



CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/SERMONS

God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

James 1:12 (NLT)

James 1:14 (NLT)

THE TRUTH ABOUT TEMPTATION AND HOW I CAN OVERCOME IT

| 1. | FACE IT: |
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| | But remember that the <u>temptations that come into your life are no different from what others experience</u> . And God is |
| | faithful. He will keep the temptation from becoming so strong that you can't stand up against it. When you are |
| | <u>tempted</u> , he will show you a way out so that you will not give in to it. 1 Corinthians 10:13 (NLT) |
| | 1 comminant 10.15 (N21) |
| 2 | UNDERSTAND IT: |
| ۷. | Christ was tempted in every way we are tempted, but He did not sin. |
| | Hebrews 4:15 (NLV) |
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| 3. | ACCEPT IT: |
| | When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt |
| | anyone. |
| | James 1:13 (NIV) |
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| 4. | PREPARE FOR IT: |
| | Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us awaySo don't be misled, my dear |
| | brothers and sisters. |
| | James 1:14+16 (NLT) |
| | It's my duty to make sure that Satan does not win even a small victory over us, for we don't want to be naïve and |
| | then fall prey to his schemes. |
| | 2 Corinthians 2:11 (VOICE) |
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| | HOW DOES TEMPTATION WORK? |
| | STEP ONE: IT STARTS WITH OUR OWN |
| | Temptation comes from <u>our own desires</u> |

| | STEP TWO: THEN WE ARE |
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| | Each person is tempted by his own desire, being lured and trapped by it. |
| | James 1:14 (ISV) |
| | STEP THREE: ONCE TRAPPED, WE |
| | Your desire grows inside you until it results in sin. |
| | James 1:15a (ERV) |
| | STEP FOUR: THE ULTIMATE RESULT IS |
| | Then the sin grows bigger and bigger and finally ends in death. |
| | James 1:15b (ERV) |
| 5. | CHANGE IT: |
| | Focus your thoughts on what is true, noble, righteous, pure, lovable or admirable, on some virtue or on something praiseworthy. |
| | Philippians 4:8 (CJB) |
| | Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." |
| | 1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV) |
| 6. | RENEW IT: |
| | 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. |

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NLT)

Answer key

1. FACE IT: YOU WILL BE TEMPTED

2. UNDERSTAND IT: TEMPTATION IS NOT A SIN

3. ACCEPT IT: TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

4. PREPARE FOR IT: BE READY

STEP ONE: IT STARTS WITH OUR OWN DESIRES

STEP TWO: THEN WE ARE <u>DECEIVED</u>

STEP THREE: ONCE TRAPPED, WE GIVE IN

STEP FOUR: THE ULTIMATE RESULT IS <u>DEATH</u>

5. CHANGE IT: REFOCUS MY THOUGHTS

6. RENEW IT: GIVE IT TO GOD

These notes and today's message are the product of numerous sources – biblical study, theological books, biblical commentaries, devotional materials, sermons, and illustrative material gathered or emailed to me. References are not always verbally stated. If you would like a particular reference, I'm happy to supply it. One of the sources is *God's Exit Plan* by Tom Holliday.