

Who You Gonna Call?

For the third time since 1984 the movie world has echoed the words, “Who are you gonna call?” We instinctively answer the question by saying, “Ghostbusters.” On the silver screen our country lays prey to paranormal activity that threatens our very existence. In the first movie the demon was the Staypuff Marshmallow Man, who was



blown to bits by Dr. Peter Venkman (played by Bill Murray) and the rest of his extermination team. This summer’s sequel focuses on two unheralded authors who warn us in their book that ghosts are real. They are ridiculed for their prediction, but then are proven to be correct. The battle begins. As paranormal activity rises this time their target is Rowan, an evil and powerful demon who can exert power over humans.

Sounds pretty scary, but the movie is a comedy, meant to make us laugh rather than run and hide. In the end, we all know it is science fiction. Instead of shielding our kids from a movie depicting evil vs. mankind, we sit them in the front row of the movie theatre.

We do, however, live in a real world where evil threatens mankind, including women and children in the front row. The demon exists and can’t be exterminated by any proton pack weapon. Unlike the movie version the demon is not even visible. It hides in our minds. The evil one throws all kinds of thoughts in our mind, causing us to rationalize as we consider good and bad options. Do we seek to do what is right or what feels or looks good? Evil thoughts enter our minds, igniting the epic battle between good and evil. We start to justify why we should give in, just this one time. The process is Satan trying to disguise sin as something good and not harmful to us. He is tempting us. And, if we are weak, Satan has the power to lead us into bad choices.

There is a difference between temptation and sin. We all face temptations. Even Jesus was presented temptations but he never yielded to them (Hebrews 4:15). Don’t let sinful desires weaken you into a poor choice. If you value the approval of God, fix your mind on what is holy, right and pure (Read Phil 4:8). This is the secret to overcoming temptation. Turn your thoughts to God’s promises and His love for you, (Read Psalms 119:11) and ignore Satan’s empty promises. Remember, in Christ we have victory over the destructive power of sin. (Read Romans 6:22 and Romans 8:2). Now choose to walk with Jesus in that victory.

In dealing with temptation, remember:

1. You will never face temptations impossible to overcome. (Read 1 Corinthians 10:13).
2. God gives you the grace you need to reject temptation. (Read Hebrews 4:16).
3. God promises to give you wisdom, but you must ask for it. Believe and do not doubt. (Read James 1:6-8).

When you feel the evil forces attacking your mind, who are you gonna call? Call upon the Lord and you can overcome temptation.

Question: When you are tempted, what can you do to focus on what God wants you to do?

Scripture: *Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things (Philippians 4:8).*

Prayer: Dear Lord. We face temptations every day of our lives. We pray we will fix our thoughts on you, and then receive your power to overcome the temptations. When times are tough we want to call upon you. Amen.