

**THE WEEK OF  
November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009**



**Jesus Vs. Deadly Desires  
Part 1  
1 Corinthians 10:13**

"No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."

I Corinthians 10:13

We've begun the third chapter in our series detailing the victory we have in Christ. We just finished up "Consuming Wrath" and now we turn our attention to a broad category of struggles called "Deadly Desires". In the next few weeks we'll examine, briefly, several different desires we struggle with as men. Whether its lust, greed, covetousness, jealousy, or addiction there is one promise in scripture that stands alone as the clearest beacon of hope in the midst of these land mines: I Corinthians 10:13.

There is a common misconception when it comes to sin. In particular, the sin associated with addiction. This misconception is that we, as human beings, are powerless to overcome our struggles. The apostle Paul, in our primary verse for this chapter, makes it very clear that we are not powerless. In fact, quite the opposite, we have all that we need to avoid falling in to sin.

Furthermore, our temptation, our struggle, is not unique - "it's common to man". Lest we think for a moment that we have been specifically chosen by Satan, like Job, to be the recipient of supernatural suffering. Scripture, again, paints a different picture. However, like His dealings with Job, God does set the limit regarding how great our temptation can be. It's never more than we are able to bear. The key word there is "we".

Here comes the tough part. Since we are the ones never allowed to be tempted beyond what we can bear, we are also the ones responsible for taking the escape that God provides. So the next time you're tempted, stop and look around to see what God has provided as a way out; because He is faithful.

**Read the Proverb and the section of Psalm 119 that corresponds with the calendar day *example:*  
*If it's the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month, read Proverbs 1 and Psalm 119:1-8 (Aleph)***

#### **Deadly Desires, the temptations that feed on our weaknesses**

**Mon:** Temptation is Common to Man: "No temptation...except such as is common..." I Cor 10:13a

**Tue:** The Pressure Relief Valve: "[He] will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able..." I Cor 10:13b

**Wed:** The Escape Route: "[He] will make the way of escape..." I Cor 10:13c

**Thu:** Victory is Taking the Way Out: "...that you may be able to bear it." I Cor 10:13d

**Fri:** There is a Reward for enduring: "Blessed is the man who endures temptation..." James 1:12-15 esp. verse 12

#### **Discussion Questions for Bible Café:**

1. Have you ever thought your temptation to be unique? Knowing that its not, is it any easier?
2. What are some of the examples in your own life where you recognized God had not allowed you to be tempted beyond what you could bear and provide a way out? Discuss times when you took the way out and times when you didn't.

**Prayer Requests of your Bible Café brothers (on back):**