



Groups Sermon Study Questions

SECURITY FENCE

August 27, 2017

Message Summary

We all face temptation of various kinds, but no temptation is unique. The temptation itself is not a sin; it is what we do with the temptation that makes the difference. God will not allow temptation to sin without providing the strength to overcome or a way of escape. But we must trust God for endurance and look for the way.

Consider This

1. Why does God allow trials and temptations according to James 1:2-4?

2. What is the main source of temptations according to James 1:13-15?

Read Gal 5:17-21, 1 John 2:15, and 1 Thes. 3:5.

3. According to these passages, where does temptation come from?

4. According to 1 Corinthians 10:13, what is true about every temptation you face? Who can give you victory? How? Will God remove every temptation?

5. What are some things you can do to resist temptation according to Matthew 6:9, 13, 26:41, Psalm 119:9, 11, 1 John 5:4-5 and James 4:7?

6. Read 1 Cor. 6:18-20. What was Paul's advice when confronted with sexual temptations? How could you flee in your own context? Why should you flee?

7. In Romans 13:14b. Paul said, ". . . make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts" How can you apply this principle to over eating, drinking, reckless shopping and other such desires of our sinful human nature?

8. The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? (Jeremiah 17:9) According to 1 John 1:8-10, how can believers counteract deceitful hearts?

Satan is another main source of temptation. Called the prince of this world, he works through his demons and inspires other people to become sources of temptation. The devil often attacks our faith directly. "Did God really say . . . , Does God hear...., does he even exist?"

8. In Luke 4:1-13 Satan even used scripture, twisting it, to tempt Jesus (v 9-10). How did Jesus resist this type of devilish attack? How can you?

9. What is Satan's end game according to 1 Peter 5:8?

"Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world." (1 John 2:15-16)

The world system is often more subtle than frontal assaults on our faith.

11. When we find ourselves loving the world, Romans 12:1-2 tells us to renew our minds. According to James 4:4-8 (note especially verse 8), How can we counter worldly thought patterns with an increased love for God?

Moving Forward

1. What is another result when we give in to temptation according to 2 Peter 2:19?

2. Where else do lies and evil thoughts come from? Read Matthew 15:18-19 and Philippians 4:8-9. What can you do to change that this week?