

Three Great Temptations Of Leaders

Pastor Virgil Brown • Sunday, May 7, 2006
Series: Follow Me, I'm Right Behind You

Key Verse

Temptation to do wrong is inevitable. -Matthew 18:7 (NLT)

Leadership is: _____.

Three Temptations That Christ Warned About:

1. You'll be tempted to bend _____ over building _____.

Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out. -Proverbs 10:9 (ESV)

Make every effort to add integrity to your faith. -2 Peter 1:5b (GW)

Is not your fear of God your confidence and the integrity of your ways your hope? -Job 4:6 (ESV)

2. You'll be tempted to chase _____ over establishing _____.

Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God? Or am I trying to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a servant of Christ. -Galatians 1:10 (NIV)

3. You'll be tempted to choose _____ over _____.

Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. -John 15:4 (NIV)

Christ's Antidotes To Temptation:

A. I must _____ to accept God's _____.

You were saved by faith in God, who "treats us much better than we deserve." This is God's gift to you, and not anything you have done on your own. -Ephesians 2:8 (CEV)

[see also Colossians 2:13 (NLT)]

The marks of choosing _____ are:

- _____ it,
- _____ it,
- _____ it.

B. I must _____ to live a life built on Godly _____.

Do not follow the crowd in doing wrong. -Exodus 23:2 (NIV)

The marks of committing to _____ are:

- _____,
- _____,
- _____.

[see also Proverbs 11:5 (MSG)]

C. I must _____ God's love through my _____.

What's the use of saying you have faith if you don't prove it by your actions? That kind of faith can't save anyone. -James 2:14 (NLT)

The marks of communicating God's love are:

- _____,
- _____,
- _____.

[see also James 2:17 (GW)]

Small Group Discussion Questions:

1. Review the three temptations of Leaders (violating integrity, chasing popularity, self-reliance) and discuss their fall-outs.
2. Why do we have tendencies to chase these three?
3. Review the scripture and discuss God's plan for our leadership/influence.
4. Take time to pray for the needs of those in your group.

Answer Key:

Influence; Integrity; Character; Popularity; Respect; Self-Reliance; God-Dependence; Choose; Grace; Grace; Accepting; Believing; Showing; Commit; Character; Character; Honesty; Dependability; Courage; Communicate; Actions; Generosity; Time; Love

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