

JESUS STYLE LEADERSHIP

THE TEMPTATIONS OF LEADERSHIP

May 24, 2009

FBC Port A

Mat 4:1 NLT *Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil.*

1. THE Pain & Pleasure TEST

Mat 4:2-4 NLT *For forty days and forty nights He fasted and became very hungry. 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." 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.'"*

When I'm empty, hurting, or confused, will I wait to meet my needs or rush to satisfy them?

Jer 2:13 NLT *"For My people have done two evil things: They have abandoned Me—the fountain of living water. And they have dug for themselves cracked cisterns that can hold no water at all!"*

Isa 50:10-11 NLT *Who among you fears the LORD and obeys His servant? If you are walking in darkness, without a ray of light, trust in the LORD and rely on your God. But watch out, you who live in your own light and warm yourselves by your own fires. This is the reward you will receive from Me: You will soon fall down in great torment.*

ANTIDOTE

Mat 6:31-33 NLT *"So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and He will give you everything you need.*

Mat 4:11 NLT *Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.*

2. THE Popularity & Praise TEST

Mat 4:5-7 NLT *Then the devil took Him to the holy city, Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, 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.'" Jesus responded, "The Scriptures also say, 'You must not test the LORD your God.'"*

Will I use my abilities to serve God and others or to gain attention for myself?

2Ch 12:1 NLT *But when Rehoboam was firmly established and strong, he abandoned the Law of the LORD, and all Israel followed him in this sin.*

Pro 27:21 NLT *Fire tests the purity of silver and gold, but a person is tested by being praised.*

ANTIDOTES

Gal 5:25-26 NLT *Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.*

1Pet 5:6 NLT *So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time He will lift you up in honor.*

3. THE Prosperity & Possessions TEST

Mat 4:8-11 NLT *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. "I will give it all to You," he said, "if You will kneel down and worship me." "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the LORD your God and serve only Him.'" Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.*

Do I value wealth on earth more than eternal reward in heaven?

Mat 16:26 NLT *And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?*

1Tim 6:18-19 NLT *Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.*

Luke 4:13 NLT *When the devil had finished tempting Jesus, he left Him until the next opportunity came.*

Every time you pass a test, you're given more power.

Luke 4:14-19 NLT *Then Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the Holy Spirit's power. Reports about Him spread quickly through the whole region. He taught regularly in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When He came to the village of Nazareth, His boyhood home, He went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures. The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to Him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written: "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, for He has anointed Me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the LORD's favor has come."*



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