

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

JULY 31, 2022



ICEBREAKER

If you could change one personality trait in yourself, what would you change? What would you keep?

READ

Galatians 5:16

QUESTIONS

- How has self-discipline or relying on willpower helped you resist temptation?
- Why can't we just rely on ourselves to be successful at resisting temptation? ([our human nature does not naturally drift toward good choices](#))
- In this verse, how do we resist gratifying the desires of the flesh? ([walk by the Spirit, have a consistent awareness of God's presence in our lives](#))

READ

Galatians 5:17-25

QUESTIONS

- In these verses, what is the conflict between the flesh and the Spirit?
- How does walking with the Spirit help us battle against temptation? ([Walking demands active determination to follow the direction of the Spirit, who leads us away from our sinful nature](#))

- In verse 19, what are the obvious features of human nature?
- Notice the differences between the list of desires of the flesh versus the list of Spirit. What does the first list focus on? (experiences, things we believe will make us happy) The second? (character traits, things we become)
- When are we most likely to fall into the desires of the flesh? (difficult times, stress, exhaustion, trying to fix an immediate circumstance instead of living in the bigger picture)
- What is a character trait you see the Holy Spirit growing in your life?

READ

Ephesians 6:10-18

QUESTIONS

- Patrick says, "Understand that you are vulnerable and will never graduate from temptation as there is always a battle going on - but we have tools to help us". What are those tools? (be a seeker of truth, carry the good news of the gospel, protect the heart with righteousness, dependence on God, engage in God's word, prayer)
- How can you apply these tools to your life this week?
- How has this message or series on temptation connected with your current experiences or with what God has been teaching you?

PRAYER: God you are merciful and your love is patient. You have given us all we need to be victorious in this battle against temptation. Help us put on the full armor so we can be strong in You. In Jesus' Name – Amen.

LEADERS: This is our last sermon discussion guide. We will kick off fall groups on September 18th. For the Richmond Campus, our Summer Small Group Leader Event is Thursday, August 4th at 7pm at Morelia Paletas. Kids are welcome. RSVP to melissa@rpc.me.