

Summary

In this sermon drawn from 1 Corinthians 10:13, Pastor Chris addresses the universal reality of temptation, reminding the congregation that every person, regardless of age, background, or circumstance, faces temptation. Using the journey of the Israelites toward Canaan as a backdrop, he illustrates how the giants standing between God's people and their promised inheritance are pictures of the temptations that stand between believers and the blessings God has prepared for them. The key truth is that the problem was never whether God could defeat the giants, but whether His people would trust Him to do it. Pastor Chris then offers three practical keys to overcoming temptation: staying in the Word of God daily, maintaining a consistent prayer life, and remaining committed to the local church. He emphasizes that temptation is not the sin itself, that no temptation is greater than God, and that believers are equipped through Christ to be more than conquerors. The sermon closes with a bold declaration that through faith, God's people are well able to overcome every giant they face, just as Joshua and Caleb believed when the other ten spies did not.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You today grateful for the truth of Your Word. Lord, we acknowledge that we all face temptation, and we need Your wisdom and Your strength to overcome it. As we open our hearts and minds to discuss what You have placed before us, we ask that You would quiet every distraction and every doubt. Holy Spirit, lead this group into honest conversation and genuine growth. Let each person leave today not just informed, but transformed. May what You want us to receive be exactly what we receive. In the precious name of Jesus, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What is one food, hobby, or simple pleasure that you find almost impossible to resist, and why?

Key Verses

- 1 Corinthians 10:13
- Hebrews 12:1
- James 1:12

- Romans 8:37
- Hebrews 4:12
- Matthew 5:6
- Hebrews 10:25

Questions

- Pastor Chris said that temptation is something every person faces, no matter their age or background. What temptations do you think are most commonly overlooked or not talked about in the church, and why do you think that is?
- In 1 Corinthians 10:13 (KJV), Paul writes that God 'will with the temptation also make a way to escape.' Have you ever clearly recognized God providing a way of escape from a temptation in your own life? What did that look like?
- The sermon compared the giants the Israelites faced in Canaan to the temptations we face today. What giant is currently standing between you and what you believe God has promised you?
- Pastor Chris pointed out that the real issue for the Israelites was never whether God could defeat the giants, but whether they would trust Him to do it. In what areas of your life do you find it hardest to trust God rather than rely on your own strength?
- Pastor Chris shared that Hebrews 12:1 (KJV) refers to 'the sin,' suggesting each person has one particular sin they are most drawn toward. Without necessarily naming it, how do you think a believer can identify their greatest area of vulnerability and begin to build a plan against it?
- The sermon highlighted three keys to overcoming temptation: daily Bible reading, consistent prayer, and faithful church attendance. Which of these three do you find most difficult to maintain, and what tends to get in the way?
- Pastor Chris referenced a study showing that reading the Bible four or more times per week produced dramatic life changes, including less anxiety, less loneliness, and a greater willingness to share faith. Does that challenge or encourage you? What would it take for you to increase your time in God's Word this week?
- Romans 8:37 (KJV) says we are 'more than conquerors through him that loved us.' The pastor said the devil wants us to believe temptation is too strong, but God says we are well able to overcome. How does your daily mindset line up with that truth, and what would change if you truly believed it?

Life Application

This week, write down the one temptation or giant that most consistently stands between you and where you believe God is calling you. Then create a simple, specific plan for how you will respond the next time that temptation comes. Include at least one Scripture verse you will memorize and speak aloud when the temptation arrives, one person you will ask to hold you accountable, and one commitment to either begin or strengthen your daily Bible reading. Remember, the battle is not won in the moment of temptation. It is won in the preparation that comes before it.

Key Takeaways

- Temptation is universal. Every person, regardless of age, background, or spiritual maturity, faces temptation. The temptation itself is not the sin, but yielding to it is.
- The giants we face are not greater than God. Just as the Israelites' giants were never stronger than the Lord who had already parted the Red Sea, no temptation in our lives is beyond God's power to help us overcome.
- Every believer has one particular area of weakness they are most drawn toward, and overcoming it requires a deliberate, prepared plan rather than hoping to resist it in the moment.
- The three essential weapons for overcoming temptation are daily engagement with the Word of God, consistent and fervent prayer, and faithful participation in the local church body.
- We are more than conquerors through Christ. The Christian is not called to fear temptation but to overcome it, advancing in faith just as Joshua and Caleb trusted God to deliver the promised land.

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, we thank You for the truth that no temptation is greater than You. We confess that too often we have looked at the size of our giants instead of the greatness of our God. Forgive us for the times we have surrendered when You had already provided a way of escape. As we leave this time together, strengthen each person in this group to pick up the sword of Your Word, to fall on their knees in prayer, and to stay connected to the body of believers You have placed around them. May we be like Joshua and Caleb, people of giant-killing faith who declare, 'We are well able,' not because of who we are, but because of who You are. We claim victory over every temptation in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.