

Living Water Fellowship

1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

21ST FEBRUARY 2021

COME TO JESUS

WELCOME:

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Faithful God, you draw near to us in our joy & in our grief, in our hope & in our gloom. When we are bowed down, you raise us anew. We turn to you now in search of your healing touch. God of compassionate love, move among us this hour. Open our eyes, dispel our fears, & bring us into the abundant life you offer. We pray this in the name of the Risen One, who raises the dead...Jesus the Christ. Amen.

SONG: Behold Our God

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE READING: Matthew 4:1-11

FAITH CHAT:

THE MESSAGE: *ADDITION BY SUBTRACTION: LESS APPETITE MORE FULFILLMENT*

SONG: Living Hope

PRAYERS:

COMMUNION:

Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Worship Video during Communion: Come As You Are (David Crowder)

GO IN HIS POWER

BLESSING:

(Name) † child of God,

Christ fills your every desire & defends you against every foe. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG: Death Was Arrested

SHOW HIS LOVE

MATTHEW 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. ² For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry. ³ During that time the devil came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become loaves of bread."

⁴ But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say, 'People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city, Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, ⁶ and said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say, 'He will order his angels to protect you. And they will hold you up with their hands so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.'"

⁷ Jesus responded, "The Scriptures also say, 'You must not test the Lord your God.'"

⁸ Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ "I will give it all to you," he said, "if you will kneel down and worship me."

¹⁰ "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'"

¹¹ Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Matthew 4:1-11. What questions immediately come to mind? Does your familiarity with this text hinder your hearing it fully? How will you listen to it today?
2. How are the baptism of Jesus (especially the declaration of his sonship) & his temptation in the wilderness linked? In what way is the Holy Spirit involved in both? In what way was the temptation in the wilderness a test of Jesus' calling & mission? How is it a test of ours as Christians?
3. What is temptation? How would you describe it simply to a child or someone who isn't a Christian? Could you give them an example?
4. What is at the heart of each of the temptations Jesus faces? How do we see the same type of temptations manifest in our lives? How does Jesus respond to each of the temptations? Identify and discuss each of the Scriptures he quotes to the devil.
5. While we acknowledge the existence of the evil one, how do we avoid overestimating or downplaying his capacity to influence this world?
6. Temptations often come at a place where we have a "superficial security system" in place...something we tell ourselves will protect sustain or fulfil us. Typically, our "security systems" revolve around "appetite," "approval," or "ambition," or some combination of all three.
 - a. How do the temptations Jesus faces fit into those categories? What does his triumph over them reveal about his security?
 - b. Which of those three areas of temptation are more apparent in your life right now? What does your struggle or your victory say about your security?
7. It is simply true that wherever the Spirit is at work, the evil one will be on the attack. How do you feel about that? What will you do? How will you allow the victory that is already yours in Christ to be made manifest in those circumstances?
8. Read Eph. 6 and 1 Pet 5:8: What can you do to develop a response to Satan's attacks?