

Sermon Notes

February 12, 2012 - Pastor Mike Nishi

James 1:13-16

Reflection and Thought:

- *What tempts you? What temptation or temptations have a grip on your life?*

Temptation is a part of our lives | James 1:13

Three basic observations:

- Temptation is universal.
- Temptations will come.
- Temptation is personal.

God is not the reason or the source of our temptations.

To see truly see ourselves is to peer into the mirror of God's perfect law | James 1:19-25

We are the primary source of our temptations | James 1:14

Two basic sources of temptation identified in Scripture:

- Temptations that comes from Satan | James 4:8 | 1 Cor 7:4-6 | 2 Thess 2:8-10
- Temptation that comes from the self | James 1:13-16 | Romans 7
- **Two definitions of sin:**
 - o *"sin is meeting legitimate needs, in illegitimate ways"*
 - o *Anything that we say and do that goes against God's will and Word*

Illegitimate ways to meet legitimate needs does not give life, it kills the soul |

James 1:15-16

- Temptation in-and-of-itself is not a sin | Hebrews 4:15
- Sin makes us die to the things of God, and our hearts become hardened to God's love, mercy, and grace. | Romans 6:23 | Ephesians 2:1-6
- James 1:16 "DON'T BE DECEIVED!"
- JESUS is the ONLY solution | Hebrews 9:15 | 1 Peter 4:1-6

Practical ways to face temptation and sin:

First: **Change the desires** | Rom 12:1-2 | Gal 5:24 | Psalms 119:11, 104 | Mt 4:3-10

Second: **Reduce the opportunities for temptation** | Mt 6:13; 26:41 | 1 Cor 10:13 | Psalms 101:3-4 | Job 31:1 | Psalms 101:6-7 | 1 Cor 15:33

Third: **When you can't control the situation, you can still control yourself** | Gal 5:22-23 | Acts 2:38; 5:32 | Eph 3:16 | Rom 8:12-13

Fourth: **There is always forgiveness through Jesus when we fall** | 1 John 2:1-2 | Acts 8:22 | 1 John 1:9 | Romans 7:21-25