

Lifeline Series: Lead Us Not Into Temptation, but Deliver Us From Evil  
April 26 - 27, 2025

Welcome back to our Lifeline Series where we are going over line by line the Lord's Prayer and taking the time to hear our master's heart of prayer to strengthen our Lifeline with our Heavenly Father, staying tight with God.

But before we start, gotta say, "a hui hou" do it again God to all the ways He showed up this past Holy Wk. in our church. At the Tuesday morning pastors meeting we always start with God Things, Praise Reports. We celebrate the stories of people being touched, moved, empowered by Jesus, and recommitting themselves to walking more intimately with God. We said, "this was the bestest Holy Week we've experienced. How many of you were were moved and drew closer to God by something that happened to you this past Holy Week? God's so good.

And wasn't that an amazing Hula. As the world just completed celebrating the Merrie Monarch Hula Festival, we got to celebrate our Magnificent Monarch, Jesus Christ through hula. Mahalo all you dancers who danced your heart out for Jesus.

And how many of you appreciate our new ministry, the Shuttle Bus Ministry? That's another God Thing. We got word last week that we were not gonna be able to park from Easter weekend on because of the construction happening shortly. But our "nick a time, God" shows up again and provides! One family in our church just so happens, has a shuttle bus, they not using on the weekends. I texted the owner, she said, let me get back to you, ten minutes later, I get the good news, And I quote, "sure, you folks can use it for whatever you need!" And now we have a safe, secure,

and easy way to get from Center St. to our Sanctuary! We'll make some tweaks in the following wks to how that ministry operates. Grace Agdinaoay and her husband Bryan are serving as leaders for this ministry to schedule drivers for every service. When you see Eduard and the Mas, thank them for their heart of generosity!

As a review to our Master Jesus Prayer, I know so many of you have memorized the Lord's Prayer in the Shakespearean language of 400 yrs ago. But I'd like us to read from a modern English version of it in the NLT. (Keynote 9 - 12 together)

Our Father in heaven,  
May your name be kept holy.  
May your Kingdom come soon.  
May your will be done on earth,  
as it is in heaven.  
Give us today the food we need,  
and forgive us our sins,  
as we have forgiven those who sin against us.

And today, we'll focus on this last part of our Master's Prayer. (Keynote)

13 And don't let us yield to temptation,  
but rescue us from the evil one (Matthew 6:9 - 13 NLT)

But before I go on? I wanna see how many of you believe that evil one (Satan, The devil) is a real being that actively wants to mess us up? Or do you believe just in the existence of evil in general and that Satan is more of a symbolic person? How many of you believe in angels who serve as divine messengers, warriors, interacting with us to deliver

messages, guard believers, and fight against spiritual darkness? Look at this image. Is this your image of Satan? (Keynote images)

Image of Satan (typical): <https://images.app.goo.gl/fDvqsj5vDz6sBBCG9>

Is this your image of an Angel: (Include images from ChatGPT of the angels of light)

I wanna give you a better image of what Satan may look like. This is what

Apostle Paul says as he writes about false teachers: (KEYNOTE)

These people are false apostles. They are deceitful workers who disguise themselves as apostles of Christ. But I am not surprised! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:13 - 14 NLT).

And that's one way the evil one operates. He makes you think he doesn't exist. Or you don't even recognize him cuz he's disguises himself as an angel to do good.

Now regarding temptation, let me ask you another question. Does our loving

father God tempt us, entice us, lure us to doing evil? No way! Would a

loving father intentionally take his kids down the candy aisle of the grocery

store and tempt his kids to all those candies, especially if the kids all get

cavities cuz dey like candy? Look at all the ono kine chocolate, my

precious kids? Of course not. That's not the nature of our loving father.

He doesn't tempt us like that. (Think of a more compelling illustration)

We are tempted when we go down the candy aisle ourselves and get all the

candy we want! This is what James says about temptations, being enticed

into doing what is wrong. (Keynote)

And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, “God is tempting me.” God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else. Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death (James 1:13 - 15 NLT).

So temptation also comes from our own desires! And that leads to death.

Can’t just say, the devil made me do it. He surely deceives us to think that doing wrong is ok, but we are also enticed by our own dark/wrong desires.

But there is good news. This is what the Hebrew writer says about temptation. (Keynote)

Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted (Hebrews 2:18 NIV).

That’s why Jesus says to us, “allow me to help you overcome temptation from the evil one!” Make that part of your prayer. “don’t let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one”

Do you remember the account of Jesus being tempted? God allows Jesus to endure the temptations of the devil. And the devil knows our weakness and exploits them. Let’s read what he does! (**Keynote**)

<sup>1</sup>Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, <sup>2</sup>where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.” <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered, “**It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’**” <sup>5</sup>The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup>And he said to him, “I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. <sup>7</sup>If you worship me, it will all be yours.” <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered, “**It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’**” <sup>9</sup>The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand

on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here. <sup>10</sup>For it is written:

“‘He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully;

<sup>11</sup>they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’”

<sup>12</sup>Jesus answered, “It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

<sup>13</sup>When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time (Luke 6:1 - 13 NLT).

So let’s be clear, the evil one, and Satan tempts, but God tests. The devil tempts us to fall. But God tests us to stand strong, grow, mature, build character and make us more like Jesus.

And see how cunning, conniving, sinister the devil is. He uses half truths to tempt us.

You see da devil is a head hunter and he works to mess up your thoughts on God and truth. His M.O is to mess you up in your minds with half truths.

Jalike he tried to mess with Jesus in the wilderness.

If you are the of son of God. . . (tempts Jesus with his identity. . . ) (half truth) then do this.

I will give you all the authority and spendor (Why, I already have that authority), then do this.

If you are the son of God. . . He’s gonna have us question the very character of God

And he does that with us:

Brah dat goin feel good you do dat, you deserve to feel good.

You think God really loves you, look how bad you are.

God is a forgiving God, but you think he can forgive you for dat terrible thing you did? I don't know if you can forgive yourself completely.

God says, you no need be shame to be called his precious child, but shame you no go church? You no can even prove you love God.

God is always there by your side. But do you think God was with you when you was going through that hard time? I think he abandoned you.

You are good, but really you not good enough. You gotta work harder, try harder. You gotta prove to God you love him before he can love you back.

And we believe these half truths and that messes us up. He'll dangle what looks to be good, but it's only gonna lead you to death, separation. **(Just like the leho hee** (He knows what to dangle in front of you, and it seems like the real deal, but he will just play with you until you die) and he'll sink his lies into you. And you'll be messed up.

By his own name, the devil is a liar, a temper, the deceiver. He'll makes promises and not deliver. He'll bait you and switch.

Jesus says this about the devil, **(Keynote)**

**“He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies (John 8:44 NLT)**

So that's why we have to pray, God rescue us, deliver us, save us from the evil one. Cuz he's such a deceiver, a liar, and makes us think he's not at work. But he's at work to mess us up! Make us live like we not free people.

Show pic of the person unshackled but believing like they are still in prison. **(Keynote)**.

Let's take to heart what Jesus asks us to pray, Jesus "please don't let me yield to, succumb to, be defeated by, lose to, fall to temptation, but rescue me from the evil one (who wants to mess me up)

When you sincerely make this your prayer, you are declaring your dependence on God. You are confessing your weakness in our own will/ways, our flesh/our body.

You remember last wk's testimony of Bryan and Grace. He now knows he is weak in the area of the P (word). He didn't share this in this story, but now he only carries a Filipino phone. Yeah, one flip one. Eh, I grew up in Waipahu as a Filipino disguised as one Japanese! I love pinackbit, dinardadaan, kakanen!

Bryan more humble and wiser now and he stays away from anything that will tempt him to fall back into that sin, so in his professed weakness, he is strong in our God.

Paul speaks about this in his letter to the Corinthian church. He speaks about something that has been tormenting him. **(Keynote)**

So to keep me from becoming proud, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger from Satan to torment me and keep me from becoming proud. <sup>8</sup>Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. <sup>9</sup>Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. <sup>10</sup>That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Paul heard from Jesus saying to him, my grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness. So look at Paul's attitude. He is proud of his weakness! Why, so that he can depend on God's power not his own willpower. It's when make big head and think we get um God, I no need you. I can depend on our own smarts, power, and do things the way I like? You know what the bible says about a person like this? You are prideful, your arrogant. And wise people in the bible say, Pride comes before the what? Yes, the fall! You one prideful, arrogant, no like nobody tell you what fo do person, watch out, cuz you are on the pathway of falling big time.

Do you know arrogant people like this who think they know better, who in their mind is rarely wrong, always gotta be their way, have no room for correction? Sadly, that was me and that old me was so ugly)

And that's what the devil wants to tempt you with.

In fact, Peter says it like this, **(Keynote)**

And all of you, dress yourselves in humility as you relate to one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up in honor. Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith. Remember that your family of believers all over the world is going through the same kind of suffering you are.

(1 Peter 5:5 - 9 NLT)

So God is looking for people who are humble, people who no make big head.

And tell, "eh, I get um. I no need nobody" Pride comes before the what?

The Fall. But God will lift up those in honor who are humble. I don't know about you, but I rather be lifted up in honor by admitting my weakness than

fall down in destruction because I get one big head. So let's choose to be humble and be dependant on God. You agree?

(Optional sharing).

I want to share with you some praise reports regarding witnessing some having their breakthroughs from living so long in the lies of Jesus.

I met with one person who was dealing with some past trauma and it kept tormenting him. He believed that God abandoned him darkest moment. I was able to help him see that in Jesus most darkest moment, dying for the sins of the world, there was a moment when God the father turned his face from weight of the penalty of humanities sin that he turned away, but that God didn't abandon Jesus. And I was able to help that person see that Jesus was bearing the pain and suffering he was going through.

Truth about temptation: And this truth one the foundational truths we go through in the BASICS class and here it is:

Other praise reports: People are putting their faith in Jesus and saying yes to an invitation to be in relationship with him.

Got to witness three people giving their lives to Jesus these past wks. Two in the BASIC class and one at Sat evening service at Easter.

I shared this from Paul speaking to the Roman church people:

“The message is very close at hand; it is on your lips and in your heart.”

And that message is the very message about faith that we preach: <sup>9</sup>If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. <sup>11</sup>As the Scriptures tell us, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.” <sup>12</sup>Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For “Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.”

I want to end this message with a promise from God regarding the temptations we go through. **(Keynote)**

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it (1 Corinthians 10:12 - 13 NIV)

How many of you believe God is faithful, especially in the midst of the temptations we face. And we have a secret weapon that wages war against the dark forces of evil. We have the victorious spirit of God, as the Holy Spirit who is the one that helps us resist those temptations to do wrong.

I've asked the Worship Team to lead us in a response song. Are you going through hard times. Felt like you've been overlooked. So many experienced the touch of God this past holy week, but for others, you may be thinking, when's my turn to experience God doing something miraculous in my life. Why don't you cry out to God .

## Small Group Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever believed a "half-truth" that the enemy used to tempt or discourage you? How did God reveal the truth to you?
2. What's a common temptation you struggle with? What "escape route" has God provided you in the past—or do you need to look for one now?
3. When have you experienced God's strength most clearly in your weakness? How did it shift your dependence on Him?
4. How do you discern between being tested by God versus being tempted by the enemy?
5. Who are the people in your life who help you stay accountable and grounded in truth when you're facing temptation?