

TEACH US TO PRAY: Lead Us Not Into Temptation

As preached on Sunday, October 4th

Read: Luke 11:1-13

1. Let's begin at the beginning. Take a look at Genesis 3:1-13. Why do you think Eve gave in to temptation? What about Adam? Was it an issue of deception or desire?
2. Certainly Adam and Eve knew better than to eat the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden, but they gave in to their desire for pleasure and for wisdom anyway. In what ways do you think Christians today give in to temptation even though they know better? Why?
3. Read James 1:13-15. We're told that God does not tempt us, however we know that God tests his children (see Genesis 22 and Job 1:1-12). What's the difference? What is the goal, or end result, of temptation? What is the goal, or end result, of testing?
4. Read Psalm 119:9-11. The Bible teaches that hiding God's Word in our hearts guards us against sin. How does this work? Can you recall a time when the Word of God strengthened you to resist temptation? Explain.
5. We're told in 1 Corinthians 10:13 that God is faithful to provide a way out of temptation and that he will not allow us to be tempted beyond what we can bear. How does this make you feel? Do you believe this? How would truly believing this change the way a Christian responds to temptation, even very strong temptation?
6. Read 2 Timothy 2:22-26. In what ways do you think Christians today flirt with temptation when they ought to flee? What does fleeing temptation actually look like? (Give some examples).
7. Jesus serves as our high priest and mediator with God. We're told in Hebrews 4:15-16 that he is a high priest who is able to empathize with our weaknesses. How does this make you feel? Does this encourage you in your resistance against temptation?