

Overcoming Temptation 1 Corinthians 10:6-13

Longer passages are not quoted in the study sheet, but they can be read in the accompanying transcript.

What do you do when you're _____ to sin? Today, we're going to learn some ways to _____ temptation. Life challenges us every day, but God's Word provides _____ to those challenges. Life's problems can overwhelm us, but God's Word can _____ us. In a _____ world filled with sin, we need the Lord's help! Psalm 119:105 says, "Your word is a _____ to my feet And a _____ to my path." It leads us in the paths of righteousness and away from the dangers that can _____ us. This is why we listen and study the Word of God.

From the moment that we're old enough to understand right from wrong, truth from error, and good from evil, we _____ the temptation to please our selfish desires rather than to please God. Temptations come in many _____, and what affects one person may not affect another. Some are _____ to tell a lie, some to steal, some to take revenge, some to gossip. When we're afraid or hurting, we may be tempted to get _____ or to strike out. When we're greedy or jealous, we may be tempted to _____ what is not ours or to put others down. The devil strives to make sin _____, but sin is offensive to God.

With the Lord's help, you can overcome Satan's schemes and his tricks to _____ you astray. With the Lord's help, you can find _____ to overcome sin. With the Lord's help, you can _____ your desires and live a righteous life. Don't doubt that people can _____. With the Lord's help, you can become a _____ person who lives in righteousness. You can't change the _____, but you can change your _____. With the Lord's help, you can _____ above your past and be the person you always wanted to be!

Our reading today comes from the First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians 10:6-13.

The apostle John describes the three appeals that Satan uses to _____ us toward the world and away from God. First John 2:15-17 says, "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the _____ is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the _____, the lust of the _____, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is _____ away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever." Every temptation comes in one or more of these three forms. The devil uses our _____ to lead us astray from God.

James warned, "Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am tempted by _____'; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is _____ by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives _____ to sin; and sin, when it's full-grown, brings forth _____" (James 1:13-15).

Satan appealed to the flesh, the eyes, and pride when he tempted _____ to eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Genesis tells how Satan tried to get Eve to _____ what God said by appealing to her desires. **Read the story in Genesis 3:1-5.**

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The devil first tries to get people to _____ God. He wants to make them think God is trying to withhold some _____ from them. Once Satan gets people to be self-centered rather than believing in God, he's able to tell them _____ that contradict God. Jesus told some Jews who did not believe in Him, "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a _____ from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a _____ and the father of it. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me" (John 8:44-45).

The devil urges people to _____ in their own judgment rather than _____ to God. Of course, trusting your own judgment will _____ you to give in to your desires. Satan tempted Jesus to use His _____ to make food. **Read the temptation of Jesus in Matthew 4:1-4.**

Jesus said no to the devil, because Jesus knew His relationship to God was _____.! God helps us overcome temptation by _____ us who we are in Christ. We don't belong to ourselves but to Him, to Christ, who purchased us with His _____. God also helps us by giving us His Word to _____ us how to live and how to avoid sin. The more we _____ on God's teaching, the more we're able to _____ temptation.

Solomon advised his son: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your _____ understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be _____ in your own eyes; fear the LORD and depart from evil" (Proverbs 3:5-7). The Word of God, the Bible, can give you strength and can help you through those _____ that you face with the devil and with the world. The Word protects us in times of _____. The psalmist said, "Your word I have _____ in my heart, that I might not sin against You" (Psalm 119:11).

Sometimes the devil appeals to the sinful desires that are _____ of us. The Lord Jesus warned us to be _____ what we look at. Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that whoever _____ at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell" (Matthew 5:27-29).

Society glamorizes sex. The desire for sex has led many young men and women _____ from God into sin. The consequences of sin are always _____ than people think. Sexual immorality can _____ to an unwanted pregnancy or a disease. People who get involved in sexual activities outside of marriage often feel great _____ for what they've done and wished that they had never violated God's will.

Christians must be careful what they _____ at. They should _____ their eyes away from the things that tempt them sexually, so that they may remain pure in their thoughts. Young men who love the Lord learn to _____ their eyes and avoid temptation. Young women need to consider how they _____, so that they might not tempt young men or send the wrong message. We all must be careful not to tempt _____ to sin. A young woman who dresses in a sexually provocative way shouldn't be _____ that boys will see her as willing to be sexy. Young women who profess godliness should dress modestly (1 Timothy 2:9-10). When people, and that's

either male or female, dress modestly, they can _____ many embarrassing situations and temptations. The devil loves to appeal to the _____; and that's why every Christian should pay attention to how he or she appears to others. Our clothing and appearance _____ much about our character.

The apostle Paul lived in Corinth in the first century, and it was a place where people _____ a lot of sexual immorality. So, he advised them, "Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his _____ body. Or do you not know that your body is the _____ of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a _____; and therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians 6:18-20). When temptation confronts you and you're inclined to _____ because no one else seems to be around, remember that God is always watching. Proverbs 15:3 says, "The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping _____ on the evil and the good."

Learning to _____ in times of temptation is a great strategy for avoiding sin. Those who _____ around sin usually get caught up in it. Paul later warned the Corinthians, "Do not be deceived: Evil company _____ good habits" (1 Corinthians 15:33). So stay away from the things that will _____ you spiritually. Paul told Timothy, "Flee also youthful lusts; but _____ righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart" (2 Timothy 2:22).

Whether the devil appeals to the eye, to the flesh, or to pride, he is actually appealing to our _____. Our selfish desires can lead us _____ from God. Luke tells how the devil tempted Jesus: "Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the _____ of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him, 'All this authority I will give to You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. Therefore, if You will _____ before me, all will be Yours.' And Jesus answered and said to him, 'Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him _____ you shall serve"' (Luke 4:5-8).

Jesus knew whom He should _____ and serve, and it wasn't the devil! In spite of all the treasures and power that He might have received in ruling the world, Jesus knew that he would be a _____ to Satan if He had given in to the temptation. Jesus knew that there was only _____ person to worship and serve, and that's the Father in heaven.

Sin has a high _____! Jesus knew that when the _____ of sin wore off, they had to deal with the consequences of sin. Romans 6:23 says, "the wages of sin is _____." Ananias and Sapphira decided that they wanted to keep back part of what they had _____ God; so they lied to God in order to possess some money. They never expected that their decision would cost them their _____ (Acts 5:1-10 tells the story).

Judas betrayed Christ for thirty pieces of silver, but it filled him with _____ and _____. He went away and _____ himself according to Matthew 27:3-5. We must never assume that sin is _____. Sin was so serious that Jesus bore the _____ so that we might die to sin and

live to righteousness (2 Corinthians 5:19-21).

Take heart! If the temptation is too _____ for us, God will make us the way of _____. 1 Corinthians 10:13 says, “No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is _____, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.” When you feel the temptation is too strong for you, start _____ for the way of escape. As a loving Father, the God of heaven wants to _____ us from getting into situations that we can’t handle.

The apostle Paul recalled the time that he appeared before Caesar and did not know whether he would live or die: he said, “At my first defense no one stood with me, but all _____ me. May it not be charged against them. But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that the _____ might be preached fully through me, and that all the Gentiles might hear. Also I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion. And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen” (2 Timothy 4:16-18)! We need confidence that the Lord will also _____ us from every evil circumstance beyond our control. He will indeed strengthen us or give us the way of escape so that we may remain _____ to Him as His children.

You don’t have to face temptation _____. You have the _____ of God through His Word and through prayer. The Bible stands as God’s written Word! Ask, and it shall be given you. You have the _____ of fellow Christians who want to live godly lives, too. You have the _____ and _____ of heaven. With the Lord’s help, you can overcome! Sometimes God allows us to go through _____ to test and strengthen us. He’s not being _____ to us but is helping us to mature and to be able to stand on our feet as Christians. First Peter 5:8-10 says: “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring _____, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

God _____ helps His children through their difficulties. When the trial is over, the God of all _____ perfects, establishes, strengthens, and settles us. Wherever you are in life, whatever you’re going through, and whatever struggle you face, remember that nothing will ever be _____ than what God and you can handle.

With God’s instructions, you can _____! Romans 6:17-18 says, “But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, and having been freed from sin, you became the slaves of righteousness.” You don’t have to stay a slave of sin! Obey the Lord, and He will set you _____.

Put your faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God. With love in your heart, turn from sin in repentance. Confess the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and be baptized into Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. When you’re baptized, the blood of Christ will wash away your sins, cause you to be born again with newness of life, and make you a child of God! Oh, do it today!