Recap of 10/23/22 message by Joe Ricchuiti

(Credit for the outline to Selwyn Hughes, Every Day Light: Water for the Soul)

1. (Principle #3) - Is there anything in my life (an attitude, an activity) of which God cannot approve?

Romans 6:1,2, 11-14; 13:13-14

-Every temptation is an opportunity to do good, to grow into the character of Jesus Christ. It is as much an opportunity to do the right thing, as to do the wrong thing. (Rick Warren, The Purpose Driven Life)

-Temptation in itself is not sin. It's what we do with the temptation. Jesus was tempted, yet He was without sin.

-Sin begins in the thought-life, the heart. James 1:13-15; Matthew 15:16-19

-Satan's part in temptation is to cause us to doubt the seriousness of sin or to question, misuse and misquote the Word of God. This can clearly be seen in Genesis 3 and Matthew 4.

-Three areas of temptation we face are: temptation to fulfill a legitimate need in an illegitimate way; temptation to test God rather than believe Him; and temptation to seek success without holiness.

2. Steps to overcoming temptation (Source: The Purpose Driven Life)

-Refuse to be intimidated. 1 Corinthians 10:13

-Recognize your pattern of temptation and be prepared for it. 1 Peter 5:8; Proverbs 16:17 -Request God's help. Hebrews 4:15,16

-Refocus your attention on something else. Philippians 4:8

-Reveal your struggle to a godly friend or group. Ecclesiastes 4;11,12

-Resist the Devil. 1 Peter 5:8; James 4:7

-Realize your vulnerability. 1 Corinthians 10:12