

Growth Group Leader Guide

This “growth group leader guide” is meant to be just that, a guide. Please feel free as the leader of your group to add questions or comments, as you feel necessary, to fit your group’s dynamics.

Also, don’t feel pressured to cover every question.

Lead Us Not into Temptation – March 8, 2025

- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.
- What stood out the most through this sermon series on the Lord’s prayer? Did you learn something you didn’t know beforehand? How has the Lord’s prayer affected your personal prayer life?

4 Parts to Sunday’s Sermon

- **The Context**
- **The Petition**
- **The Parallel Statement**
- **The Application**

I. The Context

- When you think about the future, what concerns you most right now—things like your job, health, finances, family, or your personal holiness and walk with God? Why do you think that is?
- Share honestly—do you find yourself more worried about earthly things (career, retirement, health) or your sanctification? What might need to shift in your priorities?
- In what ways does Matthew 6:33 (“seek first his kingdom and his righteousness”) connect to prioritizing holiness over other future concerns?
- Do you ever pray that God would not lead you into temptation?

II. The Petition

- The Greek word for "temptation" (πειρασμός) can mean trial/testing or temptation to sin, depending on context. Why do you think the ESV translates it as "temptation" here?
- The sermon interprets Matthew 6:13 as: *"Lord, don't lead us into a trial that presents such temptation we cannot resist it—give us strength to endure and a way of escape."*
 - How does this align with 1 Corinthians 10:13?
 - Have you experienced God providing a "way of escape" in a tempting situation?
- Joseph fled from Potiphar's wife (Genesis 39) because he was humbly skeptical of his own strength. The sermon warns against overestimating our spiritual state (Proverbs 16:18). Share an example—either personal or observed—where pride ("I can handle this") led to trouble, or where humility (running from temptation) protected someone.

III. The Parallel Statement

- The sermon describes "deliver us" as a desperate cry for rescue (like Paul's use in 2 Timothy 3:11 and 4:17-18). Why is this language of desperation important? How does it remind us of our weakness and God's power?
- The Greek word for "evil" is masculine, pointing to "the evil one" (Satan). The sermon references Peter's experience (Luke 22:31-34; 1 Peter 5:8) and warns that Satan's ways fill the world (Ephesians 2:2).
 - How aware are you of spiritual warfare in daily life?
 - What does it look like practically to "be sober-minded and watchful"?
- Jesus told His disciples to "watch and pray" so they would not enter into temptation (Matthew 26:41). If even the apostles (Peter, Paul, etc.) needed this prayer desperately, what does that say about our own need for it? Especially when it comes to overcoming temptation.

IV. The Application

- The sermon gives four key applications:
 - Recognize temptations as a real, daily threat.
 - Understand we cannot resist temptation in our own power.

- Pray for endurance in the fight.
- Pray for deliverance from personal patterns of temptation.
 - Which of these hits home most for you right now, and why?
- **Read and discuss** the following quote.
 - *We do not meet God halfway and trust him to do the rest. Rather, God does it all! He is the deliverer, we are the delivered. He is the savior; we are the saved. The Bible does not teach that God helps those who help themselves; instead, God helps those who are at the end of themselves. The gospel teaches that only by God's grace can we truly overcome the temptations of the world, the wickedness of our own hearts and the power of the Devil. - Albert Molher*
 - Do you agree or disagree with this quote? Explain your answer.
 - How does this view of total dependence on God's grace change how you fight temptation?
 - What practical step can you take this week to pray this petition more intentionally (e.g., daily, when facing a specific temptation)?
- How can your group pray for one another this week in light of this sermon—perhaps for specific areas of temptation, greater humility, or God's deliverance?

For the Soul Conference - On Saturday May 23 | 8:30am-3pm | Worship Center

The aim of this conference is to provide believers with the tools needed to flee from sexual immorality in our digital age. A lot of the focus will be on helping the next generation, but this conference will be helpful for any believer.

[Sign up online!](#) Feel free to reach out to Pastor Zach

Douglas (zach@countryoaks.org) with any questions regarding the conference.