

Temptation

Lesson 2 Enduring Temptation

Introduction

- Isolation from world and justifying sinful desires are wrong responses to temptation
- Christians must seek to endure temptation by choosing God's way of escape through self-control by placing our mind and body under God's control
- Temptation occurs from without when Satan solicits us to sin and our response whether right or wrong is from within our hearts

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Introduction

- Key again to enduring temptation is self-control
- But how do we develop self-control so that we might endure temptation?
- We hope to learn to respond in such a way that we might not only change our outward behavior but also our sinful desires

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Enduring Temptation

Do not overestimate ourselves
Recognize our minds and bodies belong to God
Self-control key to following God's way of escape
Be strengthened by our Lord's example
What do we do when we sin?

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Do Not Overestimate Ourselves

1Co 10:12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.
Rom 12:3 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

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Recognize Our Minds And Bodies Belong To God

1Co 6:18 Flee immorality. Every *other* sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.
1Co 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?
1Co 6:20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

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God Promises Us A Way of Escape

1Co 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, 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.

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Self-control Key To Following God's Way of Escape

- Cause of submitting to temptation – lack of self-control
- We can only access way of escape by self-control
- The battle for self-control begins in our minds as we crucify sinful desires and other sinful behaviors
- Can only have self-control if we let God, through His Word, have control over our thinking and conduct

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Lack of Self-control Results In Yielding To Temptation

1Co 7:5 Stop depriving one another, except by agreement for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

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Self-control Key To Following God's Way of Escape

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal 5:23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Gal 5:24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

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Battle For Self-control Begins In Our Minds

Col 3:1 Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Col 3:2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

Col 3:3 For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

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Battle For Self-control Begins In Our Minds

Col 3:4 When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

Col 3:5 Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

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Self-control Produced By God's Word Transforming Our Minds

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

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Self-control Produced By God's Word Transforming Our Minds

Rom 6:1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase?

Rom 6:2 May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it?

Rom 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

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Self-control Produced By God's Word Transforming Our Minds

Rom 6:4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Rom 6:6 knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin;

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Self-control Produced By God's Word Transforming Our Minds

Rom 6:7 for he who has died is freed from sin.

Rom 6:11 Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Rom 6:12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,

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Self-control Produced By God's Word Transforming Our Minds

Rom 6:13 and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

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Godly Character Produced By Transformed Thinking

- What we think is vital because it determines how we will behave
- Godly character formed by our sinful thinking, desires and conduct being transformed into righteous thinking, desires and conduct
- Cannot feel comfortable with ungodly desires as long as we don't act on them for they are sinful in and of themselves

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How We Think Vital To Developing Self-control

Mat 12:34 "You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart.

Php 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

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Joseph Resisted Temptation By Submitting To God

Gen 39:7 It came about after these events that his master's wife looked with desire at Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me."

Gen 39:8 But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, with me *here*, my master does not concern himself with anything in the house, and he has put all that he owns in my charge.

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Joseph Resisted Temptation By Submitting To God

Gen 39:9 "There is no one greater in this house than I, and he has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great evil and sin against God?"

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Be Strengthened By Our Lord's Example

Heb 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin.

1Pe 2:21 For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,

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Be Strengthened By Our Lord's Example

1Pe 2:22 WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH;

1Pe 2:23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting *Himself* to Him who judges righteously;

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Be Strengthened By Our Lord's Example

Joh 6:38 "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

Luk 9:23 And He was saying to *them* all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.

Rom 13:14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to *its* lusts.

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What Do We Do When We Sin?

1Jn 1:7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

1Jn 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.

1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 25

Godly Character Produced By Submission To His Word

Eph 3:14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,

Eph 3:15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name,

Eph 3:16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, 26

Godly Character Produced By Submission To His Word

Eph 3:17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; *and* that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

Eph 3:18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,

Eph 3:19 and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God. 27

Godly Character Produced By Submission To His Word

Eph 3:20 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,

Eph 3:21 to Him *be* the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen. 28

Enduring Temptation

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