



# TEMPTATION IN REAL LIFE

## James 1:13-18

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### The Facts of Temptation - verses 13-16

Fact One: Temptation effects everyone (except God).

1. What is temptation?
2. What does it mean for you personally that God cannot be tempted by evil?

Fact Two: Temptation does not originate with God.

3. What is the true source of our temptations?
4. How could knowing this (answer to #3) change your response when tempted?

Fact Three: Temptation follows a consistent process: Bait → Conception → Death

5. What "bait" are you most susceptible to? Why?
6. How do you usually respond (get hooked)?
7. How can knowing the end point (i.e. "death") help you in responding to the "bait"?
8. What does it mean for you personally to know that there is a consistent process connected with temptation?

Fact Four: Temptation thrives in deception.

9. In verse 16, what kind of deception is James warning us about?
10. How are you personally effected by this kind of deception?

### Our Focus in Temptation - verses 17,18

11. In verse 17, what part of James' description of God is most meaningful to you? Why?
12. In verse 18, how is being brought forth by the word of truth a description of God and His relationship with you?
13. When confronted by "bait," in choosing to trust God instead of yourself, what part of James' description of God is most helpful to you?
14. Knowing that temptation will come (i.e. temptation is a "when" not an "if") it can be helpful to prepare ourselves now for what is coming—to turn towards God now as a preparation for turning away from sin later. Consider how the following verses might encourage you to turn towards God:
  - Philippians 4:8,9
  - Psalm 119:9-11
  - Psalm 139:23,24
15. Are there any other verses that you find helpful?
16. How can you apply this study to your life this week?