

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, January 27, 2008

Passage: Luke 4:1-13

Memory Passage: Hebrews 4:15

TODAY: *From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?*

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 4:1-2.** What was Jesus' spiritual condition when he faced the temptation of Satan? Is a person free from temptation when he is full of the spirit? What was Jesus' physical condition before the temptation? Do you think that Satan waits until we are weak to attack us? Discuss this.
- (b) How did Jesus end up in the wilderness? Compare the terms that Mark uses in Mark 1:12. Does God allow temptations and trials for His children?
- (c) What is the purpose of such trials in our lives (James 1:2-4; Romans 5:3-5)?
- (d) Why was Jesus tempted in the wilderness (Hebrews 2:18; Hebrews 4:15)?
- (e) Read Hebrews 5:5-9. What is another reason that Jesus was tempted? How does the temptation relate to our salvation?
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 4:1-2 and Hebrews 2:18 and 4:15. Talk about trials and temptations. What is the difference between them? What are the benefits of them? Why did Jesus need to be tempted? How do his temptations encourage you in yours? Pray that you might be able to see why God allows each trial or temptation in your life.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 4:3-4.** What is Satan's intention in the first temptation? Is he questioning Jesus or challenging him?
- (b) Why would this have been a real temptation for Jesus (Luke 4:2)? What are some other evidences of his humanity (John 19:28; John 4:6)?
- (c) Could Jesus have done what Satan asked? What would have been wrong with this? What does this temptation show us about Jesus (John 4:34; John 5:19; John 5:30; Philippians 2:5-9)?
- (d) How does Jesus respond to Satan? Read Deuteronomy 8:2-3. What was God teaching Israel in the wilderness? Read the rest of Deuteronomy 8. What did God remind them in Deuteronomy 8:18? Relate this to the temptation of Jesus in Luke 4.
- (e) What did Jesus demonstrate about faith through this temptation (Romans 10:17)? What did Jesus teach his disciples in Matthew 6:25-33?
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 4:3-4 and Matthew 6:25-26. How is faith connected to trusting God at His word? How does Satan's temptation attempt to cause Jesus to not trust the Father? How did his knowledge of the Word of God help him in that time of temptation? Read Hebrews 4:12 and thank God for the strength His Word gives you.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 4:5-8.** What was the next temptation that Satan confronted Jesus with?
- (b) What had God the Father already promised His son (Psalm 2:7-8)? What had to come first (Luke 24:25-27)?
- (c) Did Satan even have the authority to give these to Jesus (John 12:31; John 14:30; Ephesians 2:2; Revelation 13:2, 7)?
- (d) What did Jesus remind Satan? How do we get sidetracked with similar temptations (1 Timothy 6:8-10)?
- (e) What should be the one priority of our lives (Matthew 22:37; Matthew 6:33; 1 Corinthians 10:31)?
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 4:5-8 and Matthew 6:33. What would have happened to our salvation if Jesus had accepted Satan's offer? What should be our number one priority in everything we do? What are some ways we are tempted to put our goals and desires ahead of God? Is that worship? Pray that you desire that God be honored over everything else in your lives.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 4:9-12.** What *new* approach does Satan take to tempt Jesus? What was Satan asking Jesus to do? Was he biblically correct (Psalm 91:11-12)?
- (b) Does Satan at times resort to religious means and spiritual ways of tempting (2 Corinthians 11:14)? What are some means of spiritual deception that Satan sometimes uses?
- (c) What is the difference between faith and presumption?
- (d) How did Jesus respond to this temptation (Deuteronomy 6:16; Acts 17:10-11)? What important principle about biblical interpretation does this show us? How can we protect ourselves from presumption and deception?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 4:9-12. Discuss the difference between faith and presumption. How can we protect ourselves against even religious deceptions? Why is knowing God's Word so important? Thank God for giving us His Word.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Luke 4:13.** After these temptations, did Satan give up and never tempt Jesus again?
- (b) What could Jesus say about Satan's grip on him (John 14:30)? Why was this?
- (c) What does James say is the source of our sin (James 1:13-15; James 4:1-2; Mark 7:20-23)?
- (d) What does Paul tell us to do to avoid this (Galatians 5:16)?
- (e) How does the temptation of Jesus encourage us (Hebrews 4:15)? What should we do whenever we are tempted and we fail (Hebrews 4:16; 1 John 1:9)?
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 4:1-13 again and James 1:13-15. What is the source of our temptations? Can we blame these on God? How can we control these temptations and have victory over them? What should we do whenever we fail? Pray for someone who does not know the salvation of God through Jesus.

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Read Luke 4:1-13 and Hebrews 4:15-16. Was it necessary for Jesus to experience temptations? Why? How does his temptation encourage you in yours? What have you learned about how Satan tempts us from this passage? What have you learned about how to defeat temptation from this passage? Pray for your church tomorrow that believers might be strengthened in the Lord through His Word.

DATE: January 27, 2008

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The Temptation of the Messiah

"[he] was tempted in all points as we are yet without sin."