LESSON 4 MARCH 22, 2020

JESUS IN THE WILDERNESS

Go Away, Satan
Spend a few minutes reflecting on and answering the questions below.

1. What do you think would be your most challenging temptation?
2. What is the temptation you gave in to? What were the consequences?
3. Have you ever used Scripture to keep from giving into temptation?
4. How do you think Jesus responded to temptation?

MATTHEW 4:1-11 (NRSV)

1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
2 He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.
3 The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.”
4 But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does 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 and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple,
6 saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”
7 Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”
8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor;
9 and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”
10 Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”
11 Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

KEY VERSES: Jesus responded, “Go away, Satan, because it’s written, You will worship the Lord your God and serve only him.” The devil left him, and angels came and took care of him. — Matthew 4:10-11 (CEB)
DON’T TEMPT ME

● What’s the difference between testing and temptation?

● What does this story tell us about Jesus’ experiences as a human?

THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT

● Spend five minutes writing about times you’ve been tempted and times you’ve given into temptation. Why was the temptation so strong?

SUFFER, SUFFER NOT

With your class, discuss and make notes for the following questions about Jesus’ temptation story.

1. What do you think you would have done in this same circumstance?

2. Why do you think you would have responded in such a way?

3. What does it mean to you that Jesus responded the way he did?

QUICK AND FAST

We live in a fast-paced world that runs on instant news, fast food, and quick results. When you fast from food, technology, or other everyday things, time seems to slow down. Use this gift of time to focus on your relationship with God, your prayer life, and reevaluating your priorities.