

Sermon Questions

Matthew 4:1-11

This week as a church we ended our 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting. It was such a joy to know that so many different people had participated in a variety of ways. Seeking the Lord is such a blessing, but as we know, for every spiritual high there can be an equal spiritual low. The more you desire to see the face of the Lord the more opposition, resistance and temptation you will experience. For these reasons we studied what Jesus experienced after His forty day fast in the wilderness. Although Jesus Christ is God and it would have been impossible for Him to sin, we can learn much about how He handled temptation. As believers, we now have Christ living in us and therefore can allow Christ to live in and through us when we experience temptation. As you study the strategic work of our enemy, it is important to learn when, where and how you are personally most vulnerable for attack. Also, it will help to know what to do when you experience temptation and opposition. Speaking God's Living and Active Word is a cure for all that comes your way. May this week's message be a strong encouragement to you.

Here are some notes to review from this week's sermon...

Staying Strong After Your Fast

Matthew 4:1-11

The enemy is NOT a fairy tale of an idea but a real being

The enemy is NOT haphazard in his approach but timely (1-3a)

The enemy is NOT creative with his plan but crafty (3b-10)

The enemy is NOT a champion who wins but a defeated enemy (11)

Hearing the Word of God and responding to Him is extremely important. If you haven't had the chance to listen to the message from this week you can now watch it [HERE](#). After watching, please use the following questions (if you find them helpful) in your BRAVE groups (now online every weekday) or discuss them with your family and/or friends. If you are not in a BRAVE Group now is a great time to get involved. Please email info@bravechurch.online and we will get you connected with a community that will work for you.

Questions

1. What is your experience with opposition, resistance and temptation when moving closer to the Lord? Why does growing closer with Christ always involved opposition?
2. Read Isaiah 14, Ezekiel 28 and John 10:10. Who is satan? Is he a real being? Is he created? What is his mission? How does he feel about you and the purposes of God?

3. Read 2 Corinthians 4:4. What is the enemy's strategy for unbelievers? If the devil has lost a soul for eternity, then what is his strategy in the life of a believer? What does it mean that "when we are saved we are not setting sail on the Love Boat, but rather we boarded a battleship for mission"?
4. How is satan timely in his approach? Why did he choose to tempt Jesus right after 40 days and nights of fasting? When satan lost that battle did he stop tempting Jesus? What time does he pick next? How does he use Peter? How does he use the preparation for the cross in Gethsemane?
5. When is the most opportune time for the enemy to tempt you to sin? When you are tired? Hungry? Frustrated? Hurt? Bitter? Resentful?
6. Why is it important not to give satan a foothold or opportunity in your life? How does confessing and forsaking sin help free you from satan's traps? How does forgiving one another help? What areas in your life are you most vulnerable?
7. Read 2 Corinthians 2:11. What does it mean that satan is not creative but crafty? What are the three areas that satan uses to entice people to sin? How does he do this with Jesus? How is lying his greatest skill? How does his lying lead to distraction, discouragement, and feeling deflated?
8. How does satan appeal to our flesh? How does he appeal to our eyes? How does he appeal to our pride? Where are the areas that satan appeals to your comfort? What you can gain? How you can prove your worth? How did he use this strategy in the Garden of Eden?
9. How was the appeal to turn stones to bread an appeal to the flesh? How was the appeal to throw yourself down and have your Father protect you an appeal to pride? How was showing him the kingdoms of the world an appeal to the eyes?
10. How did Jesus defeat satan during the temptation? What is the difference between knowing the Word and speaking the Word? Why should we speak the Word?
11. Why is important to know that satan is a defeated foe? How does understanding that he is already defeated now make a difference in your life? How does it change your prayers?
12. What does satan do once Jesus speaks the Word three times? Why can't satan handle radical obedience to the spoken Word? Why should we obey and speak the Word?
13. What was your greatest take-a-way from this week's message? What do you need to apply right now in your life?