



Dealing with Temptation

Proverbs 5:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:13

Bottom Line: Deal with the door, and you'll avoid the temptation.

Introduction

When people say they struggle with sin, that's really not true. The sin part is easy. You've already decided to do it.

The **real struggle** is the temptation, the wrestling back and forth.

One of my biggest battles: Battle of the blankets. When the alarm goes off ...

Struggle

The **real struggle** is the temptation, the wrestling back and forth.

You don't want to do it. Yet you want to do it. There's pleasure in sin.

We justify. We rationalize. We talk ourselves into the sin. The sin is not the fight. The temptation is the fight.

Truth

((Proverbs 5:1-7))

Herein lies the answer to all temptation ...

The time to deal with temptation is not in the heat of the moment.

Is it possible to get out of the temptation in the moment? Of course. But just like the battle of the blankets, it's not very likely!

The time to deal with temptation is way ahead of that!

“Keep to a path far from her, ... (Proverbs 5:8a).”

“Do not go near the door of her house. (Proverbs 5:8b).”

Which is more alluring the young, beautiful, seductive woman or the door?

Which is more tempting, a substance that would addict you or a door?

Deal with the door, and you'll avoid the temptation.

“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it (1 Corinthians 10:13).”

Conclusion

Today, make it your aim not just to avoid temptation, but to avoid even the door that leads to it. Focus on the door; and stay far from it.

Next Steps

- Memorize Proverbs 5:8
- Don't Wrestle with Temptation.
- Stay Far Away from the Door of Temptation.
- Join Us Next Weekend for WOW! Weekend, guest speaker Michael Franzese.

On the first ever WOW! Weekend (Saturday, October 26 and Sunday, October 27), the attendees of South Bay Bible Church, East Moriches, won't hear from their regular pastor. Instead, former mob boss Michael Franzese, who generated more money for organized crime than anyone since Al Capone, will share his decision to quit the mob and follow Jesus.

