

CAC LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

James: Faith in Real Life – September 28, 2025

Big Idea: Victory over temptation is possible when we submit to God and follow His plan.

Ice Breaker

What's a time you were really glad you had a plan ahead of time – big or small?

Key Points

Take a few minutes to review the key points from this week's sermon:

- Temptation is part of life for every believer—it's not a matter of if but when.
- God may test us through trials but never tempts us.
- Temptation itself is not sin, but giving in to it leads to sin.
- We are most vulnerable when we are unprepared for temptation.
- James gives us a blueprint for victory:
 - Submit to God (place ourselves under His authority and lordship).
 - Resist the devil (stand firm, flee, and fight with truth).
 - Draw near to God (through spiritual disciplines and repentance).
 - Repent when we fail (turn from sin with grief and humility).
 - Humble ourselves before the Lord (depend fully on Him).

Discussion Questions

Based on the sermon, discuss the questions below:

- What was your biggest takeaway from this message?
- Did anything in the message challenge you, confuse you, or encourage you?
- How does it help you to remember that temptation is not sin—only giving in is?

Making it Personal

Review with your group the impact this week's sermon made on you personally:

- When was the last time you faced temptation that caught you by surprise? What happened?
- When are you weakest when it comes to temptation? When you are in a mountain or valley?
- How do you typically react when you fail to resist temptation—shame, denial, avoidance, repentance?
- What spiritual disciplines (prayer, Scripture, worship, fasting, etc.) help you stay strong before temptation comes?
- What would humbling yourself before God look like in your current season of life? How does humility change the way you fight temptation?

Scripture Review

Revisit these passages and discuss the questions below:

- James 1:13–15 – When is a person tempted? What does desire give birth to?
- James 4:7–10 – What reaction should we have about our sin? When was the last time you felt this way? What happened afterward?

Diving Deeper

Explore other Scriptures that connect to this week's message:

- **Old Testament:** Genesis 3:1–6; Psalm 34:17–19, Psalm 119:9–11; Proverbs 4:23–27, Job 22:21, Isaiah 41:10, Deuteronomy 31:6, Genesis 39:9

- **New Testament:** 1 Corinthians 10:12–13; Galatians 5:16–17; Ephesians 6:10–11; Colossians 2:15; Hebrews 4:15–16, 2 Corinthians 10:5, Galatians 2:20

Application & Action

Temptation often targets the deepest longings God has placed in our hearts—our desire for love, significance, security, belonging, or purpose. God designed these longings and wants to fulfill them for us, yet Satan tempts us to seek satisfaction outside of Him. As we talk about temptation this week, let's reflect on how we can turn to God to meet the desires He created us to have.

Revisit the Word

- Read James 4:7–10 aloud again. Before you read, pause and ask: “Jesus, how do You want me to rely on You to satisfy the longings in my heart this week instead of giving in to temptation?”

Personal Reflection

- Take 2–3 minutes in silence: “What is one temptation that tries to draw me toward something other than God's fulfillment of my deepest desires, and how can I prepare to turn to Him instead?”

Group Discussion

- **Listening to Jesus:** What deep desire or longing in your heart—love, significance, security, belonging, or purpose—often fuels temptation? Where is Jesus inviting you to rely on His strength instead of trying to satisfy or resist it on your own?
- **Walking with Him:** What practical step can you take this week to resist the devil—fleeing, memorizing Scripture, or avoiding a situation—and at the same time turn to God to meet the longing behind that temptation?
- **Anchoring in His Word:** Which verse will you hold onto when temptation comes, reminding you that God alone can satisfy your deepest desires (James 4:7; 1 Cor. 10:13; Matt. 4:10)?
- **Leaning on His People:** Who can you invite to pray with you or hold you accountable in a specific area of temptation, helping you keep your focus on God's provision rather than seeking a shortcut through sin?
- **Growing in His Likeness:** How can this week's battle with temptation help you grow in humility and dependence on God, trusting Him to satisfy what Satan tempts you to fulfill elsewhere?
- **Action Step:** Finish this sentence: “*When temptation comes this week, I will turn to God for the desire in my heart and...*”

Prayer

Close your group time by praying over each person's action step. (Example: “Lord, help [name] submit to You and turn to You when temptation arises. Remind them that You are near, that You understand the desires of their heart, and that true satisfaction and victory are found in Your power.”)

Daily 2-Minute Practice: Submit, Resist, Draw Near

- **Submit** (30 seconds): Pray, “God, I place myself under Your loving authority today.”
- **Resist** (1 minute): Identify a temptation that appeals to a deep desire God has placed in your heart. Ask Him for strength to resist and for guidance to turn to Him instead.
- **Draw Near** (30 seconds): Read James 4:7–8 or another chosen verse. Carry it with you as your weapon and shield.