Do 3 Things in Secret – Giving – Greed – Prayer – Pride – Fasting – Lust

*For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.*

In this passage, John lists the 3 “focal points,” if you will, of temptation:

1. Lust of the flesh
2. Lust of the eyes
3. Pride of Life

the way Satan tempted Eve in the Garden, described in [Genesis 3:6](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis%203&version=NIV):

Lust of the flesh – “Good for food…”

Lust of the eyes – “Pleasing to the eye…”

Pride of Life – “Desirable for gaining wisdom…”

He then went on to describe how these same focal points of temptation were used when Satan attempted to tempt Jesus in the wilderness (see [Luke 4:1-13](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%204&version=NIV)):

Lust of the flesh – Stones to bread…  
Lust of the eyes – Kingdoms of the earth…  
Pride of Life – Pinnacle of the Temple…

Almsgiving teaches us [detachment from worldly goods](https://sjvlaydivision.org/joseph-model-of-poverty/) and helps us defeat the *lust of the eyes*. Praying teaches us that [God is truly in control](https://sjvlaydivision.org/foundation-of-prayer/), not us, and we must depend on our heavenly Father, which conquers the *pride of life*. Finally, fasting reduces the powerful temptations of bodily pleasures and thereby [subdues the *lust of the flesh*](https://sjvlaydivision.org/fasting/).

Dwelling in the Secret Place

Psalm 91 – In Psalm 91 God promises His presence, power, protection, deliverance, and salvation to the one who dwells with Him in His secret place; trusting, and loving Him; finding all of his value in God, and staying connected to Him day in and day out.

Psalm 27 - One thing have I asked of the Lord,

that will I seek after:

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord

all the days of my life,

to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord

and to inquire in his temple.

**5** For he will hide me in his shelter

in the day of trouble;

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;

he will lift me high upon a rock.

**6** And now my head shall be lifted up

above my enemies all around me,

and I will offer in his tent

sacrifices with shouts of joy;

I will sing and make melody to the Lord

John 15:7-8, “If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples

Colossians 3:3 Life hidden in Christ

- If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2**Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. **3**For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.[[1]](#footnote-1)

1. Beholding Christ
2. Name of the Lord is a strong tower
3. Cross – Abide in me

1. [*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](https://ref.ly/logosres/esv?ref=BibleESV.Col3.1&off=24&ctx=On+the+New+Self%0a3%C2%A0b%EF%BB%BF~If+then+you+have+bee) (Col 3:1–3). (2016). Crossway Bibles. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)