



October 5, 2014

Part One: Temptation

Introduction

Jesus faced all of the same feelings, emotions, and temptations that we do, and yet He lived a perfect life. We find a number of snapshots from Jesus' life on earth, so that no matter where we are in our journey of seeking Him, we can become fully devoted followers of Jesus. So what can we learn from the ways He handled all the difficult situations He faced?

Discussion Questions

1. What are some of the most common temptations people face daily? Are some temptations harder to handle than others? Why or why not?
2. David Smith stated that a nagging question, "Could Jesus have sinned?" is an important question to consider. Why do we need to wrestle with this question?
3. There are three kinds of temptations Jesus faced in Matthew 4:1-11 and three questions presented.
 - Make bread---**Physical need:** Hunger
How will we satisfy our wants and drives?
 - Dare God to rescue you---**Emotional Need:** Security Will we try to force God's hand?
 - Worship me! (Satan)---**Psychological Need:** Significance, power, achievement Will we compromise to avoid pain or create success?

It is natural to have wants, drives, and at times, we should avoid pain and strive for success. When do these become sin?

4. When you hear the statement, "the devil isn't that smart; he is just relentless," how does that make you feel about the temptations you are confronted with?
5. We all face temptations. I Corinthians 10:13 reads, "But remember that the temptations that come into your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will keep the temptation from becoming so strong that you can't stand up against it. When you are tempted, He will show you a way out so that you will not give in to it." How does this make you feel? How do you battle against temptation?
6. We are to seek to live as Jesus did. "Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did." 1 John 2:6 What does this look like in our daily lives? Galatians 5:22-23 reads, "But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." How do you live in the Spirit and demonstrate the fruit of the Spirit daily in your life?

Closing

"And don't let us yield to temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." Matthew 6:13