

the path of temptation

introduction

Have you ever been tempted? Have you ever felt guilty about giving into temptation? Today we face all kinds of temptation. Whether it is a sexual temptation, a temptation to cheat on a test or a temptation to use drugs, there are always consequences. Today's talk about temptation is from James 1:13-15.

message

One reason we give into temptation is because we want to be accepted. At times, this desperate need for acceptance causes us to do almost anything. Group settings are not the only places where it's easy to give into temptation. It's easy when we're all alone and think that no one will ever know. The truth is that God knows. Read James 1:13-15.

1. Today's passage explains that it is not God who tempts us.
2. Today's passage describes the path temptation takes in our lives.
 - Because of man's sinful nature, we are all tempted—everyone. This is important to understand. We can't blame other people or even our own circumstances. We are sinful. Romans 3:23 says we all fall short of the glory of God. We all fall short of God's standards. So being tempted is not the issue. It's how we deal with it that's important. We must first be honest and admit when we are tempted. This opens the door for God to help. When we admit our need, He will help. Anything less is a mistake and will most likely lead to sin.
 - For a short time, giving into temptation feels good, but the Bible says that sin leads to death (Romans 6:23). There is a penalty for sin. The Bible says that penalty is death. Death is a powerful word. In this passage, death means eternal separation from God. Do you want to spend eternity in heaven or hell? Don't trade the pleasure of the moment for the pleasure of an eternity with God.

salvation appeal

According to 1 John 1:9, if you have sinned, Jesus Christ is faithful and just to forgive you of that sin, if you only ask. Have you asked Jesus to be the Lord and Savior of your life? Don't think you can handle the temptations of this world by yourself. You need a savior. Accept Christ today.

challenge

Have you given into temptation lately? If you have, God stands ready to forgive you. He took the penalty upon himself when Jesus Christ died on the cross. Ask Him to forgive you today. Remember, the God of heaven knows your every thought and action. Live for the Lord. Be accountable to Him.

