



# There is More at Stake

### Main idea

**There is always more at stake than the temptation we face. Temptation has a price.**

### Warm-up

What was the most expensive thing you bought?

### introduction

#### [Tag Price Illustration]

Whenever we shop, or simply go to a store, items come with a tag price. A tag price tells you how much money you have to be willing to pay just to get that brand new shirt/gadget/food. A tag price never asks how much you want it. It asks how much you need to have in order to buy it.

In the very same way, we fail to realize that temptation has a tag price. It never comes for free. Oftentimes, the price is even bigger than what we expect. We tend to give in to temptation because in the moment it may seem as if what is at stake is only a driving ticket, a test, or only a kiss.

*Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert 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."*

*Matthew 4: 1-3*

### Message

Jesus himself faced temptation. You know what his first temptation was? It was food! After fasting for 40 days, Jesus was definitely very hungry, and the enemy challenged him to turn harmless stones into warm bread.

What was wrong with turning stones into bread? Why did he say no? It surely wasn't a bad or dangerous idea!

Jesus said no because he knew that giving into a simple temptation would mean putting his pleasure first and setting God's plan and God's purpose aside. He knew that if he gave in, his life and our salvation was at stake.

For many of us, giving into temptation is just an ordinary routine. Sometimes we think, it's cool to at least try...*"minsang lang naman"*. We don't really care that much, *"it's just small, its harmless"*. But we have to understand that there is more at stake in every temptation (our future, our family, etc).

#### [Illustration]

Ted Bundy - His story was featured in the TOP 25 crimes in TIME Magazine. He was one of the worst killers in America. He was responsible for the rapes and murders of hundreds of young women in USA. In an interview, he said, *"I stumbled upon a pornographic material when I was young"*.

His inability to say no to a porn magazine made him who he is today.

### challenge

***Every time you face temptation, pause and ask yourself ---Is it really worth it?***

### Application Question

What have you learned from this lesson? How will you apply it this week?

### Prayer Time

Ask God to help make us realize what is at stake (future, our family, our destiny, etc)