







SERIES: Reflections on the Life of Christ

<p>Week 2: Luke 4:1-15</p>	
<p>Connect</p>  <p>5 – 10 min</p>	<p><i>Pick one :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People’s Choice Domino game – see page 3 of these notes • Icebreaker question: How do you feel about heights? What’s the highest place you’ve ever been?
<p>Gratitude</p>  <p>10 – 15 min</p>	<p>Take a few minutes in quiet (perhaps with some soft music in the background) to allow everyone to think back over their week and notice where and how God was at work in their life. Ask each person to share & give thanks for one way they are aware God has been involved in their life in the last 7 days. Break into smaller groups or triplets if needed to ensure the time and appropriate dynamic for everyone to be able to share.</p>
<p>Discover</p>  <p>25 min</p>	<p>Read Luke 4:1-15</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When you heard this passage read, what word or phrase particularly jumped out at you? Why? 2. What do we learn about who Jesus is from this passage? 3. Read the attached article. What did you find particularly interesting? Why? 4. Given that these temptations were <u>real</u> temptations to Jesus, what was it about each of them that made them so alluring? 5. What does Jesus’ response to Satan say to us about the importance of God’s written word hidden in our hearts (and minds)? How well do you know the Bible? Which parts of the Bible do you feel you don’t know very well at all? 6. 1 Peter 5:8-9. 2 Cor 2:10-11. We also are tempted and it is important to understand the nature of the temptations that face us. How are the temptations that Jesus experienced similar to what we/you/me are tempted in?
<p>Act</p>  <p>10 min</p>	<p>What action is God asking of you in response to what you have discovered in God’s Word today/tonight?</p>

Digging Deeper (based on commentary by Leon Morris)

Jesus had just been baptized and now looked forward to the public ministry to which he had set his hand, but first he spent time in quiet reflection in the wilderness. The story is of great interest in that it cannot have come from anyone other than Jesus himself.

The activity of the Spirit in the leading of Jesus into the wilderness shows that it was in God's plan that right at the outset Jesus should face up to the question of what kind of Messiah he was to be. Clearly he faced questions like: What sort of Messiah was he to be? Was he to use his powers for personal ends? Or for the establishing of a mighty empire that would rule the world in righteousness? Or for working spectacular, if pointless, miracles? He rejected all these for what they were, temptations of the devil. That they were temptations implies that Jesus knew that he had unusual powers. It is no temptation to us to turn stones into bread or leap from a Temple pinnacle. But Jesus was not bound by our limitations. He knew he had powers others do not have and he had to decide how to use them. Matthew has the second and third temptations in the reverse order, a fact that has never been satisfactorily explained.

On all three occasions Jesus countered the temptations by quoting from Deuteronomy and in fact from the restricted area between 6:13 and 8:3, chapters that refer to the wilderness experiences of Israel, the people of God. It may well be that Jesus had given a lot of thought to these passages as he reflected on the mission to which God was calling him. There were parallels in the experience of the ancient people of God to those in his own wilderness experience. He was one with the people of God. By resisting what the Israelites failed to resist he is ushering in a new day and the hope of 'better promises' (Hebrews 8:6).

House Church Guide

Connecting Game: People's Choice Dominos

Print and cut up the 'domino' cards below. You'll need at least one domino for every person. Print two sets if you have a particularly large group.

On each half of the domino are words that express a preferred choice. For example, "Hamburger over Pizza". That means when given a choice you prefer hamburgers over pizza.

- Each person chooses one domino that contains a choice statement they agree with. (You don't have to agree with both statements on your domino, just one.)
- Find someone else in the group that agrees with the choice statement on the other half of your domino.
- See if you can connect the whole group together by linking people and the choices on the dominos.

Chips <i>Over</i> Chocolate	Blue <i>Over</i> Red	Blue <i>Over</i> Red	Tea <i>Over</i> Coffee	Tea <i>Over</i> Coffee	Banana <i>Over</i> Apple
Banana <i>Over</i> Apple	Cat <i>Over</i> Dog	Cat <i>Over</i> Dog	Mountains <i>Over</i> Beach	Mountains <i>Over</i> Beach	Early Morning <i>Over</i> Late Night
Early Morning <i>Over</i> Late Night	Singing <i>Over</i> Dancing	Singing <i>Over</i> Dancing	Trains <i>Over</i> Buses	Trains <i>Over</i> Buses	Hamburger <i>Over</i> Pizza
Hamburger <i>Over</i> Pizza	Lego <i>Over</i> iPad game	Lego <i>Over</i> iPad game	Top Bunk <i>Over</i> Bottom Bunk	Top Bunk <i>Over</i> Bottom Bunk	Horse <i>Over</i> Bike
Horse <i>Over</i> Bike	Book <i>Over</i> Movie	Book <i>Over</i> Movie	Caramel <i>Over</i> Strawberry	Caramel <i>Over</i> Strawberry	Chips <i>Over</i> Chocolate