

Matthew 3:13-4:11 The baptism and testing of Jesus

Big Idea: Jesus, the beloved Son of God, fulfilled righteousness by receiving a baptism of repentance from John on our behalf, and obeying the Holy Spirit-fasting 40 days alone and resisting the temptations of the devil.

Fallen Condition: We have succumbed to the temptations of the devil, sinning against God and are guilty before him

Christ Solution: Jesus provides a way for our repentance and forgiveness, fulfilling all righteousness for us on our behalf.

Passage: Matt 3:13-4:11

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

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

"Man shall 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 and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶ and 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."

⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

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

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

Applying the Discover Bible Study Method

Connect and Review

Spend 5-10 minutes on some of these questions

- What are you thankful for this week?
- What difficulties have you faced this week?
- How did you apply what you learned last week
- How did you experience God this past week?
- How can we pray for each other?

Read God's Word

Have someone read the passage

Ask: are there any words or phrases they do not understand?

Explain confusing words as needed

Have someone else read it a different version

Have Someone else retell the story in their own words

(Anyone want to add to that?)

Discuss God's Word

In this passage...

...what did you like?

... what surprised you?

... what confused you? Why?

What does this passage tell us about ...

... God?

... Jesus?

... Holy Spirit?

What does this passage tell us about the devil?

Additional questions if helpful:

- What is revealed about the nature of God that the Spirit came down on Jesus while the Father spoke to him?
- What might be some of the reasons God said to Jesus, "this is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased?"
- Did Jesus yield to the devil's temptations?
 - What is the significance of that?
 - How does that help us?

What does this passage tell us about...

— people?

... the relationship between God and people?

Additional questions if helpful:

- According to vs 3:11, what was the purpose of John's baptisms
- What is repentance and why do we need it?
- What three things did the devil tempt Jesus with?
 - i. Satisfaction, providing for self,
 - ii. Acclaim, being made much of
 - iii. Power, dominion, glory
- How have you seen these things play out in the lives of those around you?
- How do you find yourself tempted by these things?

Obey God's Word

How does this passage change the way you view

... God?

... yourself?

... other people?

How should this passage change how you live?

- How might Jesus' victory over temptation help us when we are tempted?
- Would anyone want to share how this has played out in your life so far?

What specifically will you do differently this week?

Who can you tell what you learned?