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How does the devil tempt us?

Principle one:

The devil tempts us with _____.
Luke 4:2b-3 (cf. Matthew 4:2-4)

Application one:

Declare God's _____ . Luke 4:4

Principle two:

The devil tempts us with _____.
Luke 4:5-7 (cf. Matthew 4:8-10)

Application two:

Give God _____ . Luke 4:8

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Principle three:

The devil tempts us with _____.
Luke 4:9-11 (cf. Matthew 4:5-7)

Application two:

Trust God's _____ . Luke 4:12

TAKE HOME TRUTH

When tempted _____ the devil while
_____ to God. Luke 4:13

Tools to resist temptation...

A. Spend time in _____

B. Avoid sinful _____

C. Make yourself _____

Today's Core Belief:

Jesus Christ: "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin – that He suffered, was crucified and buried, but rose on the third day, after which He ascended into heaven where He sits at the Father's right hand." (from Hebrews 1:3)



Deeper Connection Study

It is a stark contrast to go from the lovely scene of Jesus' baptism in the presence of others to be alone in the inhospitable desert. One would think that after Jesus' anointing for his messianic ministry, he would be preaching and performing miracles. Yet God had ordained a very important step for Jesus to take prior to doing these tasks.

Today's Core Belief discussed: Jesus Christ.

Read Luke 4:1-13 (par. Matt. 4:1-11; cf. Mark 1:12-13)

1. How and why was Jesus put into this predicament? How long did he endure temptations and under what conditions?
2. What were 3 specific temptations and Jesus' responses recorded by Matthew?

<u>Satan's Temptation</u>	<u>Jesus' Response</u>
a. (v. 3)	a. (v. 4)
b. (vv. 5-6)	b. (v. 8)
c. (vv. 9-11)	c. (v. 12)
3. According to Jesus, how should we live (v. 4; cf. Deut. 8:1-3)? How does he expand this idea past the physical realm (cf. Deut. 32:46-47; 1 Pt. 1:22-25)?
4. What are the similarities of the temptation in the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3:1-7) and Jesus' temptation in the wilderness? How are these likewise addressed by the apostle John (1 Jn. 2:15-16)?
5. Why is it important that Jesus endured temptations? How does this provide encouragement and strength for Christians (cf. 1 Cor. 10:13; Heb. 4:14-16)?
6. What areas in your life are you tempted the most? How can you best avoid or endure temptations that come your way (Eph. 6:10-18; Jas. 4:7)?

PRAYER TO THE POINT: Praise God for guidance from his Word and the power of the Holy Spirit to help us fight against temptations. Pray for an undivided heart that clearly focuses on doing God's will in the midst of a world full of temptation.



Whether young or old, weak or strong, every believer experiences temptations of different

types. Sometimes these temptations are severe, like the parent who is tempted to doubt God's goodness after losing their child to a terminal illness. Other times temptations are subtle, like the temptation to give into self-pity and anger because of an unfavorable Facebook post. No matter what the temptation might be, the result of surrendering to the temptation is distance from God and condemnation from the devil. This undesirable surrender robs the believer of joy and eventually renders them ineffective in their spiritual journey.

So what can be done? Some, unfortunately, take a defeatist attitude and declare they are "only human," and it can't be helped. However, there are others who have looked at the example of the Lord who "resisted to the point of shedding his blood," (cf. Hebrews 12:4) and found victory.