

Getting into Our LivesGroup time - 20 minutes

1. How are Jesus' temptations similar to the ones that we all face? How does His victory affect you? **See also: Hebrews 4:15; 1 Corinthians 15:56-57**
2. What tests have you encountered that strengthened your faith and grew you as a follower of Christ? What helped you in those times?
3. Looking at Jesus, how can you prepare yourself to overcome the difficult tests that come your way? Looking at your group, how can you support one another through trials?

Getting Out the GospelGroup time - 5 minutes

More than just "sinful actions" Satan was intent on distracting Jesus from His mission. As followers of Jesus, what is our mission and how do we get distracted?

How can you keep your mission at the forefront of your mind this week?

Getting into PrayerGroup time - 10 minutes

Reach: "Father in Heaven, ground us in your Word so that we will stay focused on your mission of making disciples."

Growth: "Remind us, Lord, that we have been united to Christ and share in His victory over sin. Sin no longer enslaves us, but help us to delight in Your Word so that we can see that victory manifest in our lives."

Empower: "Do not let us think we can do this alone, but by your Holy Spirit and with your forgiven people. Help us to come alongside one another, so that those in times of strength will help those in times of weakness."

The King's Trials

Matthew 4:1-11

Approximately 700 years before Jesus came, the prophet Isaiah proclaimed that it's _____. Our salvation rises and falls on Him. (*Isaiah 5:4-11*)

Triumph #1

You and I will find the abundant life Jesus promised when we are committed to God's _____, no matter what.

Triumph #2

Jesus' triumph shows us that instead of _____ God, we can _____ Him to walk through any trial.

Triumph #3

True life, true glory, true splendor is found in _____ Him over and above all things.

I never knew:

I need to change:

I should share:

GROWTH GROUP QUESTIONS

Week of September 24, 2017

Getting StartedGroup time - 15 minutes

1. Take a few minutes to share with each other what God has been doing in your life through His Word, church, prayer, last week's lesson or other people.
2. Think back to elementary school, high school or college – did you consider yourself a good test taker? How did you prepare?
3. What was a significant moment in your life that helped reveal or prove an aspect of your character (good or bad)?

Getting into God's WordGroup time - 40 minutes

Read Matthew 4:1-11

1. For each of the three tests, briefly describe the scene, the temptation and Jesus' response.

SCENE	TEMPTATION	RESPONSE
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Test 1
(vss 2-4)

Test 2
(vss 5-7)

Test 3
(vss 8-10)

Read Matthew 4:1

2. Who led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted? Why do you think this was part of God's plan? **See also: Deuteronomy 8:2-3**

Read Matthew 4:2-4

3. Why wasn't it okay for Jesus to turn the stones into bread? What does Jesus' response tell us about Him?

Read Matthew 4:5-7 & Psalm 91:11-12

4. Why do you think the devil quoted scripture to Jesus? Why didn't this prompt Jesus to comply with his command?

Read Matthew 4:8-11

5. What is different about Satan's promise to make Jesus king and God the Father's promise to make Jesus king over all? Why would the devil's offer be tempting? **See also: 2 Samuel 7:12-13; John 14:30; Ephesians 1:20-23**

6. What does Jesus' victory over these tests tell us about the kind of king/messiah He is?