



Week 4 – Tempted

Jesus enters into his final scenario before the official beginning of His ministry. He is lead into the wilderness to be tested. This week we will consider what this means for Jesus and for us.

Read Matthew 4:1 and focus on the words "led" "Spirit" "wilderness" and "devil". What is the connection between what the Spirit is doing, and what the devil is doing? Where might the Spirit lead us in our lives, what are different kinds of wildernesses that we encounter? What temptations might be unique or prominent in those wildernesses?

Read James 1:12-13. How would you define the difference between testing and temptation?

Read Mathew 4:2. We didn't spend much time on the fact that Jesus was fasting. Even though Jesus was following the leading if Spirit, He found himself vulnerable to opportunistic temptation by the devil. What does this tell us about where and how temptation can come to us?

Read Matthew 6:13. This is a part of how Jesus has taught us to pray. Obviously, we can see that Jesus is speaking from personal experience. What does this part of the prayer tell us about temptation? What does it tell us is even Jesus' preference and desire?

Read Hebrews 4:15. We only see three temptations of Jesus in Mathew 4, but in what way does Hebrews say Jesus was tempted? What are some other particulars of Jesus' (very human) life and



Week 4 – Tempted

Jesus enters into his final scenario before the official beginning of His ministry. He is lead into the wilderness to be tested. This week we will consider what this means for Jesus and for us.

Read Matthew 4:1 and focus on the words "led" "Spirit" "wilderness" and "devil". What is the connection between what the Spirit is doing, and what the devil is doing? Where might the Spirit lead us in our lives, what are different kinds of wildernesses that we encounter? What temptations might be unique or prominent in those wildernesses?

Read James 1:12-13. How would you define the difference between testing and temptation?

Read Mathew 4:2. We didn't spend much time on the fact that Jesus was fasting. Even though Jesus was following the leading if Spirit, He found himself vulnerable to opportunistic temptation by the devil. What does this tell us about where and how temptation can come to us?

Read Matthew 6:13. This is a part of how Jesus has taught us to pray. Obviously, we can see that Jesus is speaking from personal experience. What does this part of the prayer tell us about temptation? What does it tell us is even Jesus' preference and desire?

Read Hebrews 4:15. We only see three temptations of Jesus in Mathew 4, but in what way does Hebrews say Jesus was tempted? What are some other particulars of Jesus' (very human) life and

ministry where you can see Jesus may have faced other temptations?

The sermon this week had 10 points of application, all of which could be connected to the temptations of Jesus. Take some time and discuss each (or any) of the ten and the associated verse, how they connect to the experience of Jesus, and how they apply to us in specific situations.

1. You will be vulnerable to temptation if you care only for present happiness. (James 1:12)
2. You will be vulnerable to temptation if you have no longing for heaven. (Matthew 13:44-45)
3. You be overcome by temptation if you don't completely trust God's word. (Jeremiah 17:7-18)
4. It is dangerous to under-estimate the power of temptation. (1 Peter 5:8-10)
5. It is dangerous if you over-estimate your own strength. (1 Corinthians 10:12)
6. You will be vulnerable to temptation if you think your own temptations are unique. (1 Corinthians 10:13a)
7. You will fail in temptation if you doubt the goodness of God. (1 Corinthians 10:13b)
8. You will be overcome by temptation if you fight with the wrong weapons. (2 Corinthians 10:3-4)
9. You will be vulnerable to temptation if you do not question your desires. (James 1:14-15)
10. We are vulnerable to temptation when we are careless about God's boundaries. (Ephesians 5:1-4)

Reflection:

In which of the ten areas are you most at risk in dealing with present temptation or avoiding future temptation? What is one thing (or 5 things) you can change this week to approach your temptation in a more Christ-like manner?

ministry where you can see Jesus may have faced other temptations?

The sermon this week had 10 points of application, all of which could be connected to the temptations of Jesus. Take some time and discuss each (or any) of the ten and the associated verse, how they connect to the experience of Jesus, and how they apply to us in specific situations.

1. You will be vulnerable to temptation if you care only for present happiness. (James 1:12)
2. You will be vulnerable to temptation if you have no longing for heaven. (Matthew 13:44-45)
3. You be overcome by temptation if you don't completely trust God's word. (Jeremiah 17:7-18)
4. It is dangerous to under-estimate the power of temptation. (1 Peter 5:8-10)
5. It is dangerous if you over-estimate your own strength. (1 Corinthians 10:12)
6. You will be vulnerable to temptation if you think your own temptations are unique. (1 Corinthians 10:13a)
7. You will fail in temptation if you doubt the goodness of God. (1 Corinthians 10:13b)
8. You will be overcome by temptation if you fight with the wrong weapons. (2 Corinthians 10:3-4)
9. You will be vulnerable to temptation if you do not question your desires. (James 1:14-15)
10. We are vulnerable to temptation when we are careless about God's boundaries. (Ephesians 5:1-4)

Reflection:

In which of the ten areas are you most at risk in dealing with present temptation or avoiding future temptation? What is one thing (or 5 things) you can change this week to approach your temptation in a more Christ-like manner?