



September 18, 2022 | David Smith
FORGIVENESS FOR EVERYONE

All of us, at some point in our lives, realize that we can't do it on our own. That is why prayer is our best work.

MEETING AGENDA

ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

What comes to mind when you hear the word "temptation?" How about the word "trial?" What life experiences do you have with one or both?

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

Anchor Verses: Luke 11:1-13; James 1:14; Hebrews 4:15

Do you feel confused when the Bible discusses temptations and trials? Are there particular temptations that cause you to stumble? This week we will return to Jesus teaching the disciples how to pray in the book of Luke and learn how God has provided processes for us to overcome temptation and how He can help us through the trials we face.

INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)

1. Read Luke 11:4 and James 1:13. Think of times when you have struggled with a particular sin in your life. Were there times that you felt God was helping you overcome temptation? How so?
2. If God knows our every thought and the desires of our heart, then why does he ask us to confess our sin? Read the following verses: James 4:17, Luke 8:13, and 1 Timothy 6:11-12.
3. David and Samson both gave into temptation. Read their stories in 2 Samuel 11 & 12 and Judges 16:1-31, respectively. Give special attention to the prayer of repentance from each. What were the consequences for them? How did they still go on to impact God's kingdom?

APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)

1. We learned to "change the line" as needed to avoid crossing over into sin. Read Genesis 39:7-10 and Luke 4:1-13. What are some proactive ways that you can avoid crossing the line of sin when you tempted?

2. Read Matthew 4:1-10 and consider the ways in which the Devil tempted Jesus. How did Jesus respond to each temptation? What does this teach us about how we are to respond when different temptations arise?
3. Overcoming temptation happens when you make the decision before you get there! What does this mean to you? When have you been able to see temptation coming and avoid it?

Prayer Prompts (5-10 MINUTES)

Supplication – Making requests on behalf of yourself to God [Ephesians 6:18, Philippians 4:6]

1. The verb “supplicate” originates from England in the 14th and 15th centuries as an Anglicized form of the Latin word *supplicatus*, which means “to kneel.” As a group, close your gathering in prayer with everyone that feels comfortable kneeling during the prayer.
2. Here at Fairhaven, we have 70 global staff members that serve in 16 countries. This week spend some time each day praying for the following areas for our global staff:
 - a. Success in learning the language
 - b. Provide relationships to develop with the local people
 - c. Raising financial support
 - d. Health and Safety while serving in the field

PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Dear God, we all face times of temptations that can be challenging and even debilitating at times. Thank you for providing examples, standards, and direction in your Word that help us to make wise decisions before, during, and after a temptation that help us to stay on track and follow you with our whole hearts. Help us to recognize our unique triggers and look to you for guidance as we traverse our pathway with You. In Jesus' name, Amen.