

Sermon Notes

A Closer Look – Your Favorite Verses Explored

July 13-14, 2019

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- **A Closer Look: Favorite Verses Explored**
- We are looking at the most quoted verses in the Bible. Are they taken out of context, do they present only part of the truth, or do they really mean what we think they mean?? That is the question!
- **1 Corinthians 10:13**
- This is a great verse!! But it means something different than what many people think.
- It does mean what it says! (read it again)
 - o 1) Temptation, your temptations, even ones that “seize” you, are normal and common.
 - o 2) God is with you during your times of temptation.
 - o 3) And God will show you a way to steer clear if you pay attention!
 - So...you have no excuse! ☺
- But it doesn't mean the platitude “God won't give you more than you can handle.”
 - o I'm not sure how people got under this impression. Maybe **1 Cor 10:13 KJV??**
 - o Problems with the platitude:
 - The temptation is not from God. **James 1:13-14**
 - God isn't the only one affecting your life.
 - This verse is talking about temptation, not all harsh life circumstances.
 - People sin, this is a cursed world, and the Devil does stuff too! That's not from God!
 - **2 Corinthians 1:8-11**
 - Jesus is our deliverer from hardship, not the cause of our hardships.
 - Big Problem: The platitude, meant to console, creates a contradiction that can lead people to question God's goodness.
 - “God won't give” means this hardship is from God. Not true! (unless judgement)
 - o If it's from God it is somehow good for you, or to teach you something, etc.
 - How do you “handle” an abusive upbringing, terrible tragedy, or vile injustice?
 - YOU don't! **2 Cor 1:9, 1 Peter 5:6-7, Romans 12:19**
 - This is when we give it to the Lord. You aren't made to handle it. Cast it on Jesus!!
- Context. **1 Corinthians 10:6-14**
 - o 4 types of “evil things” people are tempted by: idolatry, sexual immorality, testing the Lord, and grumbling. This is not about the hardships of life.
 - o The point is that even if you are at a high point in your walk with Christ, that you need to watch out for temptation and look for the escape route that God will give you! That's how you stand!
 - You don't have to fall into temptation, God provides a way out!
- Three things to grasp that can really help you:
 - o Get free from the lie if you believed it. Evil is not from God. God delivers us from evil!
 - Trust God as your deliverer, savior, healer, rescuer, and provider!
 - o Cast your cares upon the Lord. It isn't about you handling it, it's about relying on God to carry you.
 - o Look for the way out from temptation that God provides. It is there.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!