



LENTEN DEVOTIONAL



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Psalm Reading:

Psalm 33

School/Apartment to Pray For:

Helping Hands Child Development Academy
Apt 305

Devotional Reading:

Read and reflect on Matthew 4:1-11.
Write down anything thoughts or
questions you might have.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Psalm Reading:

Psalm 34

School/Apartment to Pray For:

Hickory Elementary School / Apt 306

Devotional Reading:

Temptation

Let me tell you an unavoidable fact of life:

Temptation will come to us all. Now let me tell you another fact of life: **All temptation can be resisted!**

Read these words from the Apostle Paul:

1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

God has promised that He will always “provide a way out” of every temptation that comes to us. In this week’s reading from Matthew 4, we are shown how Jesus resisted Satan’s temptations. This gives us the information we need to be able to resist: *Satan’s Playbook for Temptation* and *Jesus’ Playbook for Resisting Temptation!*

For the rest of this week we are going to study these Playbooks so we can better understand how Satan works, and learn to apply the strategy that Jesus used to resist Satan’s temptations to our own lives!

*Temptation will come to us all...BUT...
All temptation can be resisted!*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Psalm Reading:

Psalm 35

School/Apartment to Pray For:

The Highlands School / Apt 307

Devotional Reading:

Satan’s Playbook for Temptation Page 1-He is Opportunistic

Did you notice that Satan didn’t bother to show up to tempt Jesus until Jesus had already been fasting for forty days? Satan was waiting for Jesus to be weak (Jesus hadn’t eaten in forty days!), hopefully weak enough to not be thinking right and therefore be more susceptible to temptation. This is how Satan works, he waits to tempt us until we are tired, hungry, stressed, or anything else that would keep us from thinking right.

James 1:14

but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.

This verse from James shows us another example of Satan being opportunistic: he uses our own desires against us. This means that his temptations are tailored to each of us individually. What is tempting to me may not be tempting to you. Satan knows this and uses it against us. But remember: All temptation can be resisted! *(Take a few minutes to read James 1:13-15 to flesh this out a bit more.)*

*We have to be on guard at all times,
but especially when we are not at our best!*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Psalm Reading:

Psalm 36

School/Apartment to Pray For:

Homestead/Wakefield Elementary School / Apt 308

Devotional Reading:

Satan's Playbook for Temptation Page 2-He Misuses Scripture

It seems like an odd play for Satan to use Scripture in tempting Jesus. He quotes Psalm 91:11-12 and taken by themselves, those verses could be seen to support what Satan is saying. But what's really happened is that he has taken those verses out of their context. Take a few minutes to read all of **Psalm 91**.

This Psalm is clearly talking about enjoying God's protection when living within His will (see verse 1 below), not while doing something foolish.

Psalm 91:1

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

An example: Years ago I had a young woman in my church who would go out jogging alone at night. Her justification for this foolish behavior was that God would protect her. We had to explain to her that God's promise of protection didn't cover our foolishness.

We have to know Scripture well enough that we will know when it is being misused!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Psalm Reading:

Psalm 37

School/Apartment to Pray For:

Jarrettsville Elementary School / Apt 309

Devotional Reading:

Satan's Playbook for Temptation Page 3-His Way Will Appear to be the Easier, Better Way

In this third temptation, Satan is offering Jesus "all the kingdoms of the world and all their splendor," if Jesus would bow down and worship Satan. Now, these things would soon belong to Jesus, but not before He endured the horror of the cross. Basically, Satan was offering Jesus the reward without the suffering. Satan didn't have the authority to make this offer, but that's a discussion for another time!

The Bible most definitely promises us rewards, but it also promises us suffering. Paul writes:

Romans 8:17

Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

One of my favorite songwriters, Bill Mallonee wrote this line: "There's a cross before the crown." This applied to Jesus, and it also applies to us.

We must never be lulled into thinking that our lives will be all reward and no suffering

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Psalm Reading:

Psalm 38

School/Apartment to Pray For:

John Archer School / Apt 310

Devotional Reading:

Jesus' Playbook for Resisting Temptation

Page 1-Respond Only with Scripture

Satan tempts Jesus three times, in three different ways, but every time Jesus' response is the same: Scripture and nothing but Scripture! It also happens to be that each response was from the book of Deuteronomy (8:3, 6:16, and 6:13 for the record).

Here's why this is such an effective response:

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

This is not the only time God's Word is referred to as a sword. See, it has power. Power to not only defend against Satan's attacks, but power to return the favor. Satan can not stand up to Scripture. Jesus knew this and left us His example so that we would know how to resist any and every temptation!

We need to memorize Scripture so that when we are tempted we can respond as Jesus did, only with Scripture

GRACE AND TRUTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

Pastor: Jason Chailou

pastorjay

@graceandtruthcommunitychurch.com

410-236-4151

graceandtruthcommunitychurch.com

facebook.com/graceandtruthcc

Weekly Schedule:

Tuesday

9:00 AM: Grocery Shopping
Dianna Tilton collects lists/
payment from 8-9AM

12:30 PM: Worship Service
Via Zoom

Gatherings also take place in
various apartments

Thursday

10:00 AM: Coffee with the Pastor
Host Apartment varies each
week