



APPNOTES

Date: May 25-29 , 2020

Series: James: Faith That Works

1 Corinthians 10:13-14 Do you ever wonder if you're walking a path that no one has ever walked before? The very desires you so desperately need to feel or experience could never have been felt by another? Like an explorer seeking and searching for something new, undiscovered, something of value, or maybe even dangerous, all of which can be so tempting. It feels as if you are experiencing all of this alone, but as Apostle Paul tells us, there is no temptation you will face that another human has not also faced. God is there for us to give us a way out. He also warns us to run from worshiping something or someone other than Himself. Find comfort in knowing that you are not alone. Know your desires are not yours alone. Know your sin is not unique to you or so bad that there is no hope. Your hope is in God.

Hebrews 4:15-16 Jesus, our Savior, seated at the right hand of God. The Son of God. The "Messiah" or the "Anointed One". These titles of power offer such an image of perfection. Jesus was human and walked the same Earth as you and I do, and Jesus was also fully God. He was sent by God and already knew the love and goodness of his Father, and through Jesus we can have that very relationship with our Heavenly Father. Through that love, we can fight the very same temptations and desires that will lead us to sin, as Jesus Himself was able to do. How awesome knowing that the very person we now worship was human once too and faced the same things we do. He gets it! So go to Him and do not be afraid to ask for God's grace. This should give you hope and promise!

John 10:10 "This is amazing grace. This is unfailing love. That You would take my place. That You would bear my cross. You lay down Your life. That I would be set free..." These lyrics are from a Phil Wickam song. A worship song that can cause you to raise your hand to Heaven in praise. I love how this song makes me feel. I love how these words ring so true to what Jesus did for us -- and why. Each and every day we are tempted by the Devil, the Thief, who wants to take our joy away. The Thief will lure us further and further into sin until we cannot find our way out. But we do have a way

out! We have Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Do not ever forget that. No matter how deep you are or were, He will save you. He already has.

Proverbs 6:28 As a mom, I have watched my three children grow from infancy to toddlers to children; two have even reached their teens. No matter the age, they have such innocence, in their thinking, and inexperience in their actions. Sometimes they need to touch the hot stove to understand what “hot” means or purposefully step on the bumblebee to understand the “sting”. We pray that during these times they aren’t hurt so much that our love, compassion, a hug and a couple of band aids won’t fix it. Just as children need to learn the consequences of what can and will hurt us, adults aren’t so very different. Even when you scorch your feet walking on hot coals or have done the unthinkable, you too will receive the same love and compassion we give to our children, from the Heavenly Father. Let God’s love and grace heal you, making you new again.

1 Peter 5:8-9 The Book of James is a letter written by James, brother of Jesus, with an overall theme of patience and perseverance during our trials and temptations. James wants to encourage believers to live out our faith, not just speak the words, but to get down and dirty and do what we were taught by Jesus. All of us want the same ending, a deep and personal relationship with God. But we’re going to face the enemy. Like Apostle Peter says, the Devil prowls like a roaring lion just watching for someone to devour. We can find strength and courage by holding onto our faith and knowing that there is an army behind us, an army of other believers fighting the same battles we are. Think of someone in your life that may need that reminder. Go and link arms with them, get dirty and bring them into our family by sharing the love of God.

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