

**“...but grow in the grace and
knowledge of
our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ.
To Him be the glory,
both now and to
the day of eternity.
Amen.”**

II Peter 3:18

Growing in Christ: The Goal...

**We are to grow in Christ-likeness,
being conformed to His character,
bearing fruit and
growing in good works**

Factors in Growing in Christ:

- Salvation!
- Scripture: Meaningful encounters with the Word of God!, Col. 3:16
- Abide in Christ, John 15:1-16
- Discipline Yourself Toward Godliness, I Timothy 4.
- Baptism.

Factors in Growing in Christ:

- “Latreia Living” ↔ “Worship-Service” Lifestyle
- Have Meaningful Encounters with One Another: Body-Life, Community; Serving and Being Served!
- “Mind-Control”

FOR EXAMPLE...

**WRONG
THOUGHTS:**

**“CAPTIVE”
THOUGHTS:**

We are to take every thought
captive
to the obedience of Christ,
Setting our minds
on things above, and
Dwelling on the things
that are true, honorable, right,
pure, lovely, etc.

Facing Temptation...

Overcoming and...Rebounding

- Temptation is universal! James 1:13,
- Temptations never come from God, James 1:13.
- Temptations often accompany trials, James 1:2-4; 12-15
- Temptations can come from “within,” James 1:14

Facing Temptation...

Overcoming and...Rebounding

- Temptations can also come from “without,” Matt. 4:1-11.
- Giving in to temptations always hurts, James 1:15.
- Giving in to temptations leads to bondage, Hebrews 12:1; Romans 6:16.

Facing Temptation...

Overcoming and...Rebounding

- Jesus brought us freedom from slavery to “The Sin,” Romans 6:6, 11, 17-18, 22.

The Impeccability of Jesus:

Was Jesus....

Not ABLE to sin, or....

ABLE NOT to sin?

The Impeccability of Jesus:

Was Jesus....

Not ABLE to sin, or....

ABLE NOT to sin?

But we are

ABLE NOT TO SIN!!!

Facing Temptation...

Overcoming and...Rebounding

- Jesus brought us freedom from slavery to “The Sin,” Romans 6:6, 11, 17-18, 22.

Facing Temptation...

Overcoming and...Rebounding

- Therefore, all temptation is bearable! We can conquer...

overcome...resist ANY

TEMPTATION WE FACE!

Romans 6:14; II Peter 1:3;

I Corinthians 10:13;

Philippians 4:13.

Facing Temptation...

Overcoming and...Rebounding

- Therefore, all temptation is bearable! We can conquer... overcome...resist ANY

TEMPTATION WE FACE!

Romans 6:14; II Peter 1:3;

I Corinthians 10:13;

Philippians 4:13

BUT SOMETIMES WE WON'T!!

Facing Temptation...

Overcoming and...Rebounding

- WHEN WE SIN, **forgiveness** is available through **confession**, in order to **restore our fellowship with God!**, I John 1:9

Facing Temptation...

Some helpful suggestions:

- Commit yourself to Godliness in advance!
- Know your weaknesses!
- Avoid tempting situations (or people) when you can!
- Be extra careful when you are extra vulnerable!

Facing Temptation...

Some helpful suggestions:

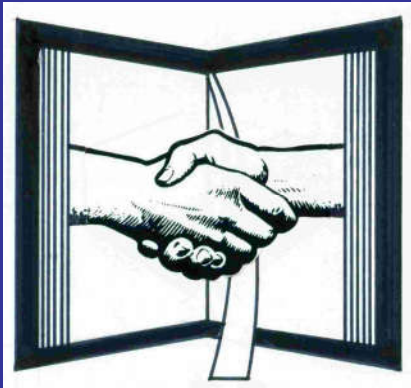
- **WHEN** tempted...**GET OUT OF THERE!!**
- Memorize Scriptures that deal with your weaknesses! Quote them when you are tempted.
- **KNOW** that you can be victorious over them, as you rely on God and His power and His Word!

Facing Temptation...

Some helpful suggestions:

- Be confident but not arrogant! Be careful but not intimidated!

Temptation to sin
will be a recurring reality
of life in this flesh,
and we grow when we
resist it,
and forgiveness is
available when we do not!



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