

Week of October 2 - "Watch Out for the Tempter!" - Small Group Lesson Lesson 4

Connect

Heart disease is mainly due to an unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, smoking, or harmful use of alcohol. Why do people supposedly crave these behavioral risk factors?

Verses - James 1:13-18 (CSB)

13 No one undergoing a trial should say, "I am being tempted by God," since God is not tempted by evil, and he himself doesn't tempt anyone. 14 But each person is tempted when he is drawn away and enticed by his own evil desire. 15 Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and when sin is fully grown, it gives birth to death.

16 Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. 17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. 18 By his own choice, he gave us birth by the word of truth so that we would be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Study

1. What is the human tendency when one faces temptation? What is the person experiencing that leads them to do (think) so? (James 1:2)

2. How in God's sovereignty, do temptations work, if God is not tempting anyone? What do we know about God that should teach us for certain God is not tempting us? (John 3:16; Hebrews 4:15; John 14:27)

APPLY 1: What are we to do, if we are in a trial that leads specifically to temptation? (Matthew 6:13; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Luke 22:40)

DISCUSS 1: The Bible says that the devil is the tempter. What significance does this have in dealing with temptation? How would you outline a strategy to do so? (James 4:7; Matthew 4:10-11; Revelation 2:10; Ephesians 6:10-18)

3. What is the imagery that James uses to describe God? How does he contrast such imagery and what does it teach us?

APPLY 2: What is our surety and hope mentioned in v.18? Why is it important that God has done this? (Ephesians 1:4-5; Romans 8:28-33)

DISCUSS 2: All of us have experienced trials of temptation. How would you use that experience for helping others who are having a similar trial/temptation? Share with your group.

Share

Heart disease is now the leading cause of death in the world. However, what is the "heart disease" that has existed since humankind began? Why is it so life threatening? What's the cure?

Grow

Minister to one another through sharing praise and specific prayer requests.

- Pray for each other, to remember to go to God and His Word in temptations.
- Pray for an opportunity to share the gospel.
- Pray for the Lord to reveal how you can serve Him in ministry.