Horns & Hooves Week 3: Temptation CCV Groups Discussion Guide

Opening Question:

Dave talked this weekend about the power of prayer in overcoming temptation. In Luke 22:46, Jesus said, "Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation." Why is prayer so undervalued in our 'do it myself" culture?

Groups <u>Video Guide</u>

Read it again:

• James 1:1-18

Discuss:

- When it comes to food, what is your biggest temptation?
- How is our desire and hunger for food a good illustration for our flesh and temptation?
- Read <u>Matthew 4:1-11</u> and identify Jesus' strategy for overcoming temptation.
- When we give into the temptation to sin, how is our witness to the world impacted?
- How might God use temptation to help us grow in Christ?
- As a group, develop a list of three practical strategies for overcoming temptation (see <u>Matthew 26:41</u>; <u>Romans 13:14</u>; <u>1 Corinthians 10:13</u>; <u>James 4:7</u>).

Prayer:

Practice what Jesus taught us. Focus your prayer time on expanding this one sentence in the Lord's Prayer in <u>Matthew 6:9-13</u>, "Lead us not into temptation."

Scriptures:

- **Matthew 26:41,** "Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."
- James 1:13-15, "Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death."
- Luke 11:4, "And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation."
- **Matthew 4:1,** "Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil."
- **1 Timothy 6:9,** "But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction."
- **Romans 13:14,** "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires."
- **1 Corinthians 7:2,** "But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband."
- **1 Corinthians 10:13,** "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."
- James 4:7, "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."
- Galatians 5:16, "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh."
- **Hebrews 2:18,** "For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted."