



"Temptation, Sin, Forgiveness and Faith!"

Luke 17:1-10

It is one thing to deal with your own sin and continue to live a lifestyle of those sins...*it is quite another to cause someone else to fall into sin!* (You'll give an account for both!)

- Jesus teaches about tempting and causing others to sin and He means business!
- He gives an example of the penalty that is staggering and absolute Judgment!

1. Temptations to Sin...we have our own struggles!

- **Luke 17:1**
- I can promise you this...you will be tempted to sin in this life! Every day is its own battle!
- **Psalm 19:12-14** shows us the "downward spiral" of sin, and how *its progresses gets MUCH WORSE* if we do not deal with it immediately at the beginning!
- Thank God for **John 1:9** and **Psalm 103:12**
- **Sin** = missing the mark of God's Holy Standard...the things that He has set in place!
- Sin is our FLESH and SATAN at different times setting up stumbling blocks for us!
- **James 1:12-18** is very clear!
- Let's look at an example of King David! **Samuel 11:1-5 / 6-17**
 1. David should have been fighting...not watching women bathe! David had a pornography problem!
 2. David actually raped Bathsheba! **Verse 4** "Took her" after David found out that she was married! *How fast the evil desire of our hearts can produce the wrong actions!*
 3. David has Uriah murdered! You will keep covering up sin after sin!
- Temptation will lead you into sin that you never thought you would do!
- It does not take much with just one thought from your heart to flesh out the sin!
- **David COULD HAVE walked away from that thought after watching Bathsheba!** He chose not to do what was right! *The power of the evil in the heart and flesh is bad!*

2. Causing someone else to sin!

- **Luke 17:1-2**
- **Millstone** = a huge stone that was tied by a rope to a donkey and set on another flat stone. The donkey would walk in circles and the two stones would smash grain.
- *It would be better for you to have a millstone tied around your neck and drown to death!*
- **Little ones** = Believers who are under God's care...the Body of Christ!
- **Woe** = If you lead another believer or person into any type of temptation or sin...you are in the utmost danger of God's wrath and judgement! **What a WARNING!**

- Verse 3 – “Pay attention to yourselves!” This is your **FIRST** responsibility!
- Verse 4 – “If your brother sins, rebuke him, and IF he repents, forgive him...”
- It is right to hold to account the person who sins (Rebuke)!
- Remember that **FORGIVENESS ONLY COMES AFTER REPENTANCE!** Now other way!
- Verse 3 – “and IF he sins against you **seven times in the day**, and turns to you **seven times saying “I repent,”** you **must** forgive him.” (Difference in being used **vs.** repentance)

1. It is the Christian’s responsibility to deal straight forwardly with a brother or sister in sin! Matthew 18 gives very detailed explanation on this! (Go to the person by yourself. Then take two or three friends. If that does not work, then you go before the church leaders.)

2. The “seven times in a day” = no matter how many times a person sins yet **repents**.

- The number 7 **was not to set a limit** on the number of times to forgive.
- People have issues and they have to get through those! The thing here is **IF they REPENT!** *Did you know that manipulation is actually abuse? Some people are masters at it and the abuse is horrific!
- There is a huge difference between having a repentant heart **vs.** not!
- Psalm 119:164 – forgiving someone is not easy at all, but I think this Psalm says it best! I will **praise You 7 times a day Lord** because you have forgiven me!!! Then, somehow I can to begin to forgive others! It’s quite the different perspective!
- Ephesians 4:32 and Colossians 3:13

Closing: Lord, increase our faith!

- Luke 17:5 - Give us more faith!
- Have you ever felt inadequate to be who Jesus calls you to be or do what Jesus calls you to do?
- At salvation, the Holy Spirit comes into your life! You have the help to face and get through anything that you face! Is it easy? No, but God is with you!
- **Even the smallest faith has God’s attention!** *A mustard seed is small!* There are times when you are facing something, and you get so run down and **FEEL** like your faith is almost nothing! **Keep the faith and ASK GOD to increase your faith!**
- Luke 17:7-10
- **The point of this parable** was that a servant should expect **no special reward** for doing what the duty was in the first place. Jesus sets very high and demanding standards!
- Your life, your money, your time, your kids, your family, your marriage, your business, your work! **EVERYTHING!**
- I’m sure that the disciples **felt overwhelmed** with what Jesus had asked of them! **Their response?** **“Increase our faith!” Increase our faith to accomplish your mission Lord!**
- Sometimes the situations that we face will be as big as a Mountain! But, with faith in Christ, **you will conquer the valleys, switch-backs, ravines, cliffs and get to the other side!**
- **How? Romans 10:17 / James 1:22!** This is how you get and maintain God given faith!
- **Our obedience will be rewarded one day – Matthew 25:21!** But, we do not serve the Lord for the pat on the back! We serve Him because He is so faithful and good to us!