

### III. APPLY THE CURE FOR YOUR PROCRASTINATION

#### A. Make doing the will of God your priority.

<sup>15</sup> *"Instead, you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.'"* James 4:15

<sup>8</sup> *"I delight to do Your will, O my God, and Your law is within my heart."* Psalm 40:8

<sup>15</sup> *"See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,*

<sup>16</sup> *redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*

<sup>17</sup> *Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is."* Ephesians 5:15-17

#### B. Trust God with your outcome.

<sup>16</sup> *"But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil."* James 4:16

<sup>5</sup> *"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;*

<sup>6</sup> *In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."* Proverbs 3:5-6

<sup>5</sup> *"Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass."* Psalm 37:5

#### C. Obey God immediately.

<sup>17</sup> *"Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin."* James 4:17

<sup>8</sup> *"When You said, 'Seek My face,' My heart said to You, 'Your face, LORD, I will seek.'" Psalm 27:8*

<sup>60</sup> *"I made haste, and did not delay to keep Your commandments."* Psalm 119:60

### ESCAPE THE TEMPTATION OF PROCRASTINATION

<sup>13</sup> *"And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. for Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."* Matthew 6:13

### ESCAPING TEMPTATION

#### Escaping The Temptation Of Procrastination

Pastor Steve Reynolds

#### Introduction:

##### A. Do you struggle with persistent temptations?

Temptation touches every life, often leaving us feeling weary, discouraged, or alone. Yet God speaks hope into our struggle through His Word:

*"No temptation has overtaken you except such is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make a way of escape, that you may be able to bear it"* (1 Corinthians 10:13).

A brief theology of temptation:

- It is not a sin to be tempted.
- We face common temptations.
- There is always a way to escape temptation.

##### B. In this Escaping Temptation teaching series, we will explore how God meets us in our weakness, strengthens us through His faithfulness, and lovingly guides us toward the way of escape restoring our confidence, renewing our hearts, and leading us into freedom.

Feb 22	Escaping The Temptation Of Lust
March 1	Escaping The Temptation Of Worry
TODAY	Escaping The Temptation Of Procrastination
March 15	Escaping The Temptation Of Anger
March 22	Escaping The Temptation Of Social Media
March 29	Finding Hope When You Don't Escape

**TEXT:** James 4:13-17

James makes it clear that to procrastinate in doing the will of God is a sin.

<sup>17</sup> *"Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin."* James 4:17

## HOW TO ESCAPE THE TEMPTATION OF PROCRASTINATION

"The greatest gap in life is the gap between "I should" and "I did."  
John Maxwell

### I. IDENTIFY THE CAUSES FOR YOUR PROCRASTINATION

#### A. Presumption causes procrastination.

<sup>13</sup> *"Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit';*

<sup>14</sup> *whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow."*  
James 4:13-14a

<sup>1</sup> *"Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth."*  
Proverbs 27:1

#### B. Fear causes procrastination.

<sup>25</sup> *"The fear of man brings a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe."*  
Proverbs 29:25

#### C. Indecisiveness causes procrastination.

<sup>8</sup> *"he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways."*  
James 1:8

#### D. Distraction causes procrastination.

<sup>12</sup> *"Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,"* I Corinthians 3:12

#### E. Perfection causes procrastination.

<sup>4</sup> *"He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap."* Ecclesiastes 11:4

#### F. Laziness causes procrastination.

<sup>4</sup> *"The soul of a lazy man desires, and has nothing; But the soul of the diligent shall be made rich."*  
Proverbs 13:4

### II. UNDERSTAND THE CONSEQUENCES OF YOUR PROCRASTINATION

#### A. Procrastination results in you wasting your life.

<sup>14</sup> *"For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away."*

James 4:14b

#### B. Procrastination results in missed opportunities to serve God.

<sup>40</sup> *"Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, 'What! Could you not watch with Me one hour?'"*  
Matthew 26:40

#### C. Procrastination results in failure.

<sup>4</sup> *"He who has a slack hand becomes poor, but the hand of the diligent makes rich."*  
Proverbs 10:4

#### D. Procrastination results in going to hell.

<sup>24</sup> *"And after some days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, he sent for Paul and heard him concerning the faith in Christ.*

<sup>25</sup> *Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, "Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you."*

<sup>26</sup> *Meanwhile he also hoped that money would be given him by Paul, that he might release him. Therefore, he sent for him more often and conversed with him.*

<sup>27</sup> *But after two years Porcius Festus succeeded Felix; and Felix, wanting to do the Jews a favor, left Paul bound."*  
Acts 24:24-27

<sup>2</sup> *"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."*  
II Corinthians 6:2b