



Jesus on Mission
Jesus Defeated Temptation
Matthew 4:1-10
March 31, 2019

When Jesus was on mission He faced direct challenges from the enemy. In learning from His response, we too can stay on mission when we are challenged by the enemy.

1. It is God's plan for Jesus to see victory. (Matthew 4:1)

2. It is Satan's plan for Jesus to see defeat. (Matthew 4:2)
 - To challenge God's will. (4:3)

 - To challenge God's Word. (4:5-6)

 - To challenge God's worship. (4:8-10)

3. It is God's plan for Jesus to resist the enemy with God's Word.
 - The mission He is on is directed by the Word of God. (Matt. 4:4)

 - The mission He is on is protected by the Word of God. (Matt. 4:7)

 - The mission He is on is established by the Word of God. (Matt. 4:10)

Application:

1. Review recent temptations that you have experienced. Does God's Word have an answer to the lies of Satan? What aspect of the story of Jesus gives you the greatest help today in facing the enemy?
2. Do some research this week and identify more Scripture that will help you when you are being tempted.
3. Is there a friend that is facing temptation right now? How can you come along side of them this week and give them encouragement?



Life Group Questions/ Discussion

Main Thought of the Study - When we see the mission of Jesus we see that He was continually tempted by the enemy of God to leave the mission that He was on. We face the same kind of temptation as well. What can we learn from seeing the victory of Jesus over temptation?

Introduction Discussion – Which is a greater temptation for you – chocolate ice cream dessert? Spending money you don't have? Being lazy? Gossip? Addiction issues? Or?

Reflections from the Message

1. This week we will see Jesus being tempted by the Devil in the wilderness. What motivated His 40 days in the wilderness? (Matthew 4:1; Mark 1:14) What value did the Spirit have in mind for Jesus going into the wilderness? (I John 3:8; Hebrew 4:15) Have you ever had a “wilderness” time in your life? Was your faith being tested? Did God have a purpose for your wilderness?
2. There are two lies that Satan loves to get us to believe – either He is a mean, vindictive God that can't wait to punish us for every little thing or God is distant and He really doesn't care how we live...He will forgive everything so live the way you want. Which lie have you tended to believe?
3. Look closely at the three temptations from the Devil to Jesus. (Matthew 4:3-10) He challenges God's will, God's Word and God's worship. Many times it is not what Satan is wanting us to do but the timing or the way we go about something. Share examples of doing something good, but in the wrong timing or in the wrong way.
4. Share how easy it is for Christians to take something out of context and misapply it to get what they want. How did Satan misapply the Scripture? (Matthew 4:5-6) According to 2 Timothy 2:15 what do we need to do as we study the Bible?
5. Discuss the following statement – The entire Bible seeks to answer this question –“Who will you worship?” Give examples of this theme in the Bible. How important is this question of worship according to Romans 1:25?
6. The Word of God became the primary weapon against the enemy that Jesus chose. How does it help us today? Think of some key Scriptures that would help you with the following temptations – lust of the eyes? Strife? Laziness? Gossip? Greed? Etc.

Application

1. We are stronger together against the enemy. Pray for one another to be strong this week in the battle with the enemy.
2. Satan loves it when God's people withdraw to themselves. Brainstorm ways we can help each other stay connected in times of need.
3. Find a Scripture passage that speaks directly to the temptation(s) you are facing. Write out that passage and put it somewhere you will see it when you might be tempted and work on memorizing it.