

FORMATIONAL DISCIPLINE

WEEK FIVE THE DISCIPLINE OF WATCHING

When do you find yourself most vulnerable to temptation?

“Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Jesus (Matthew 26:41 ESV)

The Sources of Our Struggle

Ephesians 2:1-3

Spiritual death in trespasses and sins is characterized by following 3 courses:

_____ (Romans 12:2)

_____ (1 Peter 5:8-9)

_____ (James 1:12-15)

Know Yourself

Romans 7:14-25; 1 Corinthians 10:12-13

Freedom

Galatians 5:13; 1 Corinthians 10:23-24, 31-11:1

“As Jesus honors his Father in all things, Christians are to seek ‘the glory of God’ in everything we do. This is not easy, since sin tempts us to insist on our own rights at others’ expense, and to compromise our loyalty to God. But the gospel offers us this hope: we who have received Christ as Savior also have strength to follow his example. Indeed, the cross of Christ, where our salvation is accomplished, is the place where we learn to imitate Christ by doing costly things for God’s glory and our neighbor’s good.”

Note at 1 Cor 10:23-11:1, *ESV Gospel Transformation Bible*

QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER THOUGHT

1. Read Hebrews 4:14-16. How does knowing that Jesus has endured temptation and sympathizes with our weaknesses encourage you in your own struggle against sin?

2. How does the idea of freedom in Christ being for the advantage of others impact your view of discipline? How can you use the freedom God has given you to serve others through love?

Where do you need to be watchful to stay on the path of discipline God is calling you to? What vulnerabilities do you have in this area? Pray for God's help to strengthen you against temptations and for what steps you can take to guard yourself as you continue to commit to Him.