

4. Think back to the last time you failed to honor God in some way. Describe the situation — what were the circumstances? who else was involved? what did you do? what were you wanting, thinking, and being motivated by in the moment of temptation?

Example: My children were quarreling during dinner. I spoke harshly towards them with a sharp rebuke. My first thought was, "This is ridiculous and I shouldn't have to deal with this right now. We talk about this all the time!" I didn't want to have to break up another petty dispute. I was wanting them to just stop arguing. I was desiring my own comfort most with a peaceful evening at home after a long day at work.

5. After answering question 4, now explain what lies you must have been believing in the moment.

Example: My children exist for my comfort. I deserve to have a conflict-free home. My desire for peace is noble and worthy of obtaining, even at the cost of the sin of harshness and a lack of kindness. Although God is patient towards me, I don't have to be towards others. Producing a fear of me in my children is better in this instance than producing in them a fear of God.

6. Practice mind renewal by listing what truths from Scripture you must consider so that you will act differently the next time you find yourself in a similar situation as the one described in question 4. This list should be corrections to the thoughts and desires articulated in question 5. Include specific passages of Scripture to inform your answer.

LOOKING AHEAD...

In preparation for our next lesson (D1: Guarding My Heart from Proverbs), consider and write out an answer to the following questions:

When was the last time you were tempted to sin and gave in?

What could you have done differently to fight that temptation before it became sin?

Do you recognize a correlation between your consistency in reading and meditating on God's Word and the way you relate to sin? Why do you think this is? Write out a prayer of at least 2-5 sentences reflecting on this, confess and ask God for help in repenting where appropriate.