

Text: 1 Corinthians 10:1-22
Topic: Temptation
Study: First Corinthians
Week: 40
Series: 3 of 4

Focal Point Radio Ministries
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Pastor Mike

part 3

Nice Guys Finish First

When Your Passions Meet Your Prerogatives



1. Know _____ (vv.1-12)

2. Don't _____ (v.13)

3. Steer _____ (vv.14-22)

1 Corinthians 10:1-22 (NIV)

¹ For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers, that our forefathers were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. ² They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. ³ They all ate the same spiritual food ⁴ and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered over the desert. ⁶ Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. ⁷ Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry." ⁸ We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. ⁹ We should not test the Lord, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. ¹⁰ And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel. ¹¹ These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. ¹² So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! ¹³ No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. 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 stand up under it. ¹⁴ Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry. ¹⁵ I speak to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. ¹⁶ Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷ Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. ¹⁸ Consider the people of Israel: Do not those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar? ¹⁹ Do I mean then that a sacrifice offered to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything? ²⁰ No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. ²¹ You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons. ²² Are we trying to arouse the Lord's jealousy? Are we stronger than he?

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's message. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others. This can take place with friends, your family, accountability partners, or ministry groups within the church

1. Describe a situation in which your overconfident attitude turned out to be a precursor to failure.

What relationship do you see between 1) past sin, 2) present humility and 3) future victories over temptation?

2. What are some of your weaknesses? In other words, in what ways would the enemies of holiness (a; la Lewis' *Screwtape* [see the resource list below]) most effectively target you with temptation?

In light of your vulnerabilities, what associations (though biblically allowable) should be off-limits for you?

3. How would you counsel someone who is prone to "give up" in his quest for holiness because he claims that he "always fails"?
4. Write out a hopeful, positive and humble prayer that reflects your resolve to be holy and curtail the exercise of your "freedoms" when necessary.

We are reading through the Bible in a year! Here is this week's schedule.

Sunday

Is. 33-34 & 1Cor. 16

Monday

Is. 35-36 & 2Cor. 1

Tuesday

Is. 37-38 & 2Cor. 2

Wednesday

Is. 39-40 & 2Cor. 3

Thursday

Is. 41-42 & 2Cor. 4

Friday

Is. 43-44 & 2Cor. 5

Saturday

Is. 45-46 & 2Cor. 6

Here are some resources which may help you understand and implement the truths presented in this week's sermon.

Alcorn, Randy C. **Christians in the Wake of the Sexual Revolution: Recovering Our Sanity**. Multnomah Press, 1985.

Bridges, Jerry. **The Discipline of Grace: God's Role and Our Role in the Pursuit of Holiness**. NavPress, 1994.

_____. **The Pursuit of Holiness**. NavPress, 1996.

Carty, Jay. **Counter Attack: Taking Back Ground Lost to Sin**. Third Edition. Yes Ministries, 1988.

Hughes, Barbara. **The Disciplines of a Godly Woman**. Crossway, 2001.

Hughes, R. Kent. **The Disciplines of a Godly Man**. Reprint. Crossway Books, 2001.

Lewis, C. S. **The Screwtape Letters**. Reprint. Harper San Francisco, 2001.

Lloyd-Jones, D. Martyn. **Romans—The Law: Its Functions & Limits: An Exposition of 7:1 – 8:4**. Zondervan, 1973.

Murray, Andrew. **Humility: The Journey Toward Holiness**. Bethany House, 2001.

Needham, David. **Alive for the First Time: A Fresh Look at the New Birth Miracle**. Multnomah Press, 1995.

Packer, J. I. **A Quest for Godliness**. Crossway Books, 1994.

_____. **Rediscovering Holiness**. Servant Publications, 1999.

Peterson, David. **Possessed by God: A New Testament Theology of Sanctification and Holiness**. InterVarsity, 2001.

Ryle, J. C. **Holiness: It's Nature, Hindrances, Difficulties and Roots**. Reprint. Charles Nolan Publishers, 2001.

Saucy, Robert L. "'Sinners' who are Forgiven or 'Saints' who Sin?" **Bibliotheca Sacra** vol.152, no.608 (October 1995).

Spurgeon, Charles. **A Passion for Holiness in a Believer's Life**. YWAM Publishing, 1996.