

PRAY FOR DELIVERANCE

MATTHEW 6:13

3/17/24

I. DOES GOD LEAD US INTO TEMPTATION?

James 1:13-15 - "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."

A. God's character and holiness won't allow Him to tempt us

B. Temptation "Peirasmos" – Temptation or Trials

James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

C. Every trial from God is an opportunity to deeper faith or temptation

Genesis 22:1-2 - "After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, 'Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' ² He said, 'Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.'"

Hebrews 11:17-19 - "By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, 'Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.' ¹⁹ He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back."

D. Every painful test is an opportunity to trust God or a temptation to curse God

E. Every pleasure is an opportunity to thank God or a temptation to idolize

II. PRAYER OF AWARENESS

A. Awareness = we are weak, and we need God to lead us

B. Teaches us to pray God's promises

1 Corinthians 10:13 - "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

C. God will always keep His promises...so we can pray confidently

D. DANGER – We pray this prayer and then run to temptation

III. PRAYER OF DELIVERANCE

A. Jesus prescribes prayer for our battle

B. This prayer is a cry for God to be our deliverer

C. DANGER – We approach this serious battle casually

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did you think about the message this week? What stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
2. How has our study in the Lord's prayer changed the way you pray? How has it encouraged you?
3. How does the Lord's prayer deepen your understanding of who God is and how He works?
4. Why is this stanza... "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil" ...so important for Jesus to include in His model prayer?
5. What are some things that help us respond rightly to tests in this life?
6. How do you avoid temptation?
7. Why do you think it is so easy for us to be casual about serious things and serious about casual things? How can we change how we see our sin and the spiritual battle around us?
8. Prayer is an expression of our dependency upon God. What aspects of the Lord's prayer encourage you to depend more upon Him?

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT

- This week we are going to pray for your "One".
 - Who is the person in your life who needs Christ?
 - Who is the one person you are burdened for to come to a saving knowledge of Jesus?
 - Maybe this is a person that you are inviting to our Easter services?
- Share your "one" with your group and be praying for each other.
 - Pray for boldness to share our faith.
 - Pray for the Holy Spirit to convict them of their sin.
 - Pray that they would be receptive to the truth of the Gospel.