

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sunday School Lesson

6.8.2025

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Learn From Bad Examples

1 Corinthians 9: 24 – 27, 10: 1 – 13

As believers, Gods response to our sinfulness is intended to give unto us spiritual direction. Therefore, the warnings given unto us through his word are intended to instruct us so that we might choose to avoid worldly sinfulness and the consequences thereof. Yes, when we sin God will forgive us if we will repent, but true repentance does not flagrantly sin. If we are to have a fulfilling life that is in Christ Jesus then we must learn to faithfully, in God, show self-control, which means that there can be no excuse for giving into temptation.

James 1: 14,....every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed....

There is no doubt that temptation which leads to despair exists, and these worldly emotions, if we choose to allow them to do so in our life will move us away from God into a state of unfaithfulness and disobedience. Now, even though God allows such ordeals to come into our lives, it is not meant to tempt us to do evil, but it is intended as opportunities to increase our faith and our trust in him, so that our relationship with him might become stronger. Therefore, we are warned through all the examples that are set forth in the teachings of God's word, for God wants us to own up to our desires to sin, and hold ourselves responsible for the times when we fall back into various situations and circumstances in our life, and instead of using them as excuses for our disobedience unto God, we should instead show our desire to trust in him.

1 Corinthians 9: 24 – 27,.... know ye not....they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain....every man that striveth....do it to obtain a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible....I therefore....run, not....uncertainly....fight I, not as one that beateth the air....I keep my body, and bring it into subjection, lest that by any means....I myself should be a castaway....

So, just what is spiritual self-discipline? Spiritual self-discipline involves controlling our passions, our desires, and our actions, so that we in no way hinder our effectiveness to live as an example of the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Our concerns as a believer are not just about our own eternal hope, but our concerns also include becoming a worthy witness for the gospel of Jesus Christ. This means acknowledging our passions and desires that can lead to sinfulness in our life, and disciplining ourselves to keep our worldly, lustful, desires under the control of the indwelling Holy Spirit. This portrayal of self-discipline is a reflection of our faithfulness unto God, demonstrating unto others a Christ like life, one that truly believes in the promises and commandments of Gods word.

2 Corinthians 1: 20,....for all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him amen, unto the glory of God by us....

The truthfulness of the word of God, which is freely given unto all of mankind, has within it an abundance of promises. These promises which contain reliable commands and warnings are trustworthy, for they are affirmed through the sacrifice of his Son, Christ Jesus. Therefore, these promises signify an agreement between man and God that all who will believe might acknowledge the truth of these promises and find fulfillment unto the glory of God the Father.

1 Corinthians 10: 1 – 5,....brethern, I would not that ye....be ignorant....they drank of that spiritual rock that followed them, and that rock was Christ....but with many of them God was not well pleased, for they were over throne in the wilderness....

Often time, in our life as believers, God will give unto us reminders that not only highlights the times of blessings in our life but also highlights the disobedience that follows shortly thereafter. For these reminders are meant to caution us concerning the complacency that can come about in our lives when we allow these times of blessings to bring us to assume that we are immune from the consequences of the wrath and the judgement of God, which comes from the sinfulness in our lives. Yes, as believers, we are Gods people, but we should never presume that we are exempt from his judgement. Therefore, we must always remember, that as believers, we all drink from the same spiritual rock which is Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 10: 4,....and did all drink the same spiritual drink....and that rock was Christ....

Christ, who is our spiritual rock, provides spiritual significance, sustenance, and provision in our life. This spiritual nourishment comes through the presence of the indwelling Holy Spirit, who empowers us as believers to live a life of faithfulness unto God. Gods word is our primary source of spiritual sustenance, and through his word we gain wisdom and knowledge, encouragement and truth, which helps us as believers to live according to his will in our life.

1 Corinthians 10: 6 – 12,....with many....God was not well pleased....these things were examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things....now all these things happened....for ensamples....they are written for our admonition....let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall....

God gives unto us many examples through his word to warn us of the dangers of lusting after worldly desires, urging us to learn from the past, so that we might avoid the hazardous risks that will cause us to stumble in our faith. Therefore, let us be mindful of the actions that we produce because of our worldly desires, for these actions will eventually lead to negative consequences in our life as believers. Our response should be to take seriously these warnings that are given unto us through Gods word of truth, and stop desiring to do that which is evil, those things which are not pleasing unto God.

1 Corinthians 10: 12,....wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall....

Pridefulness will encourage worldly confidence every time, and over confidence in our spiritual standing will bring about temptation, which will eventually lead to sin. Therefore, it is very important that we do not become complacent, believing that we are unaffected and insusceptible to sin.

1 Corinthians 10: 13,....there hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man, but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it....

So, let us understand that the temptations that we face are not extraordinary, nor are they unprecedented, but they are common to all of mankind. Therefore, as believers, we must come to realize our spiritual ability to resist and to withstand temptations in our life. Yes, if we will allow God to do so through his workings of the indwelling Holy Spirit, he will provide us with the endurance to trust in his strength, and in his guidance, in our time of temptation, allowing us to know that he will always provide a way for us to remain faithful through every situation and circumstance that we might encounter in our life in Christ. God promises unto as believers that we can respond to any given temptation, situation, or circumstance in our life by simply resisting it.

James 4: 7,....submit yourselves therefore to God....resist the devil, and he will flee from you....

As we study and meditate upon the truth of God's word, we will come to understand that the examples given unto us provides strong warnings against worldly sinfulness, and these warnings should be taken very seriously, for within the righteousness of God there is no excuse for giving into temptation.

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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