

Jesus shows us how to overcome temptation – Luke 4:1-13

Invite your one.....last year who, this year.....invite

Beginning in feb we are asking everyone who attends cornerstone to invite 1 person to church in 2020

The staff has been working hard to create some special events for you to be inviting others to, but between now and February 2, please be thinking about who the one person your going to invite is.....but don't make it awkward....

Lets just jump right into Luke ch. 4 this morning, we are going to be looking at a topic that we are all probably pretty familiar with....the topic of temptation

We are going to look at temptation this morning through the eyes of Jesus

Lets read together, **Luke 4:1-13.** (Read and break in)

**v. 1** And Jesus, being full of the holy spirit.....what does it mean to be full of the hs, it means to be like Jesus,

Means seeking Gods direction in everything, we want to be in the center of his will, we want his blessings on all

It literally means....asking God what he wants you to do with everything...

**v. 2** – led by the spirit into the wilderness for 40 days.....

God is leading him into the wilderness, and while he is there he is focusing all of his earthly attention on Gods will

This is the beginning of his earthly ministry, and the next 3 years will be 3 years that change history

While in the desert, he is fasting, going without food for 40 days (some of us can't handle a 40 minute fast, we'd probably die with a 40 hour fast....)

And luke concludes this verse with probably the most duh huh statement in the bible.....look....

And when they had ended – he was hungry.....

Now, lets really begin to set our mind on what God would have us to see here, and ask yourself what about this passage do I need to listen to (some of you checked out when I said fasting and your thinking about lunch)

As we look at these verses, I want you to spend some time reminding yourself, that the closer you try to draw to God....the more you will face trial in life.....this is exactly whats going on....

Satan is trying to throw off the ministry of Christ....from the beginning.....

**v.3.** – if you are – command this stone to become bread.....we understand the temptation.....the question is, why was this a temptation.....why would it have been wrong for Jesus to turn some stones into bread.....he was hungry....

My guess is, if some of you possessed the power to turn your bulletin into a what a burger with onion rings and a cok

So why was it a temptation, why wrong?

Lets take our minds back to another when Satan used food to tempt.....in the garden....

It was in the garden that the first adam ate the wrong meal, at the wrong time, with the wrong person....

The temptation here is for Jesus to use his power to satisfy his own desires....rather than trust God for supply

**v.4** Jesus answers – man shall not live by bread alone

we concern ourselves with physical hunger, what Jesus is displaying for us is that when we are spiritually nourished then all other concerns in our life are minimized.....his satisfaction was simply found in his father

**v. 5** – and the devil took him up....why is this a temptation....

It appears that Jesus here is given an out.....he could have simply defeated satan, avoided dying on a cross, avoided all of the pain and agony of life had he bowed down

At first glance we see something here that we know is off....that Jesus would never bow down to satan....

But look just a touch deeper and what you find is that Satan is undermining God's justice.....

God declared that disobedience required death in order for forgiveness to occur.....Jesus died for our sins because God declared that in order for sinfulness to be conquered death must occur....

Satan is offering Jesus an easy escape.....you don't have to die, ill give it all if you just bow down....

This would have meant that Gods word would be thwarted.....Satans greatest desire is that you take the easy path....

Righteousness and obedience is hard, being Christ like is difficult.....but the reward for it is immeasurable....

**v.8** Jesus reminds satan, thou shalt have no other God's, serve only him...  
idolatry is so easy for us.....

Lets go to the 3<sup>rd</sup> temptation...

**v.9** they find themselves at the pinnacle of the temple.....the southeast corner, over looking the Kidron valley.....(Important). Satan says throw yourself down.....

why is this a temptation.....

they are in Jerusalem, the significance is that this is also where Jesus will meet his final demise.....where he will be tortured on the cross.....he is also looking down on the kidron valley.....(garden of gethsemane, jesus entered the city on palm Sunday, its also the place where in Jesus' day the tombs of kings were being made, it was also where messiah's feet would stand on the mount of olives)

satan is once again offering Jesus a way to subvert God's plan...

the cross was an embarrassing way to die, it was seen as for those who were cursed.....

by tempting Jesus in this way, satan is daring Jesus to once again....defy God's plan.....make a magnificent display of your sacrifice .....ignore the cross.....

not only can this be seen as undermining the cross, its also undermining God's plan.....

in Genesis 3, God promised that the messiah would crush the head of the serpent....it was the cross and resurrection that would crush the head....

Lets look at one main point of application here.....

God and his word is always fully sufficient for you.....

We are always tempted to turn to other things in order to satisfy our cravings.....

We crave control, we are tempted to exert and crush people

We crave love, we turn to anyone who will give it to us.....how many lives have been turned upside down by being so desperate for love that they settle for the wrong person

We crave money, we turn to working ourselves to death, or maybe even taking what doesn't belong to us

Notice what happened every time Jesus was tempted – he quoted scripture (v.4, v.8, v.12).....

What does turning to scripture look like....submission to God..

I crave control – I will love those who persecute me

I crave love – I will remember the one who loves me most

I crave money – I will remember God supplies my every need....

I crave peace with God – seek him, allow him to forgive you.....you might say....you don't know my life....

If that's you this morning, I want you to do me a favor....ill be here at the front, ill be in the back.....would you promise me you won't leave today until you come and ask....