

Discipleship Bible Study—Temptation

And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith... (2 Peter 1:5)

Temptation is the experience of being **presented with a sinful course of action in one's mind**. Temptation is not sinful in itself, but will soon become sinful when entertained and acted upon. It is not even necessary to actually carry out the suggested action for sin to occur, as sin can happen solely in the mind. Giving in to temptation results in sin. Such sin does not cause your salvation to be lost, for it is safe forever (as we saw in a previous study). However sin will damage your fellowship with God, and thus needs to be sorted out immediately it occurs. Please pray now.

(1) **Your Enemy.**

(1a) Look at 1 Peter 5:8-9. According to 1 Peter 5:8, what is the Devil like?

The devil is like a _____
seeking for _____ to devour.

(1b) According to the next verse (1 Peter 5:9), what is also happening to other believers in the world? The same _____ are happening to them.

(2) **How to Overcome Your Enemy.**

James 4:7 gives a two part plan to overcome the devil.

The order is important. What are the steps required?

(2a) _____ yourself to God,

(2b) _____ the devil.

(2c) If these two things are done, what will be the outcome?

The devil will _____ from you.

(3) **The Weapons of Resistance.**

How did Jesus resist the devil? See Matthew 4:2-11.

(3a) What important phrase (three words long) is repeated three times in these verses (vs 4, 7 & 10).

The important phrase that Jesus Christ used is “it is _____”.

(3b) What weapon did Jesus Christ use?

Jesus Christ used the _____ of _____.

(3c) What did the devil do then? He _____ Jesus.

- (4) Look at Matthew 5:21-22 & 27-28.
 (4a) Where can sin occur (see the end of v28)?
 Sin can take place in the _____ without actually doing anything.
 (4b) What two sins are mentioned here (v21, 27)?
 Answer: _____ and _____ .
- (5) **Keeping Pure.**
 According to Psalm 119:9 & 11, what two things will make it possible for a young man to keep his way pure and avoid sin?
 (5a) By taking _____ (paying attention) to the Word of God (v9), and
 (5b) by _____ the Word in your _____ (v11) .
 This means the memorization of verses from the Bible. How was Jesus able to quote verses against the devil? He had memorized many helpful Bible verses.
- (6) **What course of action did the Lord Jesus Christ advise** the disciples in order to avoid falling into temptation (Matthew 26:41)?
 He advised them to _____ and _____ .
- (7) In 1 Corinthians 10:13, **God gives a wonderful promise to the believer who is tempted.**
 (7a) According to this verse, what will God not allow to happen?
 The believer will not be _____ more than he/she can take.
 (7b) What does God always provide?
 He will always provide a _____ to _____ .
 The problem is that at times believers do not take the way that is provided.
- (8) **What way of escape is described in 2 Timothy 2:22a?**
 Escape from sin by _____ from youthful lusts and _____ righteousness, etc. with those who follow God out of a pure heart (this requires spending time in fellowship with other believers).
- (9) **When you fail to resist temptation and thus fall into sin,** what should you do (1 John 1:9)?
 (9a) I should immediately _____ my sin to God.
 (9b) What will God then do for you?
 He will _____ my sin(s) and _____ me from all unrighteousness.

Memory verse—

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).