

TEMPTATION

Temptation is a force that every human endures. Christians must stand firm in the eyes of temptation. Christians must stand firm from the desire that would lead towards sin. Our thoughts are enticed to indulge in sin. Christians stand together in supporting each other from sinful acts.

Mentor

Please share with your mentee your experiences with temptation. Share a specific example in your life; what was the temptation? How did you deal with it? What steps did you take in dealing with it? These three areas are suggested “discussion starters”, biblical foundation, cultural, and activities to help the mentee in practical terms.

Biblical Foundation

- Proverbs 1:10, ‘my son, if sinful men entice you, do not give into them.’ (TNIV)
- Matthew 6:13, ‘and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’ (TNIV)
- Mark 14:38, ‘watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.’ (TNIV)

Cultural

Elders have mentioned the evil one goes after a person. This ‘attack’ is considered an act of tempting a person to commit sinful acts. Prior to the missionaries arriving, all native people distinguished good and evil. All natives knew the consequences of the evil one. Many tribes had shamans. Shamans were either ‘good’ or ‘bad.’ The history of shamans was either to help or harm had shaped the way natives perceived and lived life. After missionaries arrived in many covenant villages, the entire village usually attended church. Many finally understood temptation was engrained in their culture such as adultery and fornication.

Potential activity

Ask your mentee to write down a time when they were tempted. These are questions to guide you in allowing your mentee to ponder the issue of temptation.

- What would you do if your friends offered some alcohol or wanted you to try taking drugs with them?
 - What would you say to them?
 - How would you react?
 - Would you actually try what your friends are asking you to take?
- What are your thoughts on pornography?
- What would you do if a friend wanted to steal something of value?
 - What would you say to them?
 - How would you deal with the situation?