FAMILY LIFE CHURCH OF THE VALLEY LIFE GROUP - RIVERSIDE COUNTY

TITLE: THE INVISIBLE WAR

SESSION SEVEN: How to Avoid Temptation

Watch and pray, that [you] enter not into temptation.Matthew 26:41 (KJV)Let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.1 Corinthians 10:12 (NKJV)Be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise.Ephesians 5:15 (NASB)

Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like a men, be strong. 1 Corinthians 16:13 (NASB)

PRACTICAL STEPS TO AVOID TEMPTATION

1. Make sure your _____ have been dealt with.

¹⁸ Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the battle well, ¹⁹ holding on to faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and so have suffered shipwreck with regard to the faith.

1 Timothy 1:18-19 (NIV)

2. Make sure you are filled daily with the _____.

Walk in the spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Galatians 5:16 (NKJV)

3. Decide in advance to ______.

THE INVISIBLE WAR SESSION SEVEN (Cont.)

4. Put on .

¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Ephesians 6:13-17 (NIV)

5. Minimize the ______ of giving in.

SIX CONSEQUENCES OF UNCONFESSED SIN

Fellowship with God is ______.

Restore to me the JOY of your salvation.

Psalm 51:12 (NIV)

⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all^[a] sin.⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:6-10 (NIV)

• My prayers will not be _____.

But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

Isaiah 59:2 (NIV)

If anyone turns a deaf ear to my instruction, even their prayers are detestable. Proverbs 28:9 (NIV)

Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounce them finds mercy.

Proverbs 28:13 (NIV)

THE INVISIBLE WAR SESSION SEVEN (Cont.)

Then they will cry out to the LORD, but he will not answer them. At that time he will hide his face from them because of the evil they have done.

Micah 3:4 (NIV)

If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. Psalm 66:18 (NLT)

Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

1 Peter 3:7 (NIV)

• God ______ using me.

³ Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD?Or who may stand in His holy place?⁴ He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully.⁵ He shall receive blessing from the LORD, And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

Psalm 24:3-5 (NKJV)

For the eyes of the Lord run to and for throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.

2 Chronicles 16:9 (KJV)

• God will _____ me.

Punishment is retribution for past. Discipline is correction for the future.

Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. Revelation 3:19 (NIV)

⁷ As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father? ⁸ If God doesn't discipline you as he does all of his children, it means that you are illegitimate and are not really his children at all. ⁹ Since we respected our earthly fathers who disciplined us, shouldn't we submit even more to the discipline of the Father of our spirits, and live forever?

Hebrews 12:7-9 (NLT)

THE INVISIBLE WAR SESSION SEVEN (Cont.)

• God cannot _____ me

The man without the spirit does accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. 1 Corinthians 2:14 (NIV84)

• I am vulnerable to Satan's ______.

6. Guard your _____.

So think clearly and exercise self-control. Look forward to the special blessings that will come to you at the return of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 1:13 (NLT96)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What did you hear?

a. Was there a particular point that stuck out to you?

b. Was there a Bible verse that spoke to you personally

2. What do you think about what you heard?

3. What will you do? How will you put into practice what you heard?