

Overcoming Temptation By Growing In Grace

2 Corinthians 7:1

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1. Cultivate Reverence

When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as a dead man. And He laid His right hand upon me, saying, "Do not be afraid....." Revelation 1:17 (NASB)

Then I said, Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts." Isaiah 6:5 (NASB)

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2. Walk in Contentment

Not that I speak from want, for I have *learned to be content* in whatever circumstances I am. Philip. 4:11 (NASB)

If we have *food and covering*, with these we shall be *content*. 1 Tim. 6:8 (NASB)

Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, *being content with what you have*; for He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you." Hebrews 13:5 (NASB)

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3. Experience God's Love

1 Corinthians 3:5-15

IV. Value reward & hate loss

- ~ Be a master builder
- ~ Build on Christ
- ~ Carry out God's work, God's way
- ~ Seek treasures in heaven

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." Matthew 13:44 (NASB)

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal." Matthew 6:19-20 (NASB)

Questions for this week:

I. For Starters:

1. What words or ideas come to mind when you hear the word "reverence"?
2. Read the Scripture below and answer what you would say to someone who asks: How does a person get to this point?

If we have *food and covering*, with these we shall be *content*.
1 Timothy 6:8 (NASB)

3. Last week it was mentioned that taking time to read and listen to sermons is a great way to cultivate a deeper reverence for God. Some books and a web site were given which are below.
 - Did you make a decision to act on the suggestion to cut you TV time, computer time or hobby time in half and if so, what happened?
 - Are there any web sites or books you would suggest to your group or family?

~Books suggested by pastor last week

Desiring God by John Piper
The Sovereignty of God by A.W. Pink
The Grace Awakening by Chuck Swindoll

The Secret of Significance Robert S McGee (Search for Significance also excellent)

~ Internet sermon site - Oneplace.com

4. Is your worship time with our Lord frequent & deep? Explain.

II. Overview of Scripture

1. Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-15.
2. What made Paul describe the Corinthians as "mere infants"? (1-2)
3. Describe the Corinthians and what the church must have been like. (3-4)
4. Why is being called "mere men" a bad thing for believers?
5. How did Paul desire for the Corinthians to view Apollos and himself and why? (5-7)
6. Why should we not be so focused on results and be more focused on faithfulness? (6)
7. What should each believer keep in mind in ministering to others? (8)
8. How we are as believers described in vs. 9 and why is that important?
9. What is the foundation of the church? (11)
10. What is the difference between gold, silver, costly stones, and the last three items of wood, hay, or straw? (12-14)
11. Sum up in your own words verses 13-15.

III. Growing deeper

1. Review Sunday's message with someone.
2. Pray for one another. Use the above truths to guide your prayers.