

SERMON BASED CURRICULUM

**Date & Sermon Series:**

October 8/9, 2016; Tempted

Speaker:

Pastor Mark Batterson

Scripture Focus: Luke 4:1-4

Note To Leaders:

This weekend we discussed how “you can’t avoid temptation, but you can overcome it” in our lives. These questions provide a framework to prompt or foster discussion in your small group. Don’t feel you have to use all or any of these questions and you don’t have to make it to the end! Use the questions that best fit your group and let discussion flow.

Icebreaker Suggestions: Have you ever experienced a really difficult season in your life? How did you overcome it?

Sermon Series Questions:

1. What thoughts are still resonating with you from the sermon?
2. What was most encouraging or challenging about this weekend’s message?
3. In what ways did Luke 4:1-4 speak to you?

Specific Questions:

1. Pastor Mark Batterson heard a saying that says, “The best titles come later.” When has there been a time in your life where you experienced a set back that later turned into a come back?
2. John 10:10 says that the “enemy comes to steal, kill, and destroy.” What areas in your life are you giving the enemy a foothold? What areas are you giving the enemy an inch and he’s taking it a mile?
3. We all experience wildernesses. Is there an area in your life that is stretching you and uncomfortable? Pastor Mark cautioned us, “Don’t be so anxious to get out of the situation that you don’t get anything out of the situation.” What would this look like in your life?
4. “You might fall into temptation but you have to climb out of it with the help of the Holy Spirit.” When was the last time you asked God to fill you with the Holy Spirit? Read 1 Corinthians 10:13- how can being filled with the Holy Spirit help you overcome temptation?

5. In what areas do you find your identity the most? Read Luke 3:22. What does it mean your identity is a gift, not something that is earned? How can you pursue finding your identity in Christ?

6. Pastor Mark says, “You can follow Christ without suffering, but I don’t think you can become like Christ without suffering, without testing.” What does it mean to experience suffering?

7. Just as we have wrong impressions or misinterpretations of people, so too do we have wrong impressions/interpretations of God. What is one way you can adjust your expectations or impressions of God?

Challenge:

Pastor Mark gave us seven keys to overcoming temptation. Choose one to focus on this week. Tell a friend or family member which key you are working on and ask them to hold you accountable:

- 1) Be Filled with His Spirit.
- 2) You need a vision that is bigger and better than the temptation.
- 3) You need to make decisions against yourself.
- 4) Resist the Devil and he will flee from you.
- 5) Get help.
- 6) Know His Word.
- 7) Establish healthy boundaries.

Read, Pray, Act:

Read a few of these extra verses that go with this week’s message to familiarize yourself with what Scripture says about suffering, the enemy, and being filled with the Holy Spirit:

- Philippians 3:10
- 2 Corinthians 2:11
- Romans 2:4
- Hebrews 4:15

Pray through what temptations you may be encountering.

Find an accountability partner who will help you overcome this through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Seek additional help and prayer from our prayer team by e-mailing prayer@theaterchurch.com.