

Lesson 1: Temptation

Icebreaker Questions:

1. Ask each person in the group to name their favorite sport (or game) and tell why it is their favorite.
2. If you could change one rule in your favorite sport or game, what would it be?



Alternative:

Have two people compete to try to throw the most pennies in a plastic cup. The first person has to stand ten feet away from the cup. The second person gets to stand right next to the cup. Ask the group which one they think is going to win.

Tell the group:

During the next few weeks, we are going to look at biblical ways Jesus changes the game, how he transforms this world from defeat to victory. This week, we are going to see how Jesus changes the game when it comes to temptation.

Watch the Video

Discussion Questions:

1. Twice in Romans 6, Paul uses a phrase translated in the NIV as "by no means" (verses 2, 15). Look at some different versions and see how the phrase is translated. What do you think Paul is trying to say?
2. Find as many reasons as you can in Romans 6 that Paul gives for avoiding sin. Why do you think he repeats so many times the same message that we should avoid sin?
3. Why is it a good thing to be set free from sin (verse 22)?
4. Does it make you uncomfortable that Paul describes believers as "slaves to God" in verse 22? How could this be a good thing?
5. In the video, Vaughn pointed out several biblical ways to change the game in our battle against temptation. How many can you name? Which one is hardest for you?
 - Avoid temptation.
 - RUN!
 - Pray.
 - Look for the way out.
 - Realize it can be done.
 - Get ready for battle.

Romans 6:21–22 (NIV)

²¹ What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.