What are ways to help identify temptations and to defeat the temptations that rule you?