



WEEK TWO

June 7, 2020

Fighting Temptation

Text: Mark 1: 12-13

Big Idea: Temptation is a fact of life. If we want to be all that God wants us to be, and if we want to experience life to the fullest, we need to learn how to fight it.

Memory verse: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" Mark 1:15

Weekly Ministry Items

Announcements: _____

Outreach/Ministry Reports: _____

Prayer Time: _____

Group Lesson Plan:

Paraphrase the Text: _____

Read the Text: _____

Facilitate Bible Study: _____

Discussion Questions:

Icebreaker: When is the last time you were in a difficult situation where there seemed to be no way out? How did you deal with it? How strong was the temptation to do something wrong?

Verse 12 transitions from Jesus' *baptism* to talk about the *temptation* of Jesus. What word does Mark use to describe the timing of these events (12)? In your mind, what do you understand to be the connection between these two events? Who instigated Jesus' forthcoming temptations?

For what purpose did the Spirit of God “drive” Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted? Read Hebrews 2: 17-18. How are we helped today by what Jesus went through in the wilderness?

Read Romans 7: 24-25. Paul teaches us that because Jesus overcame temptation we can, by His power, overcome temptation as well. Stop and think a minute. Are there strongholds of temptation in your life that you believe can never be overcome? Do you believe that Jesus can liberate you from those sinful strongholds? (Mark 14:38; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Galatians 5:16; 2 Timothy 2:22; Psalm 119:11)

According to verse 13, how long was Jesus in the wilderness? What mental pictures come to mind when you think about the wilderness experience of Jesus? In a spiritual sense, what is the wilderness associated with?

While in the wilderness, Jesus was directly tempted by Satan. Who is Satan and what other names does he have in the Scriptures? Read 1 Peter 5: 8; 2 Corinthians 4:4 and John 10:10. What do these verses (among many others) teach us about his character and agenda? As you ponder the national landscape today, where do you see evidences of his handiwork?

It is fascinating that Mark mentions how Jesus “was with the wild animals.” Were animals hostile before the fall in the Garden of Eden? Read Isaiah 11:9. How does this verse relate to Jesus wilderness experience? Truly, Jesus had come to reverse the effects of the curse of sin. How do you think the angels ministered to Jesus? Why did they need to? What does this imply about His humanity? His divinity?

You can have victory over sinful temptations. Fix your mind on Jesus.

Teaching To Obey (Matt. 28:20):

In response to God’s revealed truth in your life, what action steps will you take today to obey His will? Are there:

Sins to confess? Promises to claim? Attitudes to change? Commands to obey? Examples to follow?

Our text for June 14: Mark 4: 1-9, 13-20