I <u>MUST</u> RESIST TEMPTATION! How to be Used by God - Part 4 James 1:12-18 (NIV) L. Kirk Sykes, Founder/Lead Pastor CrossWord Christian Church June 29, 2025

"God blesses those who <u>patiently endure</u> testing and <u>temptation</u>. Afterward they will receive the <u>crown of life</u> that God has promised to those <u>who love him</u>." James 1:12 (NLT)

2 Types of Tests in Life

- "Trials" (from God) -- to promote growth!
- "Temptations" (from Satan) -- to cause sin!

HOW TO RESIST TEMPTATION:

1. BE <u>REALISTIC</u>.

"*When you are tempted...*" James 1:13a (NIV)

"Every temptation that comes your way is the kind that <u>normally</u> comes to people..." 1 Corinthians 10:13 (TEV)

2. BE <u>RESPONSIBLE</u>.

"When tempted, no one should say, <u>God is tempting me.</u>" For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone." James 1:13 (NIV)

3. BE <u>READY</u>.

"Each one is tempted when, by <u>his own evil desire</u>, he is dragged away and <u>enticed</u>. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives <u>birth to sin</u>; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives <u>birth to death</u>. Don't be <u>deceived</u>... James 1:14-16 (NIV) (Let's breakdown this scripture)

HOW TEMPTATION WORKS

"In order that Satan might not outwit us, we are <u>not unaware</u> of his schemes." 2 Corinthians 2:11 (NIV)

1st: DESIRE.

"Each one is tempted when, by <u>his own evil desire</u>..." James 1:14a (NIV)

2nd: DECEPTION.

"... he is dragged away and <u>enticed</u> " James 1:14b (NIV)

3rd: DISOBEDIENCE.

"Then, after <u>desire</u> has conceived, it gives birth to <u>sin</u>" James 1:15a (NIV)

4th: DEATH.

"...and sin, when <u>full grown</u>, gives birth to <u>death</u>." James 1:15b (NIV)

4. BE <u>REFOCUSED</u>.

"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of heavenly lights..." James 1:17a (NIV)

5. BE <u>REBORN</u>.

"(God) chose to give us <u>birth</u> through the <u>Word of Truth</u>..." James 1:18a (NIV)

*Read 1 Corinthians 10:13 On Your Own!!!