

WEDNESDAY & BREVARY



CURRENT SERIES:

Week 4:
Fighting The
Fight



ANNOUNCEMENTS!

- ➔ Advance & FBC.
- ➔ East Sunday is next week! I'd prefer if everyone could be here but if you plan on being gone I really need to know ASAP!

CALENDAR:

- ➔BIG STUF- June 14-18!
- ➔Advance-Today! @ 10:30 AM immediately after Xtreme service is over.
- ➔Family Birthday Celebration- May 2.

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PICTURES!



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The Battle Within: Fighting The Fight

Bottom Line: We are tempted to believe that we know how God works and how we think we can work Him.

Message Overview:

This week as we close out our series on temptation we are still looking at how temptation is an issue with our trust in God but looking at it from a specific angle—our temptation to manipulate God. **Your goal this week is to help students explore the many ways that we are tempted to manipulate God, and make God much smaller than God actually is.** This week has the potential to help many students understand why they may have felt frustrated with God in the past—because they were looking for God to be far less than who He actually is and fit in the box they have for Him. Don't miss the potential this week to help students examine the way they pray and communicate with God.

Scripture References: Matthew 4:5-7; Psalm 91:12; Exodus 17:2-3

Questions:

- 1.) Why do you think we get tempted to do things that we know aren't going to be best for us in the long run?
- 2.) Have you ever chosen to make a bad choice because you were fairly confident that you could get out of the consequences?
- 3.) Have you ever made a poor choice and then assumed that God would bail you out of trouble? What's the danger in assuming what God will or will not do?
- 4.) What are some ways that people might try to "manipulate" God? Can you think of some examples?
- 5.) If God doesn't bail you out of a situation, does it mean that He doesn't care about you? Why or why not?
- 6.) What do you think it looks like to cooperate with God? Do you think you have ever done that? What do you think it looks like to manipulate God? Do you think you have ever done that?
- 7.) When you try to get God to give you what you want, or act the way you think He ought to act, how does it affect the way you pray and the way God can relate to you?
- 8.) What might prevent you from really surrendering to God and deciding to cooperate rather than manipulate?
- 9.) What does it do to your relationship with God when we try to manipulate him?
- 10.) What is your biggest take away about temptation from this series? And how will you apply it to your life, SPECIFICALLY?

The Next Step:

X/IO: This week's talk is closely related to the way we talk and interact with God. It's a great time to discuss the way that we pray, and exactly what we are hoping for when we talk to God. You might challenge your students to write down their prayers for an entire week and try to see whether they are listening to God, surrendering to God or trying to manipulate God to get what they want.