



November 3, 2019

“And lead us not into temptation,”
Matthew 6:13a

I. Positive Thinking – The link between petitions

A. Connecting the dots...

1. Petition #3 – “Our daily bread” – The Father’s radical provision
“and”
2. Petition #4 – “Forgive as we forgive” – The Father’s radical love
“and”
3. Petition #5 – “Lead us not into temptation” - The Father’s radical strength

B. Our future sins are dependent upon our profession of the previous two petitions!

1. Our contentment with what God provides
2. Our clean heart with God and others
3. Provides our strength to keep from sinning again!

C. Self-talk – I do not have to sin! I do not have to give in to temptation!

II. Petition #5 – Do not let us be carried into sin through temptation

A. “Lead us not” = eisphero = not to be carried or drawn into something

B. “Into temptation” = peirasmos = a mental state of being enticed to yield our standards

C. The “dual nature” of temptation (Matt. 26:41)

1. The spiritual/inward temptations
2. The fleshly/outward temptations
3. Health in both of these areas is vital for overall protection

D. Temptation is NOT sin (Matt. 4)

1. Even Christ was tempted but did not sin
2. Attacked specifically by Satan himself at a physically weak time for Christ
3. Defeated temptation with “It is written” three times!
4. This was an physical/emotional experience for Jesus

E. The process of temptation (James 1:13 – 15)

1. “Dragged away by evil desires” – Emotional need/desire sensed
2. “Enticed” – Mind is engaged – more than a glance
3. “Desire conceived and gives birth to sin” – Will engaged sin is practiced

III. Practical Applications

A. Take responsibility to void people, places, and experiences that lure us into sin

1. Knowing and admitting our weaknesses
2. Setting boundaries to protect our weak spots
3. Put on the armor of God by praying for God to lead us through temptation

B. Use the Lord’s Prayer in times of temptation to stand strong

C. Chose The Fathers’ exit ramps – (I Cor. 10:13)

D. Practice self-talk – I do not have to sin! I do not have to give in to temptation!