

SOUL PROVIDER

Pause, Part 2

September 4th, 2011

With temptation there is always more at stake than we think

Our tendency is to think all that's at stake is "Now"

When we give in to temptation it affects you and everyone under your authority

When tempted, pause & say, "Temptation, you won't steal my future; you won't steal my family; you won't steal my faith."

Temptation is always a test of your faith - not just your self-control

For many their approach to life is, "If I don't, it won't"

Some were raised believing God cares about the details of life

God has invited us to call Him, "Heavenly Father"

When we decide to jump in and make things happen on our own, we say, "God I don't believe You can be trusted; I don't believe You care, know or will come through for me."

Key question: "How big is your God?"

Many Christians miss God working in their lives because we jump in to make things happen

When we don't trust, we don't obey, and eventually we don't even believe

Your lack of faith began when you quit trusting God for specifics, & you quit obeying God in the specifics, and now you're not even sure you believe anymore

The value of examining Christ's temptations is seeing He was tempted to do something on His own instead of trusting God

Matthew 4:1-3

The Israelites learned that God could be trusted to provide for their daily needs

Deuteronomy 8:2-3

Simply having what you need physically is not enough - more important is God's Word - living under the & authority of God's Word

Deuteronomy 8:11-14

God is concerned when we have more than enough, we'll forget where it came from
We forget when we have a need, that you can _____ God

Deuteronomy 11:17-18

Throughout Scripture God reminds us, He is the ultimate source/provider for all our needs

A major key to overcoming temptation is to put it in its proper context – which is, your faith in God is at stake

Matthew 4:4

In the area where you are most tempted is where God wants to show up in your life in a real & tangible way if you will trust and let Him

What makes life worth living is uninterrupted fellowship with the Father

I must refuse to bow to, “If I don’t, it won’t” living

I won’t allow temptation to steal my faith; I’ll wait & trust God to meet my needs

I must decide if God knows, cares, and will He do anything about my needs – if I believe He does, I must pause

It is in the “gap” (between pausing and waiting on God) where He is honored

Matthew 6:34

Will I say, “God, today I am trusting You to meet my needs.” Then I make the next Right decision

Begin each day saying to God, “I believe. I trust You.”

My Next Step Today Is:

- My prayer, “God, help me to see temptation for what it really is, a test of my faith.”
- My prayer, “God, when tempted, help me learn to pause and trust you to meet my needs.”
- I can’t make the beach baptism, but I would like to be baptized on Sunday, Sept 18th
- I am interested in learning more about working with New Hope and South Bay Community Services on putting food boxes together on Tues, Sept 13th