



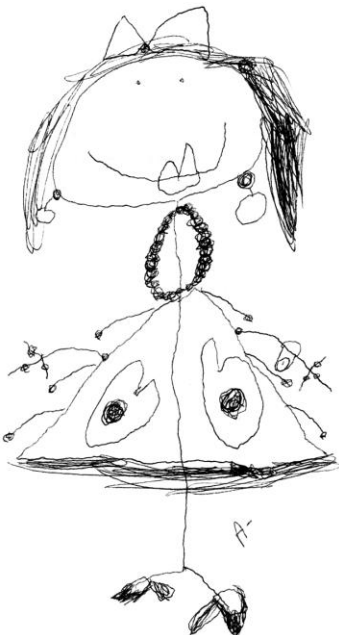
**5**

*Steps Toward Victorious  
Living*

**#549 – Experience Triumph Over  
Temptation!**

**1 Corinthians 10:13**

**January 29, 2012**





# *Steps Toward Victorious Living*

#549 – Experience Triumph Over Temptation!

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## INTRODUCTION.

### A. OPENING COMMENTS.

- SERIES INTRODUCTION: **Five Steps Toward Victorious Living**
- This Series started for me on New Years Day...

- **Premise: *The Principle of Victory is Written Into the Fabric of the Christian Life.***

- In Each Message, I'll be introducing You to a Single Verse to Base Our Exploration of these Life Changing, Scriptural Truths. I'd encourage you to Memorize and Repeat Daily These Verses to Help You Live in the Full Victory of the Christian Life!

- TODAY'S MESSAGE: **Experience Triumph Over Temptation!**
- Today I want to talk to you about.... **Experience Triumph Over Temptation!** If you keep company with believers who are serious about taking their call to Holy living seriously, it won't be long until you hear them talking about overcoming temptation!

**- Temptation Is a Concept That is Badly Misunderstood**

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- Starbucks: "That looks sinfully wonderful..." // "Lady, if you want it, eat it!"
- **1 Timothy 4:4-5 - For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.**

- James 1:16-17 - Don't be deceived, my dear brothers. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

***- Temptation is about resisting the things that keep us from reflecting God's Holiness and making His Character a Central Part of Our Lives.***

- Matthew 5:48 - Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

**B. TEXT AND EXEGESIS.**

**- 1 Corinthians 10:13 - READ**

**- CONGREGATION REPEAT VERSE**

**- I am confident...**

## I. KEEP IT IN PERSPECTIVE!

A. POINT #1. (v. 13 - No temptation has seized you except what is common to man...)

### Exegesis

- CONGREGATION REPEAT VERSE

- In dealing with Temptation, this verse gives us some powerful wisdom – “Don’t Think that ANY Temptation is Beyond Your Ability to Cope With...**Don’t Blow it up, Don’t Make it Bigger Than it is!...You’re Bigger Than Your Trial!**”

- **The verse gives us advice...Keep anything you’re going through in perspective. You can Handle This**

- **Put Your Mind to it!**

- Matthew 26:39-41 - READ

- If we’re going to Experience Triumph Over Temptation!, than we must Keep It In Perspective! The first victory the devil wants to achieve in a Christian’s mind is psychological. In other words, he wants to demoralize you – to make you think you can’t win. If he’s done that, the chances are that you’ll never try to have victory.

### - WHAT TEMPTATIONS COME TO US?

- **Fear, Self Pity, Negativity, Lust, Greed, Anger and Hate, Coveting, Substance and Alcohol abuse, Violence, Lying, Evil Thoughts...**

- Mark 7:20-23 – READ

- Romans 12:2 - Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is---his good, pleasing and perfect will.

**- A simple, but telling, question we should ask when facing down a temptation is this: *"Do we Think We Can Beat it?"* Your answer determines the outcome.**

**- 1 John 5:4 - This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.**

**- To the Hebrews: "Come On...You Can Handle This!"**

**- Hebrews 10:32-39 - READ**

**- Hebrews 12:2-7a - READ**

**- Watch Out For Phrases of Defeat:**

**- I can't handle this...**

**- This is more than anyone can handle...**

**- No one has ever gone through this before...**

**- Philippians 4:13 - QUOTE**

**- Myself: Finding Strength in the Promises**

**- Philippians 4:13 – I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.**

## II. TRUST THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD!

A. POINT #1. (v. 13 - No temptation has seized you except what is common to man God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear...)

### Exegesis

- CONGREGATION REPEAT VERSE

- Paints a picture of Temptation SEIZING YOU...

- James 1:13-15 - READ

- But even in that “Seizing” it is powerless over you! Why?

***Because God is going to make certain that you have the power, resources and ability to***

***overcome!*** v. 13 - God is faithful...

- Psalm 56:3-4 - When I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me?

- Matthew 6:13 - And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one

- If we're going to ***Experience Triumph Over Temptation!***, than we must ***Trust The Faithfulness of God!*** Another attitude we have to make sure that we guard in our hearts is our confidence in the faithfulness of God! Friends, in the face of temptation we must strive to never let our hearts waver – as fickle as they are! Instead, we must stay steadfast in believing that God will be faithful to us!

- Joshua 1:9 – Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous, do not [let yourself] be terrified or discouraged...

- Proverbs 4:23 - Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

**- Paul and Silas: They Stayed Focused**

- - Acts 16:22-28 - READ

**- AVAIL YOURSELF OF GOD'S REINFORCEMENTS!**

- **Cram your mind full of God's Word!**
  - Psalm 119:11 - I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.
- **Fill Your Calendar With Good Things!**
- **Hang Around People Who Will Influence You To Be Your Best!**
  - Philippians 4:8-9 – READ
- **Dedicate Your Life to Prayer and Love of God and Neighbor**

**- Plan For Victory!**

- - Revelation 7:13-14 - READ

### III. LOOK FOR THE EXIT!

A. POINT #1. (v. 13 - ...When you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.)

#### Exegesis

- CONGREGATION REPEAT VERSE

- *Finally, our verse concludes with a wonderful promise – that when you're facing a Temptation to Sin, you may be confident that part of God's Sovereign protection for you will be that God will provide you with an Exit strategy to elude the power of Your Temptation!*

- *No Christian can say, "The Devil made me do it!"*

- Colossians 3:2, 4 – Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things...Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

- 1 John 2:13 - I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one.

- If we're going to Experience Triumph Over Temptation!, than we must Look For The Exit! *When a building is on fire, or you are below decks on on a cruise ship that is going down – you need to look for the exits! In the same way, when faced with a temptation there comes the point when it is simply time to go!*

#### - Sometimes You Gotta' Make An Exit - Joseph

- Genesis 39:6b-12 - READ

## **- PLAN YOUR ESCAPE ROUTES:**

- If a certain type of company sways you, avoid them...
- If you suffer from compulsions or addictions: avoid people and places where that addiction is welcomed.
- If certain types of situations trigger an emotional outburst from you of one kind or another – avoid them as well.

**- As Soon as you figure out you're in over your head – Get Out Now!**

## **- The Drug Addict's Story of A Planned Escape**

- Pastor told of a young church member who had gotten involved with drugs...had tried to quite many times before. However, in this last attempt, it had worked...

- Ques.: "What made the difference this time?"

- Ans.: "I stopped hanging out with my druggie friends; I started going to church, reading my Bible and praying; I planned ahead to fill my schedule so I wouldn't have any down time; I got into a drug treatment program and stayed with it..."

**- Galatians 5:16-24 - READ**

## CONCLUSION.

### A. CHALLENGES.

1. **Keep It In Perspective!**
2. **Trust The Faithfulness of God!**
3. **Look For The Exit!**

***- If you're Going to Follow These Steps and  
Experience Triumph Over Temptation! this Week,  
Say "Amen!"***

### B. THE CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP / THE GOOD NEWS.

***Dear Jesus,***

***I believe that you are the Son of the Living God and that you died for  
my sins and rose from the grave.***

***I repent of my sins and give you complete control of my life.***

***Please forgive my sins and make me clean of all I've done wrong.***

***Come into my heart and lead me in your ways.***

***In Jesus' name, Amen.***

### C. PUBLIC COMMITMENT.

***- Indicate a decision for Christ, Ask for Spiritual Help or Prayer, Join our  
Church.***

**Hymn of Invitation:** \_\_\_\_\_