

1 John - Tempted

Icebreaker: What food items (cakes, candies, etc) are irresistible to you?

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. (1 Pet. 5:8)

When would you say you are most vulnerable to Satan and his prowling to devour?

John now warns against the enemy's favorite means of temptation...

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (1 John 2:15)

- **Pleasure (the need to satisfy)** – “For everything in the world – the cravings of sinful man...” (1 John 2:16a) – How might our world take a basic human need (such as food, water, relationships, etc..) and distort/twist it to become something sinful?

The tempter came to Him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” (Matthew 4:3)

Reflection: How might/does the enemy tempt you using “Pleasure?”

- **Possession (the need to have)** – “...the lust of his eyes...” (1 John 2:16a) –

Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” (Matthew 4:8-9) –

Reflection: Is it hard for you to distinguish your possessions as a want versus a need? What material possessions would be really hard for you to dispose of? Why?

- **Position (the need to be)** – “...and the boasting of what he has and does – comes not from the Father but from the world.” (1 John 2:16b) – How might/does “Position” lure you into being or working towards something that would have you neglect your primary responsibilities?

“If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: ‘He will command His angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’” (Matt. 4:6)

Reflection: How does the enemy play on your pride?

Which of the 3 big categories of sin above is most real to you right now in this season of life?

Jesus and the counter... Reflection: which of the three “counters” below could you lean into more in order to counter Satan’s attack on you?

- ⇒ **Spirit-led** – “Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, where for forty days He was tempted by the devil.” (Luke 4:1)
- ⇒ **Word-filled** – “Jesus answered, ‘It is written...it is also written...For it is written...’” (Matt. 4:4, 7, 10)
- ⇒ **Community supported** – “Then the devil left Him, and angels came and attended Him.” (Matt. 4:11)

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Jesus and the victory...(Read 1 John 3:8)