



## Week of May 31, 2020: The Lord's Prayer – “Lead Us Not into Temptation”

### Discussion Questions Set #1

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.” (Matthew 6:9-13)

“Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am being tempted by God,’ for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one”. (James 1:13)

Trials “come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed”. (1 Peter 1:7)

In sermon, we defined temptation as an attraction, either from outside oneself or from within, to act contrary to the will and the commandments of God. The scriptural words translated as “temptation” carry a bit of a dual meaning, in one sense pointing to an enticement to do evil and in another, referring to something that proves our character or shows the depth or integrity of our commitment to God. We learned that temptation in and of itself is not sin, but that sin comes into play depending on how we respond to temptation.

1. Why is it important to understand that temptation is not, in and of itself, sin?
2. How might recognizing the dual nature of temptation help us better understand the phrase “lead us not into temptation”?
3. Prior to this sermon, how did you understand the request to “lead us not into temptation”? Had you ever considered the strange phrasing that seems to suggest that God might lead us into temptation, unless we pray that He doesn’t?
4. What issues might arise if we understand that God does tempt us to evil? How might this affect our knowledge of God as a holy, sovereign, kingly Abba Father?
5. Why is it important to recognize that, as James 1:13 reveals, God tempts no one to evil?
6. As 1 Peter 1:7 indicates, how might trials and temptation result in praise, glory and honour? How does temptation reveal the proven genuineness of ones’ faith?

### Discussion Questions Set #2

“For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age”; (Titus 2:11-12)

“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 endure it”. (1 Corinthians 10:13)

“The Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials”. (2 Peter 2:9)

1. Why is it significant for us to understand that through Jesus Christ, we have been given the ability to say “no” to the temptations that come our way? What might this suggest if we find ourselves regularly falling into temptation?
2. What encouragement does it give you to recognize that not only will God not allow you to be tempted beyond what you can bear, but that He also will provide a way out of temptation? Discuss how you see grace and mercy at work in this reality.
3. Do you think there are times where we require rescue from trials and temptation? Why do you think such circumstances exist? What might rescue look like in such a circumstance?

### Discussion Questions Set #3

In sermon, it was suggested that the “us” in our phrase for the day encourages us to pray for one another that our brothers and sisters in Christ not be led into temptation.

1. Has it ever occurred to you to remember those around you, specifically praying that they are not led into temptation?
2. What do you think might happen if we more regularly pray this prayer for the other followers of Jesus around us?
3. How might this encouragement from scripture come into play within your H2H group?