

pause

PAUSE 1 :: FORTY-ONE DAYS :: ANDY STANLEY

INTRODUCTION

Why do you give into temptation? Why do you keep making bad decisions? Perhaps it is because you've never paused to think about what is really at stake. When you are tempted to say what's on your mind, or say nothing, what really lies in the balance? In this session we will discuss what is really going on when we are faced with temptation.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. As a kid, how did you learn about delayed gratification? Did your parents model it for you, did someone teach you about it, or was the concept not even brought up?
2. Read Matthew 3:16-4:1. What was at stake when Jesus was tempted?
3. Why do we tend to minimize what is at stake when we are tempted?
4. Can you think of any examples in your life when your response to temptation impacted your future?
5. How have you seen the response of someone to temptation impact the lives of others?
6. How does temptation affect your faith?
7. How does it help to keep the consequences in mind when you are faced with temptation?

THINK ABOUT IT

There is always more at stake when we think. If you're young, you have a lot of future at stake. If you are old, you have a lot of legacy at stake. If you are in between, you have both a future and a legacy at stake. When you are tempted, what do you have on the line?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

When faced with temptation this week, commit to pausing and saying the following statement, "Temptation, you're not going to steal my future. You're not going to steal my family. You're not going to steal my faith."

CHANGING YOUR MIND

For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace. Romans 6:14