



DISCUSSION GUIDE JUNE 5, 2022

Dive In

Go around and let everyone answer...

Describe your baptism. When you are tempted to disobey God, how does remembering the commitment you made at your baptism influence your thinking?

Dig Deep

Read Scripture: Luke 3:21 - 4:13

3: ²¹ When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." ^{4:1} Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." ⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.'" ⁵ The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. ⁷ If you worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'" ⁹ The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here. ¹⁰ For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; ¹¹ they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" ¹² Jesus answered, "It is said: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³ When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

- Why was Jesus baptized? (Matt. 3:15).
- Compare Jesus' 40 days of temptation to Israel's 40 years in the wilderness after the Exodus & Moses' 40 days on Mount Sinai (Deut. 9:9)?
- Discuss how Jesus becomes our example of how to withstand temptation (Heb 4:14-16; 5:8). What other "tools" do we have?

Do Big

- Talk about the devil's use of scripture. Is there any good thing that the devil will not or cannot abuse?
- Discuss the theory that these 3 temptations encompass all possible types of temptations. See 1 John 2:16 (lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life).
- Other than the devil, where does temptation come from?



LEADERS

Read Luke 3:1-22 and 4:1-13

Background:

John, son of Zacharias, was called by God to prepare the way for the Kingdom of God by preaching about justice & mercy. He baptized for the repentance of sin. People thought he might be the Messiah, but he told them to expect someone greater who would baptize with the Holy Spirit.

Key Thoughts

Jesus demonstrated the importance of physical and spiritual baptism as well as how to succeed in withstanding temptation and obeying God.

Challenge

Think about John 4:13. Does this mean that the devil tempted Jesus at other times?

Weekly Memory Verse

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:13

