THE MAKING OF A KING

Part 7: Our Battlefield of Temptation
2 Samuel 11-12

Temptation is a **CROUCHING BEAST**

Genesis 4:7; Proverbs 4:23

It's always **AGGRESSIVE**

'crouching' = Like a **PREDATORY** animal

'at the Door' = pushing you from **ATTRACTION** to **ACTION**

'its desire is for you' = to **MANIPULATE** to gain control

But it can be **CAGED**

'you must master it' = Manage your **VULNERABILITIES**

Temptations are never **ORCHESTRATED** by God

James 1:13-15; 1 John 2:16; 1 Peter 5:8

God didn't put **BATHSHEBA** on the roof

David's **EMOTIONS** created the temptation

Temptations are always **FILTERED** by God

1 Cor. 10:13; Matt. 26:41; Heb. 4:15-16

Your temptation is a **COMMON** one

The power of every temptation is **GOVERNED**

God installs **EXIT SIGNS** along temptation's path

Temptations are always a **GATEWAY**

Jeremiah 17:9

The terrifying truth of **SELF-DECEPTION**

David's **SLIPPERY SLOPE**

Auburn Grace Community Church – November 8th, 2026

Life Application Questions – November 8, 2026

James 1:14 – 15 *But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.*

DISCOVER

1. What is the practical difference between trials and temptations? Concerning a trial you have experienced, what pressures did it bring on your faith?
2. Identify some of the warning signs that you are being enticed by your evil desires. What helps you to break this cycle? How can you manage your vulnerabilities?
3. In what ways have you experienced God's faithfulness in providing a way out of temptation in your life?

EXPLORE

1. Peruse 2 Samuel 11. How many times do you note King David's misuse of power? Have you ever misused your power or influence? In what ways? How should an alert and discerning brother or sister in Christ counter the misuse?
2. Every human being is tempted at one time or another. When we are tempted, we are enticed to go against God's moral law inscribed on our hearts. At what moment in our temptation is sin conceived? (see Matthew 5:27-28)
3. Read James 1:13-15. Why does James 1:13 state that God cannot be tempted, yet Jesus was tempted in the wilderness after His baptism? What implications does this have for us? (see Matthew 4:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13)
4. According to James 1:14, what is the source of personal temptation? How can the account of Adam and Eve in Genesis 3 deepen our understanding of the process of temptation and sin?
5. Read Matthew 6:13. Does this verse contradict James 1:13? Explain.
6. Re-read 2 Samuel 11:1. How does the account of David's decision to remain in Jerusalem illustrate the dangers of idleness and complacency in our spiritual lives? Do your spiritual habits underscore the importance of community and accountability? How so?

EXPERIENCE

1. In what ways can we apply the promise of 1 Corinthians 10:13 in our daily lives to overcome temptation? How can you better recognize and take the escape routes God provides during times of temptation? What causes you to hesitate to take the escape route(s)?
2. How does understanding the progression from desire to sin to death help you in your daily walk with Christ?
3. Read Jeremiah 17:9. How does understanding the deceitful nature of the heart impact your daily decision-making and reliance on God? In what ways can you incorporate regular practices of repentance and renewal to ensure your heart remains aligned with God's will?

PRAY

Lord Jesus, You overcame temptation in the desert and in the garden. You took the escape routes. Through You, I can do the same. Strengthen my resolve to quickly take the way that brings victory in my temptations, while bringing glory to Your Name. Amen.