

STUDENT STUDY GUIDE

SESSION 7 – LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL

Learning to Pray With Awareness, Dependence, and Trust

SESSION FOCUS

As the Lord's Prayer nears its conclusion, Jesus turns our attention to a reality we often prefer to avoid: **human vulnerability**. He teaches us to pray not from a place of confidence in our own strength, but from honest dependence on God.

When we pray, "*Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,*" we acknowledge that life includes struggle, danger, and weakness—and that God's guidance and protection matter deeply.

This session explores prayer as a place of **awareness, humility, and trust**, where we learn to rely on God rather than ourselves.

OPENING REFLECTION

Before reading, pause and reflect honestly.

Where do you feel most vulnerable right now?

What situations tend to weaken your resolve or clarity?

How comfortable are you asking God for protection or guidance?

(You may want to write a few notes before moving on.)

SCRIPTURE READING

Read **Matthew 6:9–13** slowly.

As you read, pay attention to:

- The honesty of this request
- How vulnerability is assumed, not condemned
- The balance between guidance and protection

Do not rush. Notice which words feel reassuring or challenging.

KEY IDEA



Prayer is not about pretending we are strong.
Prayer is about trusting God when we are not.

Jesus invites us to bring temptation, danger, and weakness into prayer—not with fear, but with dependence on God’s care.

PART 1: LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION

Jesus assumes that temptation is a real part of life.

Reflection Questions

- What do you think Jesus means by “temptation”?
- Why do you think He teaches us to pray about it?
- How does naming temptation change the way we face it?

Personal Notes:

PART 2: AWARENESS AND DISCERNMENT

This prayer invites awareness, not denial.

Reflection Questions

- Why is awareness important when it comes to temptation or struggle?
- Where do people often become vulnerable without realizing it?
- How might prayer sharpen wisdom and discernment?

Personal Notes:

PART 3: BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL

Jesus teaches us to ask for protection.

Reflection Questions

- What does it mean to ask God for deliverance?
- How does this prayer express trust rather than fear?
- Why is it important to acknowledge the reality of evil?

Personal Notes:



PART 4: DEPENDENCE OVER SELF-RELIANCE

This prayer challenges the idea that we should rely only on ourselves.

Reflection Questions

- Why is self-reliance often valued so highly?
- How does this prayer invite humility rather than shame?
- What does spiritual dependence look like in daily life?

Personal Notes:

PART 5: PRAYER AS PROTECTION

Prayer can become a place of refuge and guidance.

Reflection Questions

- How might prayer help before temptation rather than after failure?
- Where do you most need God's guidance right now?
- What does it look like to entrust vulnerability to God?

Personal Notes:

LOOKING FORWARD: PRAYING WITH AWARENESS

As you continue this study, consider how prayer can shape attentiveness and trust.

- What would it look like to pray with greater awareness?
- How might prayer become a place of protection rather than reaction?
- What is one area of life you want to place under God's care?

Personal Response:

CLOSING PRAYER

Take a moment to pray—silently or aloud—for:

- God's guidance in vulnerable places
- Wisdom and discernment
- Trust in God's protecting presence



OPTIONAL TAKE-HOME PRACTICE

This week:

- Pause before difficult or uncertain situations
- Pray briefly for guidance and protection
- Notice where awareness makes a difference

Ask yourself: **What changes when I trust God with my vulnerability?**

FINAL THOUGHT

Prayer does not deny weakness.

It names it—and entrusts it to God.

Jesus invites you to live not by self-confidence,
but by **dependence on God's care**.

Let prayer become a place of refuge and trust.

