

Walk With Scripture - Scripture Lesson

Title: *Overcoming Temptation Standing Firm in Faith*

Focus Scripture:

- **1 Corinthians 10:13**
 - **ESV:** "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."
 - **NIV:** "No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it."
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Lesson Outline:

Opening Prayer (5 minutes):

"Lord, we come before You acknowledging our weakness and our need for Your strength in times of temptation. We thank You for Your faithfulness and for providing a way out when we are tempted. As we study Your Word today, teach us how to resist temptation and stand firm in faith. May Your Spirit guide us and empower us. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Introduction to Topic (5-10 minutes):

Topic: *Overcoming Temptation: Strength in Christ*

Introduction: Temptation is something every man faces, whether it's in the form of lust, pride, greed, or other sinful desires. The Bible teaches us that temptation itself is not sin; however, how we respond to it matters. God gives us the strength to resist temptation and provides a way out so that we can overcome. This lesson focuses on recognizing temptation, relying on God's power to stand firm, and using the escape He provides.

Bible Verses for Discussion (20 minutes):

1. James 1:12

- **ESV:** "Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him."
- **NIV:** "Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him."

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2. Matthew 26:41

- **ESV:** "Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."
- **NIV:** "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

3. Hebrews 4:15-16

- **ESV:** "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."
- **NIV:** "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

4. Ephesians 6:11

- **ESV:** "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."
- **NIV:** "Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes."

Discussion Questions (15-20 minutes):

1. What are some common temptations that men face today, and how can we guard ourselves against them?
2. Have you experienced a time when God provided a way out of temptation? How did that strengthen your faith?
3. How can spiritual disciplines like prayer and Scripture reading help us to be prepared for moments of temptation?

Life Application (10 minutes):

Temptation is inevitable, but with God's help, we can overcome it. This week, make a plan to recognize potential temptations in your life. Prepare yourself spiritually by spending time in prayer and in the Word. When you feel tempted, pause, pray, and ask God for the strength to resist. Surround yourself with accountability—reach out to a brother in Christ for encouragement and support in moments of weakness. Remember that God always provides a way out.

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Reflection and Encouragement (5-10 minutes):

Temptation can often feel overwhelming, but God promises us that we are never alone in the fight. Jesus Himself faced temptation and overcame it, setting an example for us. Take courage in knowing that the same power that raised Christ from the dead is available to you as you face your own struggles. No matter how strong the temptation, God is faithful to provide a way out. Continue to stand firm, knowing that you are equipped through the power of Christ.

Closing Verse:

- **1 Peter 5:8-9**
 - **ESV:** "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world."
 - **NIV:** "Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings."
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Closing Prayer (5 minutes):

"Father, thank You for the strength and wisdom You provide when we face temptation. We ask for Your protection over our minds and hearts as we go into the world this week. Help us to remember that You are faithful and that You always provide a way out when we are tempted. Guide us in our decisions and empower us to stand firm in faith. In Jesus' mighty name, Amen."

Takeaway Challenge:

This week, when faced with temptation, immediately turn to prayer and Scripture. Find one verse that speaks to your struggle and commit it to memory. Share this with another man from the group and check in with each other for encouragement and accountability.

Online Bible Resources:

- Logos (www.Logos.com)
- Bible by Olive Tree (www.OliveTree.com)
- BibleGateway (www.BibleGateway.com)