"Lead us not into Temptation"

Text: James 1:12-18

Thesis: Every Christian is tempted to sin but by the power of the Holy Spirit we do not have to yield to temptation.

- 1. While experiencing trials or stress some may be <u>tempted</u> to alleviate their pressures through unethical or immoral ways. (Vs. 12)
 - A. The devil tempted Jesus to sin during his 40 days of fasting in the desert.

See Matthew 4:1-11

*"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet without sin."

Hebrews 4:15-16

- 1. Be aware that temptations may come during extreme physical and mental <u>fatigue.</u>
- B. Jesus' Temptation came directly following a spiritually high moment.
- 1. Be aware that temptation may come when you are doing <u>great</u> things for God. **See Mark 1:9-13**
- 2. Temptation does <u>not</u> come from God. (Vs. 13 & 16-17)
 - A. God may allow you to experience trials to strengthen you, but he will never entice you to sin.
- 3. Temptation comes from within a person. (Vs. 14)
 - A. Temptations can be <u>unique</u> to everyone.
 - B. Avoid the things that tempt you.
 - C. Do not <u>deceive</u> yourself by placing false confidence in your own strengths.
- 4. By the power of the Holy Spirit, it is possible to <u>resist</u> yielding to temptation.

*"...but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are -- yet without sin."

Hebrews 4:16

*"Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted."

Hebrews 2:18

- A. Break the sin cycle.
 - 1. Give your temptations to Jesus
 - *"I can do everything through him who gives me strength."
 Philippians 4:13
 - 2. Confess your sin to Jesus.
- $\ast ``$ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

1 John 1:9

*"Jesus declared, "Go now and leave your life of sin."

John 8:11

3. "Walk in the light, as he is in the light."

1 John 1:7