

TEMPTATION

OVERCOMING TEMPTATION PART II: WHERE ARE YOU VULNERABLE?

Reading Assignment

Have students read James 1.

Intro Discussion:

Last week's assignment was to write down areas of weakness in your life that you are vulnerable to temptation? Would anyone like to share some of what you wrote down?

What do you think are the most common temptations your generation struggle with?

Content:

Read James 1:13-15: **13** Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. **14** But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. **15** Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

What can we learn about temptation from this passage?

- God does not tempt us!
- We are enticed and lured by our own desires.
 - How can identifying your weaknesses and "lures" be helpful to resisting temptation?
 - When we know our triggers, we will recognize them quicker and deal with them faster.
 - What can be some triggers that open the door for temptation? (It could be being home alone, hanging out with a certain group of friends, or having too much free time, to name a few.)
- Temptation is not wrong in and of itself. It is only when it is acted on, or when an impure thought (lust, anger, greed, etc.) is allowed to linger.
- Sin ends in death.

Challenge

Now that you have identified areas of temptation and triggers in your life, begin to get aggressive with your thought-life. Next week we will talk about learning to take thoughts captive.

Read Matthew 4.