

February 24, 2023

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

1 Cor. 10:13 *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. (NIV)*

Let's take a look today at a most important principle of freedom in Christ. Why is it that some people can overcome sinful desires in their life, and some seem to be constantly in bondage? The key here is 'who' is in charge of your decisions. I make horrible and selfish decisions. The LORD makes perfect decisions in me. I love this example I read this week: a young girl explained it this way. What I do when the devil comes to me with temptations at the door of my heart: "I send Jesus to answer the door. When the devil sees Jesus, he says, "OOPS, sorry, wrong address." The problem is that most of us answer the door ourselves and the temptation can be so overpowering, that we tend to give in. The answer? Send Jesus. He will not only give you strength, but He will also provide something better. By the way, there is always something better no matter how fun or delightful that sin may seem. **Gen. 3:1-8** *"Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as He was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. (NIV)* Now I had never noticed this until today. Where did they hide? They hid among the trees. Why hide? Because they knew they had sinned. They were hiding in the place of sin instead of living in the place of holiness. Instead of running to the LORD, they were running away from Him. What would have happened if the woman had let the LORD answer the door?

Dear LORD, I give You complete control of my heart today. Whenever temptation come to knock on my heart's door, please allow the Holy Spirit to answer. I want to trust You completely in every area of my life. In Jesus Name, Amen