

“The Lord’s Prayer: Lead Us Not into Temptation”

Luke 11:1-4

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I. Introduction

- A. Jesus is teaching us how to pray (v. 1)
 - 1. Provision (v. 3)
 - 2. Pardon (v. 4)
 - 3. Protection (v. 4)
- B. We all need “bread.” We all need forgiveness and deliverance.
 - 1. Temptation is a universal human experience. Even Jesus was tempted.
 - 2. Jesus teaches us to pray (v. 4) “Lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.”
 - 3. This last petition is divided into two parts.
 - a) The first is negative- “Lead us not into temptation”
 - b) The second is positive- “But deliver us from evil”

II. What is Temptation?

- A. A solicitation to evil (Satan’s side)
 - 1. Illustration- (Genesis 2) Eve
 - a) Lust of the flesh, pleasant to the eyes, lust of eyes, pride of life
 - 2. It’s not from God
 - a) It’s from our lust (desire, disobedience, death)
 - b) James
- B. A test or trial
 - 1. Abraham and James (Genesis 22)
 - 2. “Count it all joy”
 - 3. Contrast the two “worst” and “worth” (God’s side and Satan’s side)
 - 4. God allows trials or tests for our good, but Satan wants to tempt us into sin
 - a) Illustration- Job and Joseph
 - 5. While God tests are always for our good and God’s glory, our trials always have in them possibilities for disaster
 - a) Temptation to sin accompanies every testing God permits in my life
 - 6. What am I praying?

III. As We Pray, There Are Some Things We Can Do

- A. Watch the places you go
 - 1. (1 Timothy 6)
 - 2. Illustration- Going into a bar
- B. Watch the people you hang out with
 - 1. Illustration- (Psalm 1)
 - 2. “Be ye not unequally yoked” (2 Corinthians 6:14)
- C. Watch your eyes
 - 1. Illustration- David on the roof
- D. Wear the whole armor of God

1. (Ephesians 6:10-18)
 2. (2 Timothy 6:11-12)
- E. Remember God's promise
1. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (1 Corinthians 10:13).
 - a) It is "common to man"
 - b) Not more than you can bear
 - c) Always a way out
 - 1) Illustration- Joseph ran

IV. Why is This Prayer so Important?

- A. "For the great and wonderful reason that our fellowship with our Father in Heaven would not be broken."
1. "Forgive us our sins" (v. 4)
 - a) Now, "lead us not into temptation"
 - b) To be a child of God is to have a changed attitude toward sin. It's saying thank you, God, for forgiveness of past sins, and please deliver me from sin in the future
 2. A true Christian is just as concerned with his further sins being avoided as his past sins being forgiven.
 - a) What is it that you fear most?
- B. Because we are weak
1. "Let him that thinketh he standeth..." (1 Corinthians 10:12)
 2. Illustration- Peter's fall
 3. Satan knows our weakness
 4. Defensive praying
- C. Because the devil is real and powerful
1. (Matthew 6:13)
 2. "Wiles of the devil" (Ephesians 6:11)
 3. Remember "greater is He that is in you..."
 4. Don't blame everything on the devil (James 1)

V. As We Pray This Prayer, We are Acknowledging God's Power to Deliver

- A. Some of you right now are sorely tried and tempted
1. I can pray with confidence, "Knowing that my Father both loves me and is able to deliver me"
 - a) This prayer confirms Satan's power and confirms our weakness, but it also confirms God's greater power to save, to keep, and to deliver

VI. Conclusion

- A. The key to overcoming temptation is to come to the end of self and acknowledge that victory can only come through God's grace and power
1. Illustration- My story as a young Christian

2. “Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen” (Jude 24:24-25).