



Text: James 1:9-15

Big Idea: Temptation does not attack and overcome us full-on. Instead it gradually directs us down a comfortable path that is appealing to each of our individual, personal desires. It does this by:

- Questioning your identity
- Confusing your desires
- Challenging your future (by concealing consequences)

Discussion Questions:

1. Temptation begins when we see ourselves as something greater or lesser than who we are. Why does seeing yourself as something less than an image bearer of God make you susceptible to temptation? Seeing yourself as more than a finite being with temporary wealth? (James 1:9-10)
2. How can you recognize when a personal desire is being used as a temptation? (James 1:14)
3. Why is an “open door” not necessarily an indication of God’s plan? If you have experienced that before, share what you learned. (James 1:14)
4. How does holding to the right perspective of the future keep us from succumbing to the lure of temptation? (James 1:15)

For personal devotional time read Luke 4:1-13, Jesus’ testing in the wilderness. Reflect on the temptations Jesus faced and how He responded.

Two recommended readings for this series are:

The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis

Respectable Sins: Confronting the Sins We Tolerate by Jerry Bridges