

“Lead us not into temptation...” (Matthew 6:13)

Pastor Jen

Temptation is something we will all face. While God does not lead us directly to sin, He may allow us to be in situations that test and tempt us. He doesn't save us from facing temptations, but He is able to help us withstand them and stand up under them (Hebrews 2:18, 1 Corinthians 10:13). Keep alert and flee from temptation. Be wary not to purposely walk into situations where you will be tempted, and cling to the Word – Jesus resisted Satan by knowing and trusting in the truth of Scripture.

However, Satan doesn't want us to just do wrong things over and over again; He wants us to lose sight of the gospel. While we can make changes to keep ourselves from temptation, ultimately, sheer effort won't change the state of our sinful hearts. We need to direct our heart and eyes towards the gospel each and every day and remember that true and lasting joy is found in Jesus. When we pray the Lord's prayer, we recognize that we cannot resist temptation on our own. Our battle against temptation is not one of sheer willpower, but is instead grounded in our love for Jesus and trusting in His work on the cross to save us and give us victory over sin. As a church, let's seek Him daily and walk in the joy that comes from knowing and trusting in Him.

Reflection

- What are the temptations of your heart that you find yourself falling into over and over again?
- What are certain passages of Scripture that you can memorize to help you remember and walk with the Lord when you are faced with temptation?

Renew

- Spend some time asking God for the strength to resist temptation when it comes and to keep your focus on what Christ has done. Then, spend some time praying for our church to flee from temptation and to walk in newness of life with Jesus.

Prayer Requests

- Pray the church can become holy and blameless so that we can shine like stars in the world.
- Pray for Church leaders, Elder Paul Huang and Elder Jiyong Wang.
- Prayer for God's righteousness and love shine more on this world.