



“So Potiphar left everything he had in Joseph’s care; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate. Now Joseph was well-built and handsome,⁷ and after a while his master’s wife took notice of Joseph and said, “Come to bed with me!”⁸ But he refused. “With me in charge,” he told her, “my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care.⁹ No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?”¹⁰ And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.¹¹ One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside.¹² She caught him by his cloak and said, “Come to bed with me!” But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.¹³ When she saw that he had left his cloak in her hand and had run out of the house,¹⁴ she called her household servants. “Look,” she said to them, “this Hebrew has been brought to us to make sport of us! He came in here to sleep with me, but I screamed.¹⁵ When he heard me scream for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house.”¹⁶ She kept his cloak beside her until his master came home.¹⁷ Then she told him this story: “That Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to make sport of me.¹⁸ But as soon as I screamed for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house.”¹⁹ When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, “This is how your slave treated me,” he burned with anger.²⁰ Joseph’s master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined.”

Genesis 39:6-20a

Understanding the Test

1. The test comes when you think you’re _____

2. Temptation _____ what you really _____

This Is a Test... This Is Only a Test

3. Faithfulness _____ a _____

- It doesn’t _____
- You have to _____ it
- It may _____ more than you _____

The Big Idea

In every test, God is at work to _____
_____ in you

Memory Verse

“In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.⁷ These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.”

1 Peter 1:6-7

Acknowledgments: Sources used in the preparation of this message include material presented by Chris Brown, Sinclair Ferguson, Tim Keller, John Goldingay, John Walton, Tremper Longman III, Walter Brueggemann, and many more.

MY NEXT STEP IS TO...

- Trust Jesus and begin to follow Him as my Lord and Savior for the first time today
- Memorize 1 Peter 1:6-7
- Identify the test I’m facing and bring it to God this week
- Ask God to form faithfulness in me through this test
- Take one step to fight for faithfulness
- Reach out for accountability or encouragement this week
- Get the most out of this week’s teaching by attending my Life Group





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Genesis 39:6-20a

Understanding the Test

1. The test comes when you think you’re standing
2. Temptation reveals what you really believe

This Is a Test... This Is Only a Test

3. Faithfulness requires a fight

- It doesn’t go away
- You have to fight it
- It may cost more than you expect

The Big Idea

In every test, God is at work to form faithfulness in you

Memory Verse

“In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.”

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Discussion Questions - Week #3

LIFEGROUPS

QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the weekend sermon, “This Is a Test...This Is Only a Test,” summarize the main point in a sentence or two.

Was there anything you heard for the first time, or that caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

Do you plan on taking any practical steps this week in response to the message?

GETTING STARTED

What food tempts you most—donuts, chips, mini Snickers bars, or something else?

When you hear the word temptation, what comes to mind?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. It's possible to be around the things of God and still drift away from Him. In this passage, Paul warns that past faithfulness doesn't guarantee present strength and calls us to stay alert.

Read: 1 Corinthians 10:1-11

What stands out to you about Israel's story in verses 1–11? What went wrong, even after all God had done for them?

Verse 12 says, “So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall.” What does it look like to “think you're standing firm” in real life?

Where are you most likely to assume, “I've got this”?

Paul warns against setting our hearts on evil things. What does it look like to intentionally set your heart on what is good and how do you actually do that?

Where in your life do you feel most confident right now and how might that be the place you need the most vigilance?

2. Temptation isn't just about behavior, it reveals what we believe will satisfy us. James shows us where temptation comes from, where it leads, and how God is at work in the middle of it.

Read: James 1:12–18

How does our culture's view of temptation differ from what we see in this passage?

Is it a sin to be tempted?

According to James, what is the source of our temptations?

Do you think it's possible for our desires to change? If so, how? If not, how do we keep from being “dragged away” by them?

James emphasizes that God gives good and perfect gifts. How does remembering who God is reshape the way you face temptation?

What is your current temptation promising you and do you actually believe God is better than that promise?

FOR PRACTICE

One of the challenges in facing temptation is that it doesn't begin with behavior but desire. We're always setting our hearts on something. Temptation reveals what we believe will truly satisfy. James reminds us that God is the giver of every good and perfect gift. In moments of temptation, we're not just choosing between right and wrong. We're choosing what we believe is truly good. This week, when you feel the pull of temptation, ask yourself: What is this promising? Then turn to God, through his Word and prayer and remind yourself of what is true. As we fix our hearts on His goodness, our desires begin to change, and what pulled us away begins to lose its hold.

SHARE IT

Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for our mission partners in India. Pray that God would give them health to continue running the race He has called them to. Praise God that the Spirit is leading them in fruitful ministry among their Muslim neighbors. That said, the enemy does not give up territory easily. Pray for their protection and the Kingdom's continued advance.