

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. - 1 Corinthians 10:6

I. FOUR NO-NO'S

- Paul exhorts the Corinthians to learn from someone else's experiences. He gives four ways that the people of Israel wronged the Lord in the wilderness and reminds the Corinthians to learn valuable lessons:
 - 1) Do not be idolaters (Ex. 32).
 - 2) Do not indulge in sexual immorality (Num. 25:1-9).
 - 3) Do not put Christ to the test (Num. 21:6).
 - 4) Do not grumble/complain (Num. 16:41-50).
- These stories are not just stories, they are real events written down so that we may not forget them. For the Corinthians and for us, on whom "the end of the ages has come" (Vs.11; Heb. 9:26; 1 Peter 1:20; James 5:3; 1 John 2:18).

II. GOD IS FAITHFUL

- Paul concludes this exhortation to learn from the past with a word of hope. We are not strong when we say we are strong. We are strong in the faith when we are strong in Christ.
- You are not unique in your temptations. Our temptations are common. Christ was tempted too (Heb. 4:14-16).
- You are never allowed to be tempted beyond your ability to resist. It is never, "The devil made me do it." God always provides a way of escape (Vs. 13; John 13:25-27; James 4:6-10).
- Temptations will come in our lives, but we have both the Spirit of God in us, and examples laid down for us, to combat them (Luke 17:1-4).

KNOW: Our faith is a marathon, and during that marathon we are not called to take respites, nor are we called to put Christ and his faithfulness to the test. Jesus is a patient and loving Savior, but he is also a Judge. The good news? God's Spirit always provides a way out of temptation to sin.

DO: Learn from biblical examples as you grow up in Christ. Seek the way of escape through the Spirit.

Suggested Reading:

Seeing God in the Dark: Unraveling the Mysteries of Holy Living by

J.I. Packer

(Available in the LifePoint Adult Library)

For Teens:

Do Not Be True To Yourself by Kevin DeYoung

(Available in the LifePoint Teen Library)

Next Week's Text: 1 Corinthians 10:14-22

**Questions/Discovery Points for
Life Groups/Families**

Please Read I Corinthians 10:6-13

1. Paul continues to remind the Corinthians of the past. Why?
2. Why did all of those events in the past take place according to Paul?
3. What were the four main sinful issues in the wilderness that Paul wants to warn us about?
4. Why, do you think, does Paul talk about the "end of the ages" here?
5. What is the good news in this passage?
6. Will you memorize 1 Cor. 10:13? Will you use it as part of your defenses against temptation and sin?