

The Lord's Prayer

SERMON NOTES

Week 5 April 3, 2022
"Lead Us... Deliver Us"
Matthew 4:1-11, Ephesians 6:11-17



I. Temptations and Tests

- A. The petition is focused on asking for God to _____ us.
- B. James tells us that God is not in the business of tempting _____, but we are dragged away by our own desires.
- C. We do not like _____ in school or at the doctor's office, but they often can deepen our faith.

II. Deliver Us from Evil

- A. The prayer reminds us of the grim reality of the evil _____.
- B. Often the first step to God's deliverance from evil is to _____ it.
- C. In Ephesians 6, Paul encourages us to be _____ for the evil we will inevitably face.

III. Lead Us, Deliver Us

- A. We most often think of temptation as _____, but Jesus taught us to pray in community.
- B. Sin is not about breaking rules, but ruining _____, which is why we must pray this prayer for one another.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *April 4-9, 2022*

INTRODUCTION

We have been exploring the Lord's Prayer and come now to the line that asks God to lead us "not into temptation, but deliver us from evil," which has led to some confusion. Is God in the habit of leading us into testing and temptation? We know that Jesus understood the lure of the evil one, who sought to derail his ministry. And Jesus knew that we, as his followers, would struggle personally with temptation and evil. Jesus also knew, as a society, we would be enticed by evil. We need this prayer, for ourselves and as a church, as we seek to follow the guidance of the Spirit and avoid the whispers of the Deceiver.

Monday: Psalm 23:1-3

David, who would become Israel's greatest king, had once been a shepherd and most likely penned the words of Psalm 23. He says that God would lead him along quiet waters and along the "right paths." In a culture that cherishes the idea that we should be free to choose our own paths, is it hard for you to let God guide you on the "right path?" Are you confident you are on the right path? Pray today that God would help you distinguish between your own wishes and instincts and a path guided by eternal principles.

Tuesday: James 1:12-16

While the phrase "don't lead us into temptation" may sound like a plea for God not to lure us off our best path, James explains that God is not in the business of tempting us to do wrong. In fact, he says, "No one who is tested should say, 'God is tempting me!'" Has something ever strained your faith, and made you wonder what God is doing to you? Rather James says "every good and perfect gift" is from above (James 1:17). Pray that you would be reminded that you are God's beloved child, and God is guiding you to a fruitful and good path.

Wednesday: Galatians 5:19-23

Many in Ancient Greece imagined that hedonism (doing whatever you want) led to "the good life," and for many, that has not changed! The Apostle Paul, however, told the Galatian Christians that a truly good life meant allowing God's Spirit to lead us. Say the fruit of the Spirit aloud to yourself, "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." Pray for the fruit to grow in you today.

Thursday: John 3:16-21

Have you ever known someone who "loved darkness more than the light," and feared their actions would be exposed? Have those words ever applied to you? Why do you think the enemy likes to keep us in the darkness? How is John 3:21 an invitation to move toward God's light, more forgiveness, and more freedom? Pray that God would give you courage to walk in the light of God's love and that you could extend that light to others.

Friday: Hebrews 12:1-4

The writer of Hebrews compares the Christian life to the Greek Olympic Games, urging believers to run the race set before them with endurance. The key to having stamina for the race is to fix our eyes on Jesus, set aside anything that hinders us, and always remember that Jesus endured even the cross for us. In this season of Lent, pray that a vision of Jesus on his journey to Jerusalem would give you the inner focus you need for your life today.

MOVING FORWARD

As you think about avoiding temptation or enduring trials when you pray the Lord's Prayer, recall the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd (John 10:2-3). Remember that Jesus knows your name, calls you to follow, and is not willing to leave anyone behind. As you move into next week, train yourself to hear and recognize Jesus' voice in order to follow Him to eternal safety, and pray that you would be strengthened by an understanding of who you are and whose you are.

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) Lead, B) anyone, C) tests. IIA) within us, B) name, C) well-equipped/armed. IIIA) personal, B) relationships.