

Skegness Community Church - Weekly Bible Study 2025
52 passages of Scripture that every believer should know

Week 12 DID THE DEVIL REALLY MAKE ME DO IT?

1 Corinthians 10: 13

“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful. He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will provide a way out so that you can stand up under it”

It is not a sin to be tempted. Temptation comes our way in all sorts of forms and sizes. It is not a sin when a temptation passes through our mind. The sin comes when it does not do that, when it doesn't pass through our mind. The sin comes when we give that thought a room in our mind and let it dwell there. One should not confuse temptations with trials that come our way. Most often, trials are allowed, or even sent, by God to cause the Christian to stand. Temptations are sent from the devil to cause the Christian to stumble. The devil never made us do anything. He simply dangles the bait in front of us.

THE REALITY OF TEMPTATION “No temptation has seized you except what is common to man.”

Make no mistake about it: we will be tempted. As long as we are encased in human flesh, it desires to rebel against what is good and godly. We never have to teach our children to disobey. They pick right up on it. We have to teach them to obey. So it is with us and the issue of temptation. It is a reality that is not going to go away. Some people live with the wrong concept that the longer we walk the Christian path and the deeper we go with God, the less we will be tempted. None of us will ever arrive at the place where temptation will not be looming before us in some form or fashion. Most of the great heroes of the Bible faced their greatest temptations near the end of their pilgrimage rather than at the beginning. This was certainly true of Moses, Elijah, and David. Jesus himself was tempted in the desert and again on the cross. **“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man.”**

THE REMINDER FOR TEMPTATION “And God is faithful”.

Life may have its shadows, but one thing is certain: they are never caused by God's turning or by His changing. He is faithful. James reminds us that “every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly light, who does not change like shifting shadows” (James 1:17). We can rest in the reality that even though we may be tempted, we have a Lord who is faithful.

THE REMEDY FOR TEMPTATION

“He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will provide a way out so that you can stand up under it”

God provides a way of escape for us. Think of an army that is apparently surrounded, and then suddenly they see an escape route to safety through a mountain pass. None of us needs to succumb to the temptations that come our way. Jesus will make a way of escape. Many who have fallen into sin did so wilfully because they refused to take the path of escape that the Lord put before them. Jesus taught us how to overcome our temptation. For forty days He was tempted by the devil in the wilderness of Judea. On each occurrence Jesus overcame by quoting Scripture. The Word, hidden in our hearts, will also keep us from sin when applied by faith to our lives.

We should not be surprised when temptation comes our way. It is after all **“common to man.”** But Christ Himself is our way of escape. And one thing can certainly be said of Him -- **“He is faithful”**

As you memorise this verse this week, meditate on the words of James:

“Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him” (James 1:12).