

Battling Temptation

1. Identify the source of the temptation
 - A. No amount of rationalization can point to God as the source of our temptation – James 1:13 (1172)
 - B. Satan seeks to destroy you – 1 Peter 5:8 (1178)
 - C. Temptation also comes from the culture around us and even our own desires and pride – 1 John 2:15-17 (1184)
 - D. We are in a spiritual battle – Ephesians 6:12 (1137)
2. Check your proximity to God
 - A. Temptation begins with distancing ourselves from God – James 1:14 (1172)
 - B. We are only safe when we are close to God – Ephesians 6:10-11 (1137)
 - C. Walking in the Spirit keeps us from the temptation of walking in the flesh – Galatians 5:16-17 (1132)
3. Recognize the false nature of the enticement
 - A. Temptation appeals to our desires – James 1:15a (1172)
 - B. Moses is said to have recognized the temporary pleasures of sin – Hebrews 11:24-25 (1169)
 - C. We are to stand in the truth and righteousness – Ephesians 6:13-14 (1137)
 - D. Every temptation includes a way of escape – 1 Corinthians 10:13 (1112)
4. Consider the consequences of giving in to sin
 - A. It takes time for sin to show all of its consequences – James 1:15b (1172)
 - B. Those who live in sin have a destiny of destruction – Philippians 3:18-19 (1140)
 - C. Sin separates us from God – Isaiah 59:2-4 (722)
5. Acknowledge that true blessings come from our unchanging God and not settling for cheap imitations
 - A. Every good gift comes from God – James 1:16-17 (1172)
 - B. God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing – Ephesians 1:3 (1133)
 - C. Even material blessings come from God – 1 Chronicles 29:11-14 (420)