Temptation

Admiral Byrd was once reminiscing about the things he and his men missed most at the South Pole. On one occasion, while Byrd and others of his staff sat talking about home and what they would like most to do if they were there, one little man sat quietly to one side not taking part in the conversation. Byrd turned to the man who had been gazing wistfully at nothing. "And what do you feel the lack of most?" he asked the fellow. "Temptation," sighed the man. *(Bits & Pieces)*

Lead me not into temptation; I can find the way myself. *(Rita Mae Brown, author)*

Temptations I Can’t Resist

* To stick my finger into coin-return slots in pay telephones to see if by chance someone left a quarter there, which so far hasn’t happened.
* To write something on a steamy mirror.
* To feel house plants to find out whether they’re real or not.
* To chuck babies under the chin.
* To look up my last name in the telephone directory when I’m in a strange city.
* To yank on a knot with the forlorn hope that it will thereby come unknotted.
* To play chopsticks whenever I pass a piano.
* To put seashells to my ear even though I’ve never heard the sound of the ocean in one.
* To find something else to spray-paint if the can isn’t empty.
* To fill in words on other people’s unfinished crossword puzzles.
* To answer a ringing telephone even though I’m already 20 minutes late for an appointment. *(Jane Goodsell, Press Associates)*

**Some drug dealers went to the captain of an oil tanker that made regular trips from South America to Los Angeles. They offered him $10,000 to carry a load of cocaine. He refused. They came back the next day with an offer of $50,000. Again he refused. Then they came back and offered $150,000; this time he called the FBI, who put together a sting operation and caught the drug runners. They seized the shipment of drugs along with $340,000 in cash, plus a list of buyers in the L.A. area. After the arrests, a federal agent asked, “Why did you wait until they offered $150,000 before you called us?” The captain replied, “They were getting pretty close to my price and I was scared of what I might do.” *(John Roebuck, in Preaching)***

**Nothing makes it easier to resist temptation than a proper bringing-up, a sound set of values – and witnesses. *(Franklin P. Jones, in Quote magazine)***

**For all its faults, temptation is nevertheless a polite guest; it seldom visits uninvited. *(Mary Margaret De Angelis)***

**Those who flee temptation generally leave a forwarding address. *(Lane Olinghouse)***

**Temptation is just the feeling that you’re the most independent person on planet Earth. *(Kendrick Lamar, rapper)***

**Temptation usually comes in through a door that has deliberately been left open. *(Arnold H. Glasow)***

**When temptation knocks, imagination usually answers. *(Dan Bennett)***

The biggest human temptation is to settle for too little. *(Thomas Merton, monk and author)*

**A young minister was taking his wife to task for breaking her promise not to buy a new dress. “It must have been the devil’s fault,” she murmured. “He tempted me.” “You could have said, ‘Get thee behind me, Satan,’” replied the minister. “I did,” she said. “But he whispered over my shoulder, ‘It fits you beautifully in the back, too.’” *(Bill Bennett, in Parade magazine)***

**Be cautious. Opportunity does the knocking for temptation too. *(Al Batt)***

Temptations are overcome by three words: "Credo! Spero! Amo! I believe, I hope, I love. *(Blessed Anthony Grassi)*

Middle age is when you're faced with two temptations, and you choose the one that will get you home at 9 o'clock. *(Ronald Reagan, U.S. president)*

**Resisting temptation is usually just a matter of putting it off until nobody’s looking. *(Franklin P. Jones, in Good Housekeeping)***

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