

Remodel Part 3 – Cleaning House (7-28-2019)

Remodel: Finding the palace in the prayer closet

Review: Matthew 6:9-11 (Position, Permission, Provision)

Today: Matthew 6:12-13 (Forgiveness, Temptation, Deliverance)

Introduction: Have you ever pulled your couch away from the wall?

The Lord's Prayer (Matthew's Gospel – in the midst of the Sermon on the Mount)

Matthew 6:9-13 (NKJV)

(9) In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. (10) Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. (11) Give us this day our daily bread. (12) And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. (13) And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

1) Forgiveness

Matthew 6:12 (NKJV)

And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.

Notes: I recently taught on having Faith to Forgive (Part 8 in May). But a few thoughts today . . .

- Don't accumulate debt; instead de-clutter. It makes you more open and brings in more light.
- Give & receive Forgiveness freely as a matter of habit
- Pray for forgiveness . . .
 - It's good to become an expert at asking for it. We need to be forgiven more than we admit!
 - Example: My recent struggle to ask forgiveness from my kids
 - Pray for the ones you need to forgive. Give them to God, and ask for help to forgive them!

2) Temptation

Matthew 6:13a (NKJV)

And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one.

Notes: 1st part - don't lead us into temptation . . .

- **Lead** - to bring into, carry inward (Thayer, Strong's)

- **Temptation** – trial, experiment, attempt, proving (**good**) / an enticement to sin (**bad**) – both: **difficult!**
 - Used to describe a season of testing or trial that brings growth
 - Used to describe our struggle with sin and being pulled into it
 - Used to describe the way men test God

James 1:2-4, 12 (NKJV)

(2) My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various **trials**, (3) knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. (4) But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. . . (12) Blessed is the man who endures **temptation**; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

Notes: Temptation can be beneficial, but we must view it correctly! (Don't seek it out!)

Example: Philip & Jesus in John 6 (when Jesus feeds the 5,000) . . .

John 6:5-7 (NKJV)

(5) Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" (6) But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. (7) Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little."

Notes: This same Philip would later be transported in Acts 8! So there is a healthy "testing"

Back to James for a warning about temptation to sin . . .

James 1:13-17 (NKJV)

(13) Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. (14) But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. (15) Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. (16) Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. (17) Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

Notes: Temptation in the context of being drawn into sin is never cast in a good light in the Bible. It's to be avoided and help is to be sought! (Let Him lead instead of being led by my own desires – I need help!)

In fact: Flirtation with sin is actually a form of us testing God! His mercy & grace that He gives freely can often be abused if we don't cherish it as a gift! Don't let **temptation** become **flirtation**!

1 Corinthians 10:12-14 (NKJV)

(12) Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. (13) No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. (14) Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

Note: This leads us back to the 2nd half of this verse in the Lord's Prayer . . .

3) Deliverance

Matthew 6:13a (NKJV)

And do not lead us into temptation, **But deliver us from the evil one.**

Note: 2nd part – deliver us from the evil one . . .

Deliver – drawing away (but also towards oneself)

Word Study: to draw, drag along the ground. To draw or snatch from danger, rescue, deliver. This is more with the meaning of drawing to oneself than merely rescuing from someone or something.

Thayer: to draw to one's self, to rescue, to deliver

*Do we test God or does he test us?

Immediately Jesus re-affirms where we started in the prayer – a reflection on who God is and therefore a proper understanding of our “position” (as we discussed last week) . . .

Matthew 6:13 (NKJV)

And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. **For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

The 2 closing verses of a powerful psalm of reflection – inviting God to search & know me thoroughly!

Psalms 139:23-24 (NKJV)

(23) Search me, O God, and know my heart; **Try** me, and know my anxieties; (24) And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

Notes: David invites God in to test Him and to clean house. We would do well to follow His lead.

Conclusion: Invite Him in; let Him lead, deliver, and de-clutter!