

TOUCHING THE INVISIBLE

Part 7 – Staying Right
Matthew 6:13

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1. THERE ARE SOME THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT TEMPTATIONS.

- A. Every temptation is a test of our character.
- B. God never tempts us to do evil.

James 1:13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

- C. Temptations are not sins.

Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a high priest (Jesus) who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who (Jesus) has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin.

2. LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION.

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. (NKJV)

1 Corinthians 10:12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall. (NASB)

1 Corinthians 10:12 (paraphrase) Don't be so naive and self-confident. You're not exempt. You could fall flat on your face as easily as anyone else. (MSG)

3. HOW DOES GOD DELIVER US FROM EVIL?

A. Recognize Satan's **strategy** to defeat me.

1. *James 1:14 But each one is tempted when he is carried away and **enticed** by his own lust.*
2. Sin begins with an **enticing** thought that we reserve in our heart.

Every sin begins with a wrong thought that has been **retained**.

3. **The wrong thought becomes a lustful desire.**
 - a. *James 1:14 But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own **lust**.*
 - b. The word lust means any **good thing** that oversteps the limits God approves.
4. The **act** of sin that you never thought you would do is committed.

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?

B. Open my eyes to the **consequences** of that sin.

1. *Hebrews 11:25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season.*
2. *Galatians 6:7-8 Don't be misled. Remember that you can't ignore God and get away with it. You will always reap what you sow! ⁸ Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful desires will harvest the consequences of decay and death. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.*
3. *Numbers 32:23 ...you may be sure that your sin will find you out.*
4. **No matter how great the pleasure of a sin is, the consequences to that sin are always greater. To**

overcome a sin you must get a **balanced** view of the temptation by minimizing the pleasure and maximizing the consequences within your mind.

C. Ask God for **help**

Psalm 50:15 Call to me when trouble comes. I will save you and you will praise me.

D. **Resist** the tempter.

1. *James 4:7 Give in to God then resist the devil and he will run away from you.*

2. Give in to **God**.

3. Resist the **devil**.

E. Look for the open **door** of escape and run through it.

*1 Corinthians 10:13 But remember that the temptations that come into your life are no different from what others experience. 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.*

4. FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM AND THE POWER AND THE GLORY FOREVER. AMEN!

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Notes:
