

# 30 DAYS TO SAVE YOUR FAMILY

## Winning the Temptation Battle

30 Days to Save Your Family

### Connect

20 Minutes

1. Ever get caught with your hand in the cookie jar? What's your earliest memory of a time when temptation got the best of you?
2. When a group first gets together it's always very helpful to take a few minutes and talk through the ground rules (what time do we start the session, what time do we stop, can we blog about what is said, etc.). If your group doesn't already have an agreement, please take a few minutes and talk through the Life Group Agreement right now.

### Grow

30 Minutes

3. What comes to your mind when you hear the word, "temptation?"
4. What do you think is the best defense against temptation?

Proverbs 7:6-27 is the story of a young man's struggle with temptation. The following passage is from The Message paraphrase.

*"As I stood at the window of my house looking out through the shutters, watching the mindless crowd stroll by, I spotted a young man without any sense arriving at the corner of the street where she lived, then turning up the path to her house. It was dusk, the evening coming on, the darkness thickening into night. Just then, a woman met him—she'd been lying in wait for him, dressed to seduce him. Brazen and brash she was, restless and roaming, never at home, walking the streets, loitering in the mall, hanging out at every corner in town." (6-12)*

*"She threw her arms around him and kissed him, boldly took his arm and said, 'I've got all the makings for a feast—today I made my offerings, my vows are all paid, so now I've come to find you, hoping to catch sight of your face—and here you are. I've spread fresh, clean sheets on my bed, colorful imported linens. My bed is aromatic with spices and exotic fragrances. Come, let's make love all night, spend the night in ecstatic lovemaking! My husband's not home; he's away on business, and he won't be back for a month.'" (13-20)*

*"Soon she has him eating out of her hand, bewitched by her honeyed speech. Before you know it, he's trotting behind her, like a calf led to the butcher shop, like a stag lured into ambush and then shot with an arrow, like a bird flying into a net not knowing that its flying life is over." (21-23)*

*"So, friends, listen to me, take these words of mine most seriously. Don't fool around with a woman like that; don't even stroll through her neighborhood. Countless victims come under her spell; she's the death of many a poor man. She runs a halfway house to hell, fits you out with a shroud and a coffin." (24-27)*

—Proverbs 7:6-27 The Message

5. What do you think goes through the young man's mind when the woman first comes along? What should immediately come to his mind?
6. Proverbs 7:22-23 describes the young man as *"like a calf led to the butcher shop, like a stag lured into ambush and then shot with an arrow, like a bird flying into a net not knowing that its flying life is over."* What emotion do those words trigger in you? Why?
7. How practical is the advice, *"don't even stroll through her neighborhood?"* Is it enough? What other strategies have you found helpful in battling temptation?
8. One of the most practical ways we can win the temptation battle is to link arms with one or two other people who are going the same way. Who are you connected with that you can share where you are winning and where you are losing? What makes it helpful to be connected with them?

**Share**

5 Minutes

9. 30DTSYF isn't an activity for individuals. So much of what makes it possible to proactively make a difference in your family or even in your own life has to do with teaming up with other people who can help; people who will help. Who would you like to add to your group? Take a few minutes and jot down a name or two of people that you'd like to invite to join the group.

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NAME

\_\_\_\_\_

NAME

**Commit to:**

- Invite them this week! Don't put it off.
- Offer to ride together to the meeting.
- Be on the lookout for other potential members every day through the first 2 weeks.

**Surrender**

15 Minutes

10. Although the idea may be new to you, sharing your need for prayer is often a first step toward the encouragement you need. Take a few minutes to share prayer requests.

**30 Ways in 30 Days to Save Your Family Reading Plan:**

- Day 1: Commit to the Daily Battle (Chapter 1)
- Day 2: Vow to Be the Parent (Not Your Child's Best Friend) (Chapter 13)
- Day 3: Install Parental Controls on Your Televisions (Chapter 16)
- Day 4: Be Your Family's Movie Critic (Chapter 17)
- Day 5: Follow Ten Simple Steps with your Teens to Foster Ongoing Support for their Purity (Chapter 22)
- Day 6: Set Clothing Standards for your Daughter (Chapter 23)  
Dress Your Son In Respect (Chapter 24)
- Day 7: Obtain a Reliable Internet Filter (Chapter 25)