

**Sermon Notes, February 21, 2010**  
**Three Temptations in Three Locations**

Luke 4:1-13

**Location, Location, Location.** \_\_\_\_\_

*The baptism of Jesus signaled that the Kingdom of God [was near]. This news sent fallen angels scheming for ways to ruin Jesus' rescue mission. After leaving John the Baptist, Jesus was tempted by Satan in three different ways that connect with three different locations. Three temptation, in three locations; each happened where it did for a reason.*

-Dr. Jim Martin

**When Does Satan Tempt Us?**

1. After Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_
2. When We are Physically \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_
3. When We are \_\_\_\_\_

**THREE LESSONS ABOUT TEMPTATION  
FROM THREE LOCATIONS**

**1. Location #1: The \_\_\_\_\_**

(Lk 4:1 NLT) "He was led by the Spirit to go out into the wilderness"

**Temptation:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Lk 4:3 NIV) *The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."*

**OT Reference**

(Deu 8:2-3 ESV) *And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, . . . that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.*

**Jesus' Answer**

(Luke 4:4 NIV) *Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone.'"*

**2. Location #2: Mt. \_\_\_\_\_, Near International Highway**  
(Mat 4:8 NIV) *Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor.*

**Temptation:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Luke 4:6-7 NIV) *And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. {7} So if you worship me, it will all be yours."*

**OT Reference**

(Psa 2:7-8 NIV) *I will proclaim the decree of the LORD: He said to me, "You are my Son ; today I have become your Father. {8} Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession."*

**Jesus' Answer**

(Luke 4:8 NIV, see Deu 6:13) *Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'"*

**3. Location #3: Temple Mount, \_\_\_\_\_**

(Luke 4:9 NIV) *The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple.*

**Temptation:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Luke 4:9 NIV) *The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here.*

**OT Reference**

(2 Sam 7:12-13 NIV) *When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. {13} He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.*

**Jesus' Answer**

(Luke 4:12 NIV, see Deu 6:16) *Jesus answered, "It says: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"*

**A Common Thread In All Three Temptations = Bypass the \_\_\_\_\_**

**A Common Solution in All Three Temptations = \_\_\_\_\_**

# Sermon-Based Small Group Discussion Guide

Week of February 21, 2010

Luke 4:1-13; Romans 10:8b-13; Ps.91:1-2,9-16; Deut.26:1-11

**Icebreaker:** If you were the ruler of the world, what would be your first decree?

Read Luke 4:1-13 together.

1. Share something new you learned about the temptation of Jesus from listening to this week's sermon.
2. Discuss whether Satan is a real being or merely a figurative symbol?
3. How did the context/environment of Jesus' temptations make it more difficult than Adam and Eve's context? When are you most susceptible to temptation?
4. Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert. Why in the world would the Spirit lead Jesus into such a place? Do you think the Spirit sometimes leads us to places that are difficult?
5. When have you been alone in a "desert" experience? Do you think the Spirit led you there?
6. Why were the following items real temptations for Jesus? What was its appeal and what was its price?
  - a. Bread? (4:3-4)
  - b. Earthly kingdoms (4:5-8)
  - c. Jump from the pinnacle of the temple (4:9-12)
7. Pastor Mark alluded to a single core temptation to Jesus that stands behind all of these temptations. It would have had eternal consequences for us? What was it?
8. Jesus was tempted by Satan in three different locations. Did these locations have any significance? Why?
9. Let's get specific. Matthew finished Luke's record when Jesus said, "Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God (Matt. 4:4)." What temptations face you when it comes to reading and meditating on the Word of God?
10. How does Satan's use of scripture differ from Jesus use of scripture?
11. How do you know when a temptation is coming on? Are temptations detectable?
12. Using Jesus as our example, how can we better handle temptations when they come?
13. Read Hebrews 4:15-16. How can Jesus' experience with temptation be a source of hope to us when we are tempted? (See also 1 Cor. 10:13)

**Bonus:** Jesus faced temptation alone in the wilderness. Is it fair to expect that your small group members can help at a time of temptation? If so, how?

## **Prayer:**

Pray for those outside of Christ.

Always pray for one another's needs and trials.