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Sermon Outline

Intimacy with the Almighty: The Lord's Prayer
Do Not Lead Us…
Matthew 6:9-13
February 25-26, 2018 Titus O'Bryant

Make us aware of Satan's traps.

Put evil in its place.

Lift up your name in our weakness.

Looking Back

Intimacy with the Almighty: The Lord's Prayer
Do Not Lead Us
Matthew 6:9-13

Life has a way of bringing us to testing points…moments that prove our character, the quality of our relationships, and probe the depths of our faith in our Heavenly Father. In those vulnerable moments, the evil one comes along to trap us and destroy our lives. That is why we must pray that our Father lead us away from the test and that, when we are tested, he will rescue us from the evil…

Thinking It Through (agree/disagree/consider/contemplate)

There are events or experiences in life through which the Father intends to prove and improve our character and faith, but the evil one sneaks in and intends to destroy our character and faith. ~ Darrell Johnson

Peirasmos [translated temptation or testing in Matthew 6:13] *is regularly used of the divine placing of a man in a situation which is a test, a situation in which he may fall, but in which he is not meant to fall, a situation which may be his ruin, but out of which he is meant to emerge spiritually strengthened and enriched.* ~William Barclay

This is not just a prayer to keep us from being naughty girls and boys. This is to recognize that the enemy of our soul will destroy us if he could…he wants to separate us from God, to become convinced that God is not a Father but an enemy…Temptation is to the alienation of our souls…Lord, when I have the inclination to sin, keep me from the opportunity; and when I have the opportunity, keep me from the inclination. ~ Haddon Robinson

We cannot help being exposed to the assaults, but we pray that we may not fall and perish under them. ~ Martin Luther

Working It Out

1. When have you experienced a season of testing or trial?
2. What biblical characters can you think of or find who faced temptation, what enticements to sin did they experience, and how did they respond?
3. How do you think our enemy would likely try to swallow you up with the evil? Are you facing a temptation or test right now?
4. How can you claim or live in the victory that Christ has won?

Looking Ahead

Rethink Jesus

Matthew 21:1-11

What do you do when you find out that the Jesus you thought you knew is in fact NOT who you thought he was? What do you do when you realize that the real Jesus doesn't meet your expectations? These are the questions that first century followers of Jesus were confronted with in the days leading up to Jesus' death. And they are the same questions that confront us in our walk with Christ today – for we are all, sooner or later, bound to realize that our "box" for Him doesn't fit quite right.

1. Are there times in your life when you've been disappointed with God? When?

2. What common reactions do people have when God doesn't meet their expectations?

3. When our expectations don't meet reality, do we tend to reframe our expectations or blame God?

4. What's a biblical example of when God did not act like people wanted Him to?