

STUDY 7 Lead us not into temptation

How would you define "temptation"?
What is the different between being tempted and being tested?

James 1:13 tell us "when tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone" but Jesus here teaches us to pray "lead us not into temptation. Another word for "temptation" here is "testing", which would mean the prayer is "cause us not to be put to the testing but rescue us from evil".

If Jesus is intending the idea of testing, given God does not tempt anyone, how would you explain what it means to pray "lead us not into a time of testing"?

1. Read 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

- 2. What do verses 1-7 tell us about God's people?
- 3. We're told repeated that these things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us (vv. 6, 11). What are we being warned about?
- 4. What does verse 13 tell us about temptation? What does it tell us about God?
- 5. If God lets us be tempted and provides a way out so that we can endure it (vv.13) but doesn't Himself actually tempt us, how should we deal with temptations?
- 6. How does God deliver us from evil?
- 7. Jesus was tempted in every way but never gave in to sin. How does His death on the cross for us change the way we see temptations?
- 8. What would you say to someone who says:

"I give into temptations every day – how can God keep forgiving me"

"I don't feel like I can ever say no to temptation"

"God always provides a way to stand up under the temptation and endure it – you just need to pray harder"

9. Why don't we pray "Lead us not into a time of testing/temptation" more often? What are some ways we can bring this prayer into our lives more each day?

Spend some times in prayer shaped around "Our father in heaven, lead us not into times of testing and deliver us from evil through Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour"