

SERMON: A Conversation with the Devil

April 28, 2019

SERIES: Conversations with Jesus

SPEAKER: Pastor Mark

THE GOAL: The primary goal of a small group at Grace is to develop a Christian community where Jesus is experienced through the gospel.

ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS: Use these questions to explore how God is at work in our families, communities, workplaces, and church.

1. Where have you seen God at work in your life this week?
2. What temptations have you been facing this week? How is God delivering you?
3. How have you experienced God's grace this week?
4. In what ways are you growing in your love for God?
5. In what ways are you growing in your love for others?
6. Have you started or stopped something this week just because you love Jesus?

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 4:1-11.

SERMON OUTLINE: I. The Nature of the Temptations II. Lessons from the temptations

REVIEW: Use these questions to better understand and apply the passage/sermon.

Observation: as a group talk through and summarize the passage. Think through Who, What, Where, When, How, Why questions together.

Interpretation: answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?
2. What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?
3. What does this passage teach us about salvation/grace?
4. How does this passage point to Christ?

Application: answer these questions together:

1. How does this passage convict you? Encourage you? Inspire you?
2. What specific truth do you see about God (his grace? love? holiness?) and how would your life be different if you really believed it?
3. By God's grace, what commitments do you need to make this week? Or, what do you need to start obeying/believing?

GO DEEPER: Use these questions to go deeper into the passage, minds, and hearts.

1. Jesus was first tempted in an area of weakness (hunger). What are areas of weakness where you face temptation?
2. Jesus was tempted in an area of strength (belief in scripture and the power of God). Satan's temptations in 4:5-6 are wrong because they make demands of God rather than simply trusting God. Can you think of ways you might make demands of God?
3. Satan's last temptation offered Jesus glory without the suffering. Where in your life are you tempted to expect glory without suffering? Job? Parenting? Sexuality? Ministry? Etc.
4. Discuss these evangelism lessons from the temptations. Which stands out to you? Why? 1) Every single human needs a savior. 2) Every Christian is called to obey God, no matter the cost. 3) Our evangelism is fueled by Christ's victory over Satan.

Pray: Thank God that Christ has succeeded in obedience where we would fail. Confess areas of temptation (see above). Ask God to give you boldness in evangelism that flows from Christ's victory over Satan.