

Activity Name: Temptation

Objective: Temptation happens, but with God, you can remain faithful.

Scriptural Foundation: 1 Corinthians 10:12-13

Lesson:

Life is filled with choices, and the choices that you make can change your life and the lives of those around you.

Just think about someone you've seen on the news who seemed to have it all in life and then some type of scandal comes out. An amazing person who seemed to have it all makes a choice that affects the rest of their life.

Can you think of a famous person who made a choice that seemed to surprise everyone and yet affected their life in a really negative way?

If there is a story in the news of a famous person who has been tempted, share with the group or ask for examples of famous people who have been tempted.

We might look at these examples and think "Why did they do that?", but honestly we all have done things that we regret, and sometimes it is really easy to look at someone else's mistakes and think "Oh, that'll never happen to me" or "I would never do that".

But ask yourself, do you really think that these people said "Hey, I really want to do something illegal, or hurt my family, or lie and get caught"?

Ask yourself if you've ever thought any of these common thoughts that often lead us right into temptation: That would never happen to me. Just one lie won't matter that much. No one else will know. Everyone else is doing it.

Everyone is very, very close to the line of temptation.

Read 1 Corinthians 10:12-13

Ask the students what they think the scripture is saying.

Nobody said that being a teenager would be easy, and you probably don't want to hear this, but, the struggles get even more difficult as you get older. Can you think of other temptations that you've seen others face?

Write these examples on the board. Add other temptations if not mentioned such as: partying, trying to fit in, bullying others, physical romantic relationships, sex, drugs, etc. as you think appropriate for your group.

Here's what we have to remember: God wants to help you fight temptation and will provide a way out.

Now, some people read the scripture that God will never let them be tempted beyond what they can bear and think it is a 'Free Pass'. That doesn't mean that they can walk right up 'to the line' and God won't let them pass. That's not what this scripture is saying. God gives us reminders of how we should live. God knows when we are trying to push those lines or those rules. You can't fool God.

Share a time in which you were tempted to do something you know that you shouldn't and how you could look back and see the ways that God offered you an 'out' that you didn't take.

God will offer you a way out, but often it starts at the very beginning. We've all known people who do one small thing that then leads to another small thing, and another until the problem gets to be really big. Nobody sets out to get into trouble or to be addicted to alcohol, drugs, or pornography. It begins when you click on that one picture on the internet or take that one drink.

Because you will be faced with those same decisions and God is offering you a way out before disaster hits. God doesn't promise that the way out will be easy or popular. Usually that way out means that you are the lone person making that decision or not going to that party or not hanging with those friends.

Wrap-up:

Maybe tonight's lesson is God offering you the way out of your situation. Confess to him that you are being tempted or that you've made those decisions, and stop right now. If you need help, ask Him for help. If you feel weak, cry out to Him. God wants to give you the strength.

Ask the students to pray for one another about some temptation they may have faced and how they overcame it. Encourage them to discuss with you how they can get over a temptation if they see no way out.