

LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION

MARK SPURLOCK • AUGUST 1 & 2, 2020

"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Matthew 6:13

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

"Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil." Matthew 6:13 The Message

We need deliverance from evil...

When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each person is tempted when they are dragged away **by their own evil desire** and enticed. James 1:13-14

"My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you **protect them from the evil one**." John 17:15

So...

1. Stay _____

"Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." Matthew 26:41

"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. **But I have prayed for you**, Simon, that your faith may not fail." Luke 22:31-32a

2. Stay _____

•With _____

"And when you have turned back, **strengthen your brothers**." Luke 22:32b Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us **encourage one another**... Hebrews 10:25a

•With _____

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Psalm 119:11

3. Stay _____

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! 1 Corinthians 10:12

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8

QUESTIONS

- 1. Take time today to do an honest inventory of temptation in your life.
 Where are you struggling with temptation? Is this temptation something you've struggled with previously or something that has come up in this unique season of life?
 - 2. Read John 17:15 and James 1:13,14. How have you realized that you need deliverance from both evil desires within you and around you? We often prefer to focus on the evil around us (don't we love pointing our finger at someone or something else!), but today talk to Jesus and confess the ways you are "being dragged away" by your evil desires.
 - 3. Read Luke 22:31-32a and Hebrews 4:15. How can it help you next time you're tempted to know that Jesus is praying for and understands you? How can you turn temptation moments in prayer moments?
 - 4. Read the last half of Luke 22:32 and Psalm 119:11. God designed us for community with each other and relationship with Him. While being in physical community right now takes some creativity, it's still important. What are ways you can stay connected with others right now? How can you use community to help in times of temptation? There is certainly no limit to connecting to God in His word right now! If you don't have a regular habit of connecting with God through the Bible, please start now! Even 5 minutes of reading God's word each day will help you connect and grow. If you don't know where to start go to biblegateway.com and select a reading plan.
 - 5. Read 1 Peter 5:8. We all know the saying "pride cometh before the fall" it's biblical! How do you struggle with pride when it comes to temptation? How does pride weaken you and potentially set you up for a fall? Talk to God about how you're struggling with pride. Ask Him to keep you humble and trusting Him!