



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of August 29, 2021

Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.

Sermon Text

Luke 4:1-13

4 And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness 2 for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." 4 And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'" 5 And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, 6 and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." 8 And Jesus answered him, "It is written, "'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'" 9 And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written, "'He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,' 11 and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" 12 And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 13 And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiichurch.org/sermononline>

Summary

Jesus is led into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to be tempted by the devil for forty days. Three times, Satan tempts Jesus to take His eyes, mind, and heart off of God and onto other things. The devil is using a familiar strategy that has successfully deceived humanity from the beginning. Jesus, however, will not succumb to Satan. Three times, the Lord uses Scripture to refute the devil. Although Luke emphasizes the importance of God's Word, his main thrust is to show that Jesus has succeeded where everyone else has failed.

Discussion Questions

1. Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to suffer the attack of the devil. How would you explain the following: "Suffering is not inconsistent with the will of God."? How have you seen God use trials and suffering in your life?
2. Satan initially tries to tempt Jesus with His greatest perceived need: hunger. In v.3, when the devil says, "***if*** you are the Son of God," he is calling into question the Father's love and provision for His Son. What is your greatest need and how do you think Satan can take advantage of your needs? How do you know God understands and cares about your needs? Why does God sometimes call us to wait in the wilderness?
3. In his second temptation, Satan uses ambition, the intoxication of political power and allure of prestige and human admiration. Jesus refutes Satan by saying you shall worship God alone. Why do you think humanity is so tempted by power, honor, respect, fame and fortune? When we place these things above God, what are we

revealing about our faith and trust in God? If someone could see what you give most of your time, thought, attention, desire, resources, and effort to, what would this say about what you truly worship?

4. In Satan's third temptation, he twists Scripture and calls upon Jesus to presume upon His relationship with His Father and test His love. In what ways do we sometimes test God? What kinds of proof do you think you need to know that God loves you? When bad things happen, do you immediately think that God is angry with you? If so, what does this reveal about how you view God's love? How should we view God's love for His people?
5. In overcoming Satan's temptations, Jesus succeeds where everyone else in history has failed. He endured all the temptations of humanity and yet without sin. He proved Himself to be the unique lone righteous one who could suffer once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, ***that He might bring us to God*** (1 Peter 3:18). Jesus did all of this for His people. How does this knowledge encourage and embolden you when you are in your wilderness, in your trials, and as you walk through the valley of the shadow of death?