

THE ORIGINAL JOE

PART 3: THE WAY OUT OF TEMPTATION

Sermon Notes

Text: Genesis 39:1-23, 1 Corinthians 10:13

Introduction

Joseph's temptation wasn't just temptation to go to be with Potiphar's wife; it was to give up on his ultimate destiny.

1 Corinthians 10:13

Everyone is tempted; even Jesus. Temptation is not a sin.

1. What is Temptation?

Temptation is a strong urge or desire to do something sinful.

"Anything that promises satisfaction at the cost of obedience to God"
~Craig Groeschel

Temptation presents to us an "opportunity cost."

James 1:13-15

"In our members there is a slumbering inclination towards desire which is both sudden and fierce. With irresistible power desire seizes mastery over the flesh. All at once a secret, smouldering fire is kindled. The flesh burns in its flames..." ~Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Temptation consists of two forces that pull together like a powerful magnet: Inner desire and outer bait.

2. What Does Temptation Do?

a) *It convinces us that we're alone:* 1 Corinthians 10:13

b) *It is persistent:* v. 10 – "she spoke to Joseph day after day..."

Temptation will remain as long as our circumstances remain the same.

c) *It makes us forget God*

Satan isn't trying to make us hate God; just forget God.

"The joy of God gets extinguished as we seek joy elsewhere" ~Dietrich Bonhoeffer

3. What Should I Do About Temptation?

i. *Submit to God*

James 4:7, 2 Corinthians 3:18

God is the one who is faithful and will "provide a way out."

"The only way to dispossess [the heart] of an old affection, is by the expulsive power of a new one" ~Thomas Chalmers

ii. *Run!* v. 12 "...he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house."

"If any woman is going to get her feelings hurt, it's not going to be my wife." ~David Robinson

1 Corinthians 6:18, 2 Timothy 2:22

Conclusion:

Romans 13:14

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. How would you define temptation? Describe how it “feels” when you’re tempted.
2. What tactics do you use to fight temptation?

Study & Discussion:

1. Read Hebrews 4:14-16. In the Old Testament, the High Priest was the one person who was qualified to represent humanity to God. Jesus is the *great* high priest; our ultimate representative. If Jesus had never been tempted how would that change how he relates to us? How would it change the way he represents us to God?
2. Read James 1:13-15. What stands out to you about this passage? What is the origin of our temptation? Consider the image of being “dragged away and enticed.” It’s a powerful and disturbing image. Is it accurate to how you feel while being tempted? v. 15 talks about the way that sin is birthed and grows within us. What does that mean to you?

Application:

1. Joseph put boundaries in his life to help him avoid and fight temptation as much as possible (i.e. he refused to be in a room with Potiphar’s wife). What boundaries do you have in your life? Do you need to strengthen those? How can your Life Group help?

Prayer:

1. Pray for the strength to resist temptation and pursue righteousness.
2. Other requests
 -
 -
 -