

'Resist and Be Blessed'

By Pastor Bill Hayden

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Since the beginning of time, temptation has been like a pit bull. Once you are in its grip, the likelihood of being released without major scars and bloodletting is rare. When we see something we want, it makes us feel warm and fuzzy on the inside, but after we acquire it, in a short time, those warm and fuzzy feelings of happiness turn into chills. Why did I do this? What was I thinking?

Temptation is usually associated with wrong thinking and wrong actions. Going shopping can be hazardous, especially if you are hungry or dealing with some form of depression. We can ignore the obvious facts, like a bill is due and you maxed out your card with a purchase. You purchased the item months ago and haven't used it yet.

Temptation can mask itself as fulfillment and happiness. If you do this, you will feel good about yourself and other people will like you, but it is only a momentary joy that vaporizes like hot water in a kettle. We can all agree that we have engaged in some form of temptation that left us unfulfilled and disgusted that, once again, we were bitten by the pit bull. We may think we have it all together, but is there a pit bull waiting to bite you?

Temptation comes to every person because we have free will, and if something appeals to our earthly desires, we are prone to submit, as did Adam and Eve, without thinking about the long- term consequences.

We can overcome temptation's pull in our relationship with the Lord, by yielding to the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 10:13 ESV

"No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation, He will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

Please celebrate with us and experience the Good Life at the Villages Community Chapel in Cribari Auditorium every Sunday at 10 a.m. to be encouraged over the Word of Life and enjoy coffee and cookies with friends. The chapel is a place for *needs to be met, faith to be affirmed, and new friends to embrace*. You can view our worship services on YouTube at [villagescommunitychapel.vgcc.club](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvGccclub)