

NS LIFE GROUPS

Hook, Line, and Sinker (Week 1) – “Enticed”

James 1:13-15

March 1, 2020

Main Idea: Three Clear Steps of Temptation

Icebreaker: How do you feel about fishing? What is your experience with it? Do you have a favorite fishing memory?

Study:

Read James 1:13-15 and use the following points and questions to discuss this week’s sermon.

Three Clear Steps of Temptation:

1. According to verse 14, what is the first step of temptation? (*Our evil desires*)

- What are some good desires that we have been given by God?
- What are some evil desires that lead to sin?
- What are some ways that good or neutral desires can cross over into a sinful desire? (*Desire for food when it leads to gluttony; desire for sex when it goes outside of a marriage between a husband and wife; etc.*)

2. According to verse 15, what does evil desire give birth to? (*Sin*)

- How could you stop the progression of temptation between the step of sinful desire that entices and actually committing sin? (*Remove yourself from the tempting situation; get accountability; etc.*)

3. According to verse 15, what does choosing to sin ultimately lead to? (*Death?*)

- What does the Bible mean by death here? (*Spiritual death and separation from God if not saved by Jesus; destruction in your life and relationships as a consequence of sin; etc.*)
- How have you seen this principle of sin leading to death play out in life? (*Story of someone’s life being ruined by substance abuse; walking through the consequences of adultery; etc.*)

Application:

1. Take a moment to reflect. In what area of life are you currently facing temptation of some kind?
2. Continue reflecting rather than answering aloud. What step along this progression of temptation do you find yourself in? (*Desire → Sin → Death*)
3. What is one next step you need to take in response to today’s discussion? (*Repent, get accountability, remove yourself from a tempting situation or relationship.*)

Close your group time with intentional prayer for each other and for our church. Pray that God would help us overcome sin and give us the courage to take difficult steps of obedience to see victory over temptation.