

# HOME CHURCH

MARCH 13, 2022 - LENT 2

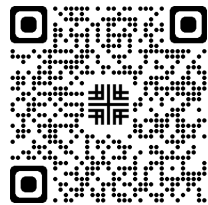
## HOME CHURCH GUIDE:

- CHECK-INS: Introduce, check-in
- CARE: Needs in the group
- COMPASSION: What is the group planning? Are you inviting your neighbours to join in?
- GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS Church-wide and group-only
- DIG IN: "Breaking the Ice" question (group facilitator), discuss questions as a group
- PRAYER: Final questions, prayer huddles for personal requests. Consider breaking into small groups (huddles) of 2-4, by gender, if large enough.

## FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION:

(NT Wright, Others)

1. Think about a time when God was calling you to a new phase of life or ministry. What roadblocks or temptations did you face?
2. Read Luke 3:21-22; 4:1-4. If you remember the temptation of Adam and Eve, what echoes are here?
3. What is the nature of the first temptation?
4. How Jesus responds to the first temptation shows that he is a different kind of messiah in comparison to other king-like leaders and prophets (promising signs, wonders, and miracles) who did not last long. What do you see in Jesus' defeat of Satan in the temptation story?
5. Speak about the kinds of power on display or referred to in this passage.
6. We will not be tested in a way that puts all of humanity on notice like Jesus, but we can be tested at crucial points in our lives (think; relationship, work, focus, etc). How can we learn to recognize and defeat the voices that whisper attractive lies to us?

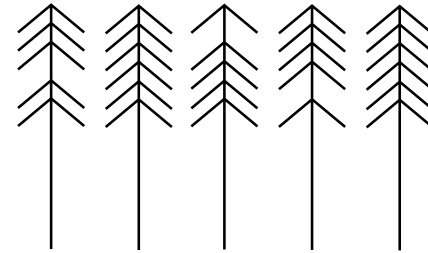


## CONNECT

- Need Prayer?      ▪ Meet with Pastor Shel
- Ask Questions    ▪ Sign-up for our weekly e-newsletter
- Get information   ▪ Join a Home Church
- Make Comments

LENT 2022

## THE JOURNEY OF JESUS



wilderness

### TEMPTATION AND RELEVANCE

**Luke 3:21-22; 4:1-4**

There is often more than one way to accomplish anything, but it doesn't mean every path takes us in the direction we want to go. People who follow Jesus learn to go about life wrestling with the right use of the power we've been given in the choices we make. Join us as we explore temptation.

*There is here an Adam typology and a Genesis background to this story: as Adam is cast out of paradise into the wilderness, so Christ, the new Adam, goes into the wilderness on our behalf, then to come forth from that temptation to lead us back into paradise.*

-Ambrose, Exposition of Luke 4:7

### OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

Temple Grandin story

## SETTING THE SCENE: Baptism + Wilderness

**TEXT: Luke 3:21-22** Now when all the people were baptized, Jesus also was baptized. And while he was praying, the heavens opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my one dear Son; in you I take great delight."

### Upfront Insights to Explore in the Temptation of Christ

- Know what sin is...
- The Power of Formational Practices
  - Jesus has been immersed in intentional formational practices of Second Temple Judaism, and now before his major life pivot, invests a significant amount of time in preparation.
- Spiritual Family

## WILDERNESS

**SETTING: Luke 4:1-2** Then Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan River and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he endured temptations from the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were completed, he was famished.

- Story could have only come from Jesus himself(!)
- Old Testament Echoes:
  - Forty equals "a number in the Jewish imaging was already charged with a sense of trial and testing in preparation for something new" (Jeffery, Luke, 67).
- Paradigmatic temptations across all cultures and time
  - New Testament, 1 John 2:16, lust of flesh, lust of eyes, pride of life.
  - Bede, Augustine, Ambrose: appetite, boasting, ambition
- Luke alone adds that he was "full of the Holy Spirit".

*One traditional way of reading the temptation is through the fall in Genesis. That this is the beginning of the unmasking and reversing the curse of Adam's disobedience and destruction. "Jesus will undo the harm of Adam." -Justo Gonzalez*

*Forty...a number in the Jewish imaging was already charged with a sense of trial and testing in preparation for something new. -Jeffery, Luke, 67*

- Jesus was famished

### THE DEVIL'S TESTING - TEST THE VOICE!

Luke 4:3-4 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man does not live by bread alone.'"

- If
- Nouwen - Relevance + Relationship

*"While efficiency and control are the great aspirations of our society, the loneliness, isolation, lack of friendship and intimacy, broken relationship, boredom, feelings of emptiness and depression, and a deep sense of uselessness fill the hearts of millions of people in our success-oriented world" (H.Nouwen, In the Name of Jesus, 21).*

1. How will he/we relate to....
2. How will he/we relate to...

- Use of power, in this case, charismatic gifts (and maybe charismatic personality) in a way that undercuts a charismatic (spirit-filled and spirit-led) character.
- Scripture alone doesn't solve it.

### THE LANDING

*"Dealing with burning issues without being rooted in a deep personal relationship with God easily leads to a divisiveness because, before we know it, our sense of self is caught up in our opinion about a given subject. But when we are securely rooted in personal intimacy with the source of life, it will be possible to remain flexible without being rigid, willing to confront without being offensive, gentle and forgiving without being soft, and true witnesses without be manipulative" (H.Nouwen, ITNOJ, 31-32).*