

King Jesus Gospel _ Ep. 1

Matthew 4:1-11 (NLT)

The Temptation of Jesus

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. ² For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry.

³ During that time the devil came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say, 'People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city, Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, ⁶ and said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say, 'He will order his angels to protect you. And they will hold you up with their hands so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.' " ⁷ Jesus responded, "The Scriptures also say, 'You must not test the Lord your God.'"

⁸ Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ "I will give it all to you," he said, "if you will kneel down and worship me." ¹⁰ "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'"

¹¹ Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.

Scripture reveals that Jesus won where Adam and others lost.

Jesus was led by the Spirit, but still tempted by the devil. We will experience the same.

The slanderer is an opportunist, wanting to trap you by getting you to grab the right thing in the wrong way.

Satan's playbook for chaos/disordered living: whisper deceptive ideas that play to our disordered desires, which are normalized in a sinful society.

Deceitful Ideas (the devil) —> Disordered Desires (the flesh) —> Sinful Society (the world)

Mark 4:18-19 (NLT)

¹⁸ The seed that fell among the thorns represents others who hear God's word, ¹⁹ but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things, so no fruit is produced.

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1 John 2:15-16 (NLT)

¹⁵ Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. ¹⁶ For the world offers only a **craving** for physical **pleasure**, a craving **for everything we see**, and **pride** in our **achievements** and **possessions**. These are not from the Father, but are from this world.

Three areas we will be tempted to become unfaithful:

1. Desire
2. Pride
3. Idols

Battle like Jesus Battled

Use God's Word: Find it. Write it. Speak it. Think it.

PRACTICING THE WAY

As disciples of Jesus, we know our allegiance to Him as King is expressed in our daily practice. We are not pursuing perfection, but want to practice our faith each day. These practices will point you toward spiritual formation as an apprentice (disciple) to Jesus.

Read through the Gospels, slowly.

Meditate on each phrase of this Gospel summary:

The Gospel is the good news that God our Father, the Creator, out of His great love for us, has come to rescue us from sin, Satan, death and hell, and to renew all things, in and through the work of Jesus Christ on our behalf, to establish His kingdom, through His people who participate in loyal allegiance in the power of the Holy Spirit. This is for God's great glory, and our profound joy.

Talk it Over (with friends, a spouse, or connect group)

- Read Matthew 4:1-11. Sunday's message we looked at the enemies' key strategies for getting us off course. Did anything speak to you or stir a question within you?
- The slanderer is an opportunist, wanting to trap you by getting you to grab the right thing in the wrong way. Share some examples of this in our culture today.
- Read 1 John 2:15-16. We all walk through seasons that feel like we are in a wilderness. During that time we will be tempted and confronted with things related to our desire, pride, and idols. Can you share a time when that has occurred?
- Read Ephesians 6:10-18. Spiritual disciplines are a form of spiritual warfare. What does this text in Ephesians tell us about the spiritual warfare?
- What are some go-to scriptures that you will use to battle like Jesus when temptation comes?