

*FRONT PAGE*

**We are sorry to have missed you today...**

**...but wanted to leave you a note.**

## **Sunday Service Summary**

Week 11

Brought to you by your friends at:



Men's Shelter / Men's Recovery / Women's Recovery  
Phone: 918-587-1186 Website: [www.John316Mission.org](http://www.John316Mission.org)  
Nightly Chapel/Dinner: 506 N. Cheyenne Ave. Tulsa, OK

**Luke 4: 1-13**

Filled with the holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for 40 days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days and when they were over he was hungry.

The devil said to him, “if you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread”.

Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone’”.

Then he took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a single instant. The devil said to him, “I shall give to you all this power and their glory; for it has been handed over to me and I may give to whomever I wish. All this will be yours, if you worship me”.

Jesus said to him in reply, “It is written: ‘You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve’”.

Then he led him to Jerusalem, made him stand on the parapet of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you’, and ‘With their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone’”.

Jesus said to him in reply, “It also says, ‘You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test’”.

When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from him for a time.

**Reflections:**

In this reading we hear of the temptation of Jesus by Satan while in the desert for 40 days. These three temptations have been understood as overcoming the three desires for Pleasure, Power and Prestige.

The first temptation to turn the stone in to bread is about more than just food, it was the temptation to discard the limits of His humanity and to “be like God”. That is what Adam did when he chose to eat from the Tree of Knowledge.

The second temptation is for Jesus to be “successful” at the cost of being “faithful”. Many people expected Jesus as the messiah to be a political ruler, a role that was not part of his mission. It is often an easy temptation to give in to other’s expectations of us and to become the person others want us to be rather than the person God wants us to be.

The third temptation is for Jesus to “test” God’s presence and protective action. It is the temptation to doubt that God is with us in moments of crisis. Jesus remained faithful, never doubting the love of the Father was there, never needing to test it. He remained faithful and trusting in the Father’s love even as He died on the cross. He didn’t need proof, He had faith.

Jesus overcame these three temptations as He began His ministry. Each of these temptations surfaced in the Exodus as the Hebrew people wandered for 40 years in the desert. They gave in to the temptations of Pleasure and attempted to hoard manna. They were tempted by Power to set up idols to control God’s action. And they were tempted by Prestige thinking that God had abandoned them during their trials. Jesus overcame the temptations by which the people of Israel failed in their faith. Our Lord has shown us what a disciple’s life looks like when we, too, overcome those same temptations in our lives.

We pray with you ...

Lord,

Look upon us and hear our prayer.

By the good works you inspire, help us to discipline our body's actions and to be renewed in spirit.

Make Your Face to shine upon us and be gracious to us.

Look kindly upon us and grant us a lasting peace.

Amen

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change.  
Courage to change the things I can.  
And wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time.  
Enjoying one moment at a time.  
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace.  
Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it.  
Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will.  
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life.  
And supremely happy with Him forever and ever in the next.

Amen