

# The Thief

## *Tempting? Part One*

Pastor Ken Ritz \* October 22, 2017 \* New Life Vineyard Church

### Truths About Temptation:

1. When I'm tempted, there is more at stake than what I see on the surface.
2. At the root of every temptation is the question, "Can God be \_\_\_\_\_?"
  - A person's willingness to delay gratification and resist temptation depends on their confidence in God and his promises.

*As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."*

*Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."*

Matt 3:16-4:3

### Three Root Temptations

1. To meet a legitimate need in an illegitimate way.
  2. To try to use God to accomplish my own ends.
  3. To do the right thing at the wrong time, the wrong way.
- One of these 3 root temptations relate to every temptation I face.

Our Statement:

***Temptation, you will not steal my future,  
you will not steal my family,  
you will not steal my faith!***

### Every Time I Give Into Temptation:

1. My \_\_\_\_\_ Is At Stake.
  - If you're young, you have a lot of future at stake.
  - If you're old, you have a lot of legacy at stake.
  - The rest of us are somewhere in the middle, with a future ahead of us, and a legacy behind us.
2. My \_\_\_\_\_ Is At Stake
  - Temptation isn't just about an individual, it affects the future of those you love and care for the most.
  - If you're single and you don't have a family yet, the decisions you make and temptations you give into right now will impact your future family.
3. My \_\_\_\_\_ Is At Stake
  - Every time you give into temptation and sin, you chip away at your relationship with God, because every time you give in you're saying, "No God, not your way, but my way." And every time we say that, it gets easier and more natural to say "no" to God.