

Matthew 26:41 *Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.* You are not alone.

#### Discussion Questions

- What kinds of temptations might catch us unprepared if we are not watching for them?
- Are you proactively seeking God's deliverance in your daily life, or do you wait for trouble before you pray?

#### **Day 5 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse**

Let's review. The Lord's Prayer has six main petitions, often grouped as three for God's glory and three for human needs. They are 1) asking for God's name to be honored, 2) His kingdom to come, 3) His will to be done, 4) daily provision ("bread"), 5) forgiveness, and 6) this week's catechism petition for protection from temptation and evil. The prayer then concludes with a doxology of praise to God, and we'll cover that more closely next week. Before we do that, let's just take a moment to reflect once more on the various petitions and their roles in our daily prayer lives. Do your prayers tend to focus more on God's glory or on your own needs? Of the three needs listed here (daily provision, forgiveness, and deliverance from temptation to sin), which one do you tend to pray for most often? Why do you think that is? Taken together as a whole, the petitions of the Lord's prayer give us a balanced picture of what our prayer life should look like. They assure us that we can come to Him with our most basic and our deepest needs, and they also point us toward something greater than ourselves: God's own glory.

#### Discussion Questions

- Take a minute to recite the Lord's prayer (or read it in Matthew 6:5-15).
- Ask God for help balancing your prayer life and making the desires behind this prayer your own.

# Baptist Catechism

## Family Worship Guide



### **West Oaks Baptist Church**

(in preparation for Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026)

#### **Baptist Catechism Question #113**

**Q:** What do we pray for in the sixth petition?

**A:** *In the sixth petition, which is, And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, we pray that God would either keep us from being tempted to sin, or support and deliver us when we are tempted.*

#### **Suggested Memory Verse**

*Matthew 26:41 Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*

### Day 1 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

We are now on the last of the 6 petitions of the Lord's prayer. The two components of this petition are 1) lead us not into temptation, but instead 2) deliver us from evil. We might think this means God sometimes tempts us to sin, but that is not true. God says in 1 Peter 1:16 ... *it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."* Christians are called to be holy, righteous, and even perfect because that is exactly what God is: holy, righteous, and perfect. Specifically, James 1:13 says...*Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.* God does not tempt people to do evil or to sin. It is not in His perfect nature to do so. So, what does the phrase "lead us not into temptation" mean then? This petition is teaching that we should avoid temptation and follow God where he is leading us. One example comes from Psalm 5:8 which says...*Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make your way straight before me.* It is another way of saying, "I want to go the good, righteous, holy way." That is where God is always leading us, we just don't always follow. This petition is not saying, "You better not lead me wrong, God." It is acknowledging that God does not lead that way and asking for help to follow Him.

#### Discussion Questions

- Do you have particular temptations that you tend to wander into? Have you ever asked God to lead you away from them?
- How might praying this petition help shape the choices you make throughout the day?

### Day 2 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

The word *temptation* can also be translated as *trials*, so we could think of this petition as a request to be kept from trials as well as temptations. God leads in righteous ways and calls us to be holy. We know this, so we pray that God would either keep us from being tempted to sin in the first place OR help us in our trial so that we might not sin, even in the face of temptation. 1 Corinthians 10:13 says...*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.* There is so much we could unpack in this verse, but understand that all temptation to sin comes from Satan. 1 Peter 5:8 reminds us to...*Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.* The things of this world are temptations. 1 John 2:16 *For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.* The good news is that God made a way for us to escape, to stand up to temptation, resist. It all hinges on the power of the Holy Spirit and a changed life through faith in the son of God, Jesus Christ.

#### Discussion Questions

- What are some practical tools God has given us to help us face temptation?
- Why do you think God sometimes allows us to endure trials and temptations?

### Day 3 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

Sometimes, God keeps us from temptation. Other times, he allows us to face those trials. That is why this petition is also a prayer for help while we are in the midst of temptation...that God would "support and deliver us when we are tempted." We are not promised a life free from temptation, so how are you going to respond when that time comes? Will you give in to temptation and hide in the darkness or will you stand firm and follow God and His ways? Those who do not belong to God can not avoid the temptations in this life and are judged to eternity in Hell. Christians, however, have been delivered from judgment by God through what His Son did on the cross. Romans 8:1 *There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.* More than that, God supports Christians in their desire to follow Him even in the face of temptation. Christians are still in a daily struggle with evil and Satan, but by God's grace they have the power to resist and be delivered. We are not only forgiven, we are also enabled through prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit within us. If we are going to face trials successfully, we ought to be vigilant, prayerful, and ready at all times with the full armor of God (Ephesians 6).

#### Discussion Questions

- When you find yourself in a temptation or a trial, what is your first response?
- What does it mean for you that there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ?

### Day 4 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

Vigilant prayer is critical if we are to have any success against the temptations of this world. Temptations are everywhere. Francis Schaeffer wrote a book in 1976 titled, "How Should We Then Live?" He argued that Western culture's decline stems from abandoning its Christian worldview, where God is the source of truth and meaning for everything. Humanity has instead turned toward humanism, where man is the measure of all things, and this has led to moral relativism, societal fragmentation, and eventual authoritarianism. Schaeffer rightly argued that the solution is returning to biblical truth as our foundation for the true meaning of freedom. He looked through the lenses of historical analysis in art, philosophy, and politics. Christians need to live with this Christian worldview and to watch and pray everyday of our lives. We should watch and know what is going on in the world and to be alert to avoid temptation. If alcohol is your temptation, pray that you would not find yourself walking down a street full of bars to be tempted. If you found yourself on that street and you were not looking for it, then pray that God would deliver you out of that situation and flee. Do you belong to God? Have you placed your faith in Jesus alone as your Savior? If so, you have the ability to watch and pray.