

G O D I S  
FAITHFUL

Owasso First Assembly of God

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## Learn to subdue temptation

**Genesis 4:7 (NLT2)** <sup>7</sup> *You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master.*

**1 Corinthians 10:12-14 (NLT2)** <sup>12</sup> *If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall.* <sup>13</sup> *The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, He will show you a way out so that you can endure.* <sup>14</sup> *So, my dear friends, flee from the worship of idols.*

1. The **faithfulness** of God is a **fundamental** principle of His nature. Anything less and He is not God.
2. God's faithfulness is seen in **every** book of the Bible.
3. God is faithful to assist His children when they are tempted.

### 1. Temptation is universal

1. The world system tempts us continually. 1 John 2:15-17
  - a. craving physical pleasure
  - b. craving everything we see
  - c. pride in our achievements and possessions
2. Paul states that temptations are common. 1 Cor 10:13
3. Paul states that you will be tempted. 10:13
4. Temptation often starts as a subtle and small issue.

**Self-justification is an indicator that you have lost the battle**

4. Most Bible characters were tempted.
5. It is not a sin to be tempted. JESUS WAS TEMPTED.

**Matthew 4:1 (NLT2)** *Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil.*

### 2. Temptation is initiated by the devil

1. Temptation can result in 2 opposite results- failure weakens faith success strengthens faith

**Temptation is a test that you pass or fail**

2. When you tempt someone to do wrong you are reflecting the heart of the devil.

**Luke 17:1 (NLT2)** *One day Jesus said to his disciples, "There will always be temptations to sin, but what sorrow awaits the person who does the tempting!"*

3. You start down the path of failure when your heart desires a destructive choice.

**James 1:12-15 (NLT2)** <sup>12</sup> *God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.* <sup>13</sup> *And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, "God is tempting me." God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else.* <sup>14</sup> *Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away.* <sup>15</sup> *These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.*

### 3. Temptation can be overcome with a commitment to a biblical strategy

1. Jesus demonstrated how to win against temptation.

a. He was filled with the Holy Spirit Mark 1:10

b. He was filled with the Word of God (3 times he quoted the Old Testament)

2. Paul gives us three key words to help us defeat temptation. Flight, Faith, and Fight

a. To overcome the flesh we need flight- Flee