

# James | Temptations and Gifts (James 1.13-18)

## Outline

### Table of Contents

- Trials, Temptations and Sin (v.13-15)
- Gifts, Grace and New Life (v.16-18)

***Main Idea- The trials that produce steadfastness cannot be confused with temptations for evil. Our God gives good gifts.***

### **Trials, Temptations, and Sin (v.13-15)**

- James 1.13-15
- The difference between trials and temptation
- The progression of temptation to sin
- The source of sin
  - Mark 7.14-23

### **Gifts, Grace, and New Life (v.16-18)**

- James 1.16-18
- The source of all gifts
- The progression of new life
  - Ephesians 2.1-9

### **Implications and Practices**

- ***The trials that produce steadfastness cannot be confused with temptations for evil. Our God gives good gifts.***
- *A dangerous reversal*

### **Reflection Questions**

- Are there areas of sin or temptation where you have blamed others or the Lord?
- Ask the Lord to allow you to see how His grace and new gifts are leading you to new life in him?

# James | Temptations and Gifts (James 1.13-18)

## Discussion Questions

1. James stresses the difference between trials and temptations.
  - a. How does this passage differentiate between trials and temptations?
  - b. What are neutral desires we see become oversized desires or idols in the church?
  - c. How are you being tempted to allow your desires to grow into sin?
2. Both James and Jesus disarm the excuses we make for giving in to temptation and sin.
  - a. Why does James point out the desires within us as the source of our temptation?
  - b. How do you tend to blame others or your circumstances for your temptations?
3. James tells us that God is the source of all gifts we receive.
  - a. What are examples of natural or supernatural gifts that God has given you?
  - b. In what ways do you fail to recognize God's purpose for gifts he's given you?
  - c. How can you be using your gifts to invite others to new life?
4. The sermon concluded with 2 common dangers: Not taking responsibility for the ways you are tempted or taking the credit for God's gifts in your life.
  - a. What is our role in facing our temptations or recognizing our gifts?
  - b. Why is it important to know that you were dead before God made you alive?
  - c. How can you be actively taking responsibility for your sin and fighting temptation?
  - d. How are you giving God the credit for the gifts he's given you?
5. Spend some time responding in prayer as a group.
  - a. Pray for the ability to recognize temptation.
  - b. Pray for the strength to fight temptation and sin.
  - c. Pray for opportunities to use your gifts to invite others into new life.