

God's Presence in Temptation

Genesis 39

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. Romans 8:39

What is Genesis 39 about?

How does God's presence help us fight temptation?

1. God's presence _____. (We are no longer victims.)
2. God's presence _____. (We are no longer consumers.)

* In temptation, the reason to say _____
becomes the reason to say _____.

3. God's presence _____. (We are no longer powerless.)

to _____ → to _____ → to _____
"lie with me" "day after day" "caught him"

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength.

Isaiah 40:27-29

Response Questions:

God's presence calls (we are stewards).

- What have you experienced that tends to leave you feeling like a victim?
- In what ways does that feeling of hurt leave you vulnerable to anger, despair, lust...?
- If God's presence calls us in the midst of suffering, what does this stewardship (management, vocation) look like for you?

God's presence clarifies (we are worshipers).

- Can you think of a temptation you face where the reason to say "no" to the temptation actually can become the reason to say "yes"? (e.g. Joseph had been entrusted with everything.)
- Why are these kinds of temptation especially difficult to resist?
- How does God's presence clarify the right and wrong in these temptations?

God's presence compels (we are overcomers).

- Temptation is persistent and adaptable. Can you identify several forms of the same temptation you face?
- Which form is most difficult for you to resist? Why?
- Why, in a context of suffering and temptation, is God described as "the God of all grace"? (1 Peter 5:10)