

# Fight Temptation

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***Temptation is an  
INVITATION to believe a LIE.***

**SIN** = Telling God NO.

**WORSHIP** = Telling God YES.

## **Genesis 3:1-7 (NLT)**

<sup>1</sup> The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, “Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?”

<sup>2</sup> “Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,” the woman replied. <sup>3</sup> “It’s only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, ‘You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.’”

<sup>4</sup> “You won’t die!” the serpent replied to the woman. <sup>5</sup> “God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.”

<sup>6</sup> The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too.

<sup>7</sup> At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.

## **The 3 Temptations of Man.**

- **Lust** says, “I like it.”
- **Greed** says, “I want it.”
- **Pride** says, “I can handle it.”

*Temptation is an invitation to believe a LIE.*

**John 8 (NLT)**

<sup>44</sup> [The devil] was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

**The Lies we Believe.**

- *Nobody will ever know.*
- *I'm not hurting anybody.*
- *The Bible isn't relevant.*
- *I'm better than they are.*
- *God, wants me to be happy.*

***Step # 2 to becoming a Man of God:  
Fight Temptation with TRUTH and MISSION.***

**5 Ways to Fight Temptation.**

**1. Fight Temptation with TRUTH.**

**John 8 (NLT)**

<sup>31</sup> Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. <sup>32</sup> And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

**1 Peter 5 (NLT)**

<sup>8</sup> Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Stand firm against him and stay strong in your faith.

## 2. Fight Temptation with PRAYER.

### **Matthew 6 (ESV)**

<sup>13</sup> Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

### **Psalms 119 (NLT)**

<sup>11</sup> I have hidden your word in my heart,  
that I might not sin against you.

## 3. Fight Temptation with your FRIENDS.

### **Ecclesiastes 4 (NLT)**

<sup>9</sup> Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. <sup>10</sup> If one person falls, the other can reach out and help.

### **Hebrews 10 (NLT)**

<sup>24</sup> Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.

## 4. Fight Temptation with your FEET.

### **2 Timothy 2 (NLT)**

<sup>22</sup> 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 Corinthians 10 (NLT)**

<sup>13b</sup> 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.

<sup>14</sup> So, my dear friends, flee from the worship of idols.

## 5. Fight Temptation with MISSION.

### **Nehemiah 6 (AMP)**

<sup>3b</sup> "I am doing a great work and cannot come down."

### **John 10 (NIV)**

<sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

# Questions.

**Q:** Have you ever thought about temptation as  
“Spiritual Warfare?”

**Q:** Which of these 3 do you struggle with the most?

\_\_\_ Lust

\_\_\_ Greed

\_\_\_ Pride

\_\_\_ Something Else?

**Q:** Do you believe that God is  
greater than your temptation?

**Q:** What do you need to “run away from” ASAP?

**Q:** Why do you think “being on mission”  
is the greatest deterrent to temptation?

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**Prayer:** God, help me to see temptation for what it really is - a lie that will distract me and destroy me. Give me the wisdom to know how to escape and the courage to flee from the traps of the enemy. Help me to focus on what is TRUE so I'll more readily spot the LIES of temptation. I pray this in the power of your name, Amen.