

# TO GO

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1. What kinds of temptations are especially prevalent in the world around you today? What kinds of things do people tend to struggle with? Why is it so easy to blame someone else, or to blame God for what becomes our own temptations?
2. Read James 1:12. What promise does James make about the benefits of remaining steadfast under trial? Why are we prone to focus on one aspect of that promise or another, on the present or the future, but not both? Why is it so encouraging that both are part of the deal?
3. Read James 1:13–14. Why do we tend to blame God for what we're tempted with? Why is it that God cannot be tempted? What does that mean, and why does James use that reality as an argument for God not tempting us?
4. Read James 1:15. What process does James articulate for how temptation infiltrates our lives and experience? Have you seen this process play out in your own reality? How so?
5. Read James 1:16–17. Why are the good gifts of God such a powerful remedy to the allure of sin's temptations? How can you dwell on God's good gifts rather than the desires of the flesh? Why is this so important?
6. Read James 1:18. What outcome does James have in mind for those who pass the test of temptation? Why is this so critical for our Christian witness?
7. Spend several minutes prayerfully focusing on your own life. What desires do you have that are currently vulnerable to temptation? Confess those desires to the Lord and ask him for courage and strength to resist temptation. And ask him to captivate your imagination with his glory and gifts today and always.