**Lesson: How to Handle Temptation**

**1 Cor. 10:12-13, *12If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall. 13The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.***

**Temptation is All Around**

• Temptation is NOT Sin! Being tempted does not mean you are sinning.

• Temptation will find you; you will be tempted because you are a human being.

• Temptation, if you handle it right, can lead you closer to God.

**Three Ways to Handle Temptation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **1. You Can \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Into It: *\*don’t choose this one!***

 **2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it:** Some people fight it in the strength of their own flesh. They are trying to stay strong through their own will power. Because of that, it seems they are always battling temptation, constantly struggling and failing.

 **3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it through Christ:** Overcoming through Christ is the only way. In whatever area you can live victoriously. You don’t have to be a slave to the world, the flesh and the devil. God is faithful. He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able. He will always make a way of escape -- if you take it.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Temptation:**

• We are all subject to temptation and we will be tempted. Being saved does not exempt or make you immune to temptation. Some areas of temptation are dishonesty, materialism, sex, greed and pride.

• Temptation is not a sin. No one is immune. Jesus was tempted in all points yet without sin. **Hebrews 4:15**, ***This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin.***

• **“Why doesn’t God remove all temptation?”** **Because God’s plan is not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ but victory to triumph in the Lord Jesus.**

• We are subject to temptation in order to learn how to depend on Jesus.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Temptation: 1 John 2:15, *Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you.***

**• Temptation comes from the world, the flesh, and the devil, called the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of temptation.** Your temptation is not unique – we are all basically tempted in the same way.

 **The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Foe: The World**

 This is not referring to the planet earth or the people;

 **John 3:16**; **Rom. 12:2**, **James 4:4**,

 **The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Foe: The Flesh** **Gal. 5:19 -21**,

 Flesh, in the Bible, is not talking about your physical body because that is not evil. **1 Cor. 6: 19-20.**

**Flesh means we have a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to sin**, the old nature, which we get from Adam is the flesh, which is in each of us and it is an enemy inside the gates. **Eph. 2:3,**

 **The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Foe: The Devil** This means that Satan is the mastermind behind all these other things.  **Eph. 6:12,**

 Lucifer / Devil is our enemy. He has plans to sabotage your life, bring death to happiness, purity, youth and ungodliness.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Temptation: 1 Thessalonians 5:23,**

• Temptation can only happen in the body, soul or spirit (human nature).

• God is triune, God the Father, Jesus the son and the Holy Spirit. We are in His image we therefore have a tri-unity nature, a faint representation of the tri-unity of the Almighty God.

 **The first seat of temptation is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:**

 • The first to be tempted is your body your earthly house. It’s the most obvious, you can see it.

 **The second seat of temptation is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:**

• Your soul is inside your body. The Greek word for soul is *Psuche* (such-ee) – we get psychic, psychology and psychiatry. Your soul is the psychological part of you – your mind, emotion and will. It’s what makes who you are. Your sense of humor, intellect, taste and idiosyncrasies.

 **The third seat of temptation is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:**

**Hebrews 4:12,**

**•** The spirit is much like the soul – they are both invisible, and the spirit and the soul are indivisible, but they are not identical. \*They are not the same thing!

**• The spirit in man makes him different from all other creatures.**

**•** Man has a spirit because we are made in the image of God.

 **John 4:24**, **For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.”**

 **Rom. 8:16**, **For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God’s children.**

 **Dr. Adrian Rogers… “The spirit in your nature can know, have fellowship and commune with God.”**

**Understanding The Body, The Soul And The Spirit**

 **• With my body I have physical life**, and I know the world **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** me.

 • **With my soul I have psychological**, and I know the world **around** me and within me.

 • **With my spirit I have spiritual life** and I know the world **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** me.

 **The World Attacks The Soul: *The world will primarily attack the soul.***

 **•** A worldly Christian is a person whose mind, emotion, and will have been squeezed into an ungodly mold.

 **• The Flesh Attacks The Body: *The carnal desires attack our bodies. (sin against our bodies)***

 ***•*** The sins of gluttony, violence, laziness, impurity and perversion.

 **The Devil Attacks The Spirit: *The devil primarily wars against your spirit.***

**•** Why? Your spirit is the part of your nature that enables you to know and worship God. His goal is to drive a wedge between you and God.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Temptations:**

* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:** their temptations are primarily in the realm of the body. Sin of the body - sex, drugs, violence and laziness. Sins of the youth.
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**temptations primarily in the realm of the soul – the ego, bigger / better material things, and achievements – my this /that.
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**the older people the devil attacks in the realm of the spirit causing doubts and fear.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Temptations:**

 **Against The World, The Key Is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ In Jesus.**

**1 John 5:4**, **1 John 2:15**, **1 John 5:5**, / **Remember, you are never told to fight the world without Jesus, if you do then you are a worldly Christian.**

**Against The Flesh, The Key Is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / Get Out!**

**2 Tim. 2:22**, **Run from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. Instead, pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love, and peace. Enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts.**

**1 Cor. 6:18**; **1 Cor. 10:13**,

 **Against The Devil, The Key Is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:** **Eph. 6:12;**

**James 4:7**, **So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**

 Never run from the devil. James says resist with the blood of Jesus.

 Rev. 12:11 tells us that we overcome the devil by the blood of the lamb and by the word of their testimony.

 **How To \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The Devil?**

1. Make sure there’s no sin – un-confessed or un-repented sin.
2. Claim your deliverance through the cross.

**Questions For Review:**

1. When have you felt like giving up in a certain sin or habitual attraction to them?
2. Which nagging areas of temptation come from your own predispose desires as opposed to unexpected spiritual attack?
3. What sins will can never be avoid except by deliberate flight?
4. How can you move beyond mere sin avoidance toward a more active pursuit of God’s best for your life?