

Lead Us Not into Temptation

Opening Prayer Heavenly Father, we look to You for every good thing. As we think about the various ways we have been tempted and the many temptations we face every single day, we simply ask that You would be our guide. Lead us in Your will and help us to walk in Your ways that we might glorify You in everything we think, say, and do. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Fill in the Blank/Questions—Responding to the Talk in the Big Room

- What were the three temptations of Jesus (summarized in three words)? _____, _____, and _____.
- This account in Matthew ____ helps us see how the devil often tempts us, too:
 - When and where we're most _____, (Bread to stones after Jesus fasted)
 - By _____ God's Word, and ("Did God really say?")
 - Offering to _____ us what isn't His (all the kingdoms of the world)
- Jesus calls the Devil the father of _____ (John 8:44).

This is Most Certainly True (Bible Time)

- Read James 4:7. What are some ways that you can resist the temptations of the devil?
- Turns out that God already gave us a number of things that help us to resist temptations. Turn to Ephesians 6:10-20 and someone read it for the group.
 - Imagine when you grow up you become a soldier who is sent off to war. Seriously, consider it.
 - What are some items that you think would be necessary?
 - What would you think if you were sent off without them?
 - Now let's think about the truth we get in Ephesians 6 and the reality that God doesn't send us into this world empty handed.
 - Talk about each piece of the armor of God and how it will help you when temptation attacks you and write the group's thoughts in the space below.

Truth (belt) -

Faith (shield) -

Righteousness (breastplate) -

Salvation (helmet) -

Peace (sandals) -

God's Word (the sword) -

- Which piece of the armor of God do you think is the most important when it comes to defending against temptation? Why?

Questions for Your Crew *(Be sure to write your thoughts!)*

- Have you ever gotten yourself out of doing something that you didn't want to do? Explain.
- So, when it comes to temptation its harder to get out of doing it, even though we know it's wrong. How might our experiences of getting out of other stuff can help us plan for how to get out of temptation?
- Why does it sometimes feel like there is no way out of temptation? What can help us to stop listening to that lie?
- We talked about 1 Corinthians 10:13 in the large group. How might it be helpful to know that our temptations are not unique to us?
- Has anyone ever felt or known someone who has ever felt like the temptations were just too much? Why do you think someone might feel that way?
- What are the greatest temptations that students your age face?
- What advice would you give to someone who is really struggling with temptation?
- One of the greatest things we can do when we're overtaken by temptation is to turn to the community that God has surrounded us with to help. When we tell the truth—when we're honest about what is tempting us—then we find freedom (John 8:31-32). Who in your life could you turn to with anything to allow the truth to set you free from temptation? (Everyone has to come up with someone!)

Seeing Your World Through the Lord's Prayer

Same routine as the past few weeks. Tonight, our goal is to write prayers for each of the things we pray about in light of this reality: we are seeking God's guidance so that we are not led into temptation.

In the space below:

- Look at each prompt below and think about something in your life in this area that you could pray about.
- Then write a prayer specifically focusing on the fact that God leads us out of temptation.

Remember, prayer is simply talking with God! That's it. So just write like you would talk to Him.

I would like to pray for this person in my life: _____

My prayer: _____

When I think about my life, I want: _____

My prayer: _____

I need guidance for: _____

My prayer: _____

Here's my challenge to you for this week: As you go about this week, remind yourself that God can and will lead you out of every temptation (and away from it!). See what words come to mind as you lift up various prayer requests with these thoughts on your mind this week.

Share Highs and Lows

Closing Prayer Heavenly Father, we know that You guide and protect us every step of the way. Please continue to watch over us and help us to see the ways in which you are trying to free us when we are faced with temptation. We pray for everyone here as we all struggle with temptation. Help us to see the people You have placed into our lives who can help us. Help us also to trust in You and Your Word so that we might know what true freedom is. Keep us safe and guide us until we meet again. In Jesus' name. Amen.