

# Stay Connected with His Leadership

Pastor Jeff Alexander + Pray the Jesus Way + February 25, 2018



When you're off track, it's often hard to even realize it.

As we stay connected with our Father, we look to the sixth petition of the Lord's Prayer: "And lead us not into temptation."

We ask our all-knowing Father for directions, trusting His hand of leadership to guide us on the right track.

"God tempts no one." This statement of the Catechism comes directly from God's Word.

## James 1:13-15

When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

Keep in mind that there is a difference between *temptation* and *testing*.

While God may (and often does) test you, it's the enemy who tempts you.

**TEMPTATION** = Allowing oneself to be pulled away from God and His promises.

## 1 Peter 5:8-9

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

"Lead us not into temptation" is a confusing phrase to pray. That's why it's essential to realize the 6th and 7th petitions of the Lord's Prayer go hand-in-hand.

Our deliverance from evil, which the Lord Jesus brings through His death and resurrection, is our victory over the Tempter and his attempts to tear us from God.

## 1 Peter 5:10-11

And the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To Him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

The temptations of life can be used by the Lord to draw us closer to Jesus, who can relate to our temptations and also promises to lead us as we trust in Him.

## Hebrews 4:14-16

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.