

Everyone deals with <u>temptations</u>.

13 The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. <u>And God is faithful.</u> He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand... 1 Corinthians 10:12-13 (NLT)

Definition of Temptation:

- Temptation is anything that promises satisfaction at the cost of obedience to God.
- Temptation is anything that lures us away from doing what we know to be **<u>right</u>**. So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin. James 4:17

Progression of sin:

• Dwelling on what our **heart** really desires.

14 Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. 15 These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death. James 1:14-15 (NLT)

- Preferred sins become a **pattern** of sin.
- We have to **justify** the pattern of sin we're living with.
- We have to excuse the spiritual problem.

God's law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more and more, God's wonderful grace became more abundant. Romans 5:20

• You have not, and cannot, out-sin the cross.

Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? Romans 6:1 (NLT)

• Many people consider grace to be a License to sin.

Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? Romans 6:2 (NLT)

• There is a big difference between Living in sin and stumbling into sin.

....Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? 3 Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? 4 For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, <u>now we also may live new lives</u>. Romans 6:2-4 (NLT)

Why we can't continue to live in sin:

• If we have **<u>died</u>** to sin, we shouldn't **<u>live</u>** in it any longer.

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Galatians 5:24 (NLT)

5 Since we have been <u>united with him</u> in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. 6 We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. 7 For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. Romans 5:5-7 (NLT)

• Because we're united with Christ, and our **identity** is in Christ.

8 And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. 9 We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. 10 When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. 11 So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus. Romans 6:8-11 (NLT)

Our old life was put to death so we could live a <u>new life</u>.

I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. Philippians 3:10 11 So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.12 Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. 13 Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. 14 Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace. Romans 6:11-14 (NLT)

We were forgiven and freed to live <u>for God</u>, not <u>ourselves</u>.

The grace that does not change me, will not save me. Charles Spurgeon



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE In a growing relationship with Jesus.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups: These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- How often are you tempted? What is your greatest temptation (Share only if you feel comfortable)
- Talk about the progression of sin.
- Do you find it to be "good news" that you can never out-sin the cross? Why? Is there any sin in your life that you have felt eliminated you from God's grace?
- Have you ever used God's grace as a license to sin? Explain.
- What is the difference between living in sin and stumbling into sin?
- What does it mean to die to our " old sinful selves"? How do we do this?
- What does it mean that our identity is in Christ? Why should our identity in Christ keep us from a lifestyle of sin?
- How important is it that we put to death our sinful man? How do we do that? (Dave said Sunday) Everything on the cross dies. Read Galatians 5:24 and apply that statement...What does it mean?
- God has freed us from sin to live for Him. How do we stop living for ourselves?



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Today's Talk..



Why We Can't Continue to Live in Sin.

Sunday, June 30th, 2024