

A Way Out Part 1: Always A Way Out

(1 Corinthians 10:12-13 NIV) So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

What is temptation?

Anything that promises satisfaction at the cost of obedience to God.

(1 John 2:16 NIV) For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.

✓ My appetites determine my direction.

(1 John 2:16a NCV) These are the ways of the world: wanting to please our sinful selves.

✓ My eyes are fixated on the wrong thing.

(1 John 2:16b NCV) These are the ways of the world... wanting the sinful things we see.

✓ My promotion is the point of everything.

(1 John 2:16c NCV) These are the ways of the world... being too proud of what we have.

(1 John 2:16d NCV) None of these come from the Father, but all of them come from the world.

Always A Way Out

1. It's not a sin to be tempted.

(Hebrews 4:15 NIV) For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

2. You are never above temptation.

(1 Corinthians 10:12 NLT) If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall.

3. God will never tempt you.

(James 1:13-15 NLT) 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. Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.

4. There is always a way out.

(1 Corinthians 10:13 NLT) 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.

Christ in me is stronger than the temptation around me.