

Sermon Questions

James 1:13-18

This week we continued our series in the book of James and learned *How to Defeat Temptation*. While God is the One who authors and allows trials in our life for spiritual maturity, the enemy attempts to get us to veer off course by using temptation. This temptation is nothing more than trying to get us to fulfill a good desire in an ungodly way. Temptation is always a short cut that may seem okay at the time but leads to sin and ultimately death. When we give into temptation, we can never be living the fullness of what God requires of us and desires for us. The reality is that God is good, abundant, and lavish and will not withhold His best from us. The enemy, on the other hand, lies to us about God's character and attempts to have people believe that lie. When we ruminate on the lie then we get discouraged and frustrated, which often leads to taking the bait of temptation. Since temptation is pervasive, we must be aware of where it originates, its deadly effects, and how we can live victoriously. May this week's message be an encouragement to you.

Here are some notes to review from this week's sermon...

How to Defeat Temptation

James 1:13-18

The origin and reality of your temptation (13)

The process and danger in your temptation (14-15)

The cure and victory over your temptation (16-18)

Hearing the Word of God and responding to Him is extremely important. If you haven't had the chance to listen to the message from this week you can now watch it [HERE](#). After watching, please use the following questions, if you find them helpful, in your personal study or discuss them with your family and/or friends. If you are not in a CADRE now is a great time to get involved. Please email info@bravechurch.online and we help you take your next step.

Questions

1. Is temptation a sin? If temptation is not a sin, then where does it originate? Why does the devil tempt us? How would you define temptation? Where does the devil work in your life to solicit evil?
2. Are you aware of your sin patterns? When are you most likely to be tempted? In what ways are you likely to be tempted? What strategy have you placed in your life to keep you from succumbing to sin?

3. Why is God not the author of temptation? Why would God not want you to be tempted? Read 1 Corinthians 10:13. What promise does God make to you when you are being tempted? How should you respond to temptation?
4. How is temptation like the birthing process? What are the steps to temptation? When does temptation become a sin? Why is ruminating on the temptation such a bad idea? Why is replacing the temptation with the Word so important?
5. When we give into temptation can we blame God? Can we say “the devil made me do it”? Why not? How does the Bible describe us as willing participants in all our sin?
6. What is the difference between lust and a desire? Why is it important to know the difference? How can you grow in your understanding between a lust and a desire? How can the Word of God train you in this area?
7. How does the analogy of the fisherman relate to temptation? How does our enemy know just the right time, location, and bait to set a trap for us? How must we use wisdom in our lives during this battle?
8. What is a cure for our temptation? How does understanding God’s abundance help us when we are facing temptation? How does believing that God will never withhold a good thing from us help us when we are tempted to sin? What is an area of your life that you do not believe in God’s abundance and goodness? How is that false belief causing you to be tempted?
9. What does it mean that we are fighting from a place of victory not for a place of victory? How do we know that we have already won? How significant is our identity in Christ Jesus during our battles with temptation? How important is it for us to be authentic with God?
10. How did King David lose the battle with temptation? How did Jesus win the battle with temptation? What lessons can we learn from comparing and contrasting these two stories?
11. What was the greatest application for you today? What do you need to start doing, stop doing or start doing differently in your life as a result of God’s Word today?