

Life Group Homework

For the week of May 5, 2019

MY STORY

1. Which is your favorite season: winter, spring, summer, or fall, and why?
2. What was your takeaway from last week's study?

QUICK REVIEW

3. Upon reviewing your notes from Sunday's teaching, what caught your attention?

DIGGING DEEPER/ TAKING IT HOME

Matthew 4:1-11(ESV)

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written,

*" 'Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "*

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

*" 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and
" 'On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.' "*

⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

*" 'You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.' "*

¹¹Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

4. What is Jesus doing in the wilderness, and who led Him there?
5. What does it mean to fast, and what type of fast did Jesus do?
6. Have you ever done any type of fast? If so, what was it and what was it like?

7. What is the first question Satan asked Jesus?
8. What is Satan attacking in Jesus?
9. How has Satan attacked your identity as a child of God? If so, what was that like, and what can you do to defend yourself?
10. What is Jesus' response to Satan's first temptation?
11. It is important to note that Jesus uses the Word of God to respond. What is Jesus saying about His relationship to the father?
12. What is the second temptation for Jesus?
13. This is an important thought for us to know about the tactics of Satan in our lives. What does Satan use to tempt Jesus?
14. What is Jesus' response to Satan's second temptation?
15. Have you ever felt the desire to put God to the test? What was it?
16. How can we trust the Father on a deeper level?
17. What is Satan's third temptation of Jesus?
18. What is at the heart of this temptation?
19. Have you ever been tempted to short-circuit the process God is taking you through?

20. One of the examples Jesus is demonstrating is trusting in the Father in the face of suffering. How do you respond to suffering in your life?

21. How does God want us to respond to struggle in our lives?

CHAIR TIME TOOL

Reread Matthew 4:1-11 and think about the following questions:

22. How have you been tempted to believe the lie about your identity in Christ?

23. How can you more quickly recognize the temptations in your life?

24. What Bible passages can you memorize to help you better defeat these temptations?

25. What can you do differently as a result of this week's study?

Jesus

PASTOR CRAIG SWEENEY

May 5, 2019

Matthew 4:1-11 (NLT)

One Main Point: Battles are **revealing**. (They uncover what we could not see otherwise.)

1. Battles reveal **weaknesses**.
2. Battles reveal The Spirit of God's **power** in me.

Colossians 1:15–20

“A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹² For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore, put on every piece of God’s armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm.” Ephesians 6:10–13

3. Battles reveal where we need **reinforcements**.

Prayers for our city:

- We speak the truth that God can and will break the power of addiction in our city and neighbors.
- We speak the truth that God’s churches can and will be strong together walking into every room of our city loving God and loving others as we love ourselves.
- We speak the truth that God’s church will embody hope and invite our city to join us.

Challenge:

- Where am I vulnerable? Name it: _____.
- Declare God’s truth into your battle.
- Resist the enemy, stand your ground in the power of His Spirit.
- Call upon the power of the church. Who will help you and how?
- A call to battle in prayer for our city. (30 days of prayer and fasting...whatever you would be willing to do.)

Homework: Read The Screwtape Letters by C.S. LEWIS