

# Fighting Temptation

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There are three temptations that leaders face:

## **1. The temptation to be relevant:**

We want to please others. We want to compete with others, both in the Church and the world and because of this, there is a big temptation to endeavor to be relevant within the context of a secular society, while ignoring the sacred reality. Our life must be rooted in Christ, so that we are able to transcend the temptation to merely be relevant, at the expense of being real.

## **2. The temptation to be spectacular:**

Are we more interested in being successful, than in being faithful? Although the two are not mutually exclusive, too often in the pursuit of success we forget about faithfulness and in so doing, we sacrifice the core value of ministry. God doesn't need heroes; God seeks people who are faithful to a calling.

## **3. The temptation to be powerful:**

We long to do things the way we want to do them. Jesus himself faced the temptation of power, but Jesus' leadership model was based on powerlessness and service.

I wonder whether worship leaders (and evangelists!) should beware of the tantalizing temptations of relevance, success and power.

*(Source: "In the Name of Jesus" by Henri Nouwen)*