

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE**Treasuring God in Temptation**

LUKE 4:1-13

OVERVIEW

Luke is the longest and most comprehensive of the four Gospels, presenting Jesus as the Perfect Man who came to save sinful men. Growing belief and growing opposition develop side by side. Those who believe his claims are challenged to count the cost of discipleship; those who oppose him will not be satisfied until the Son of Man hangs lifeless on a cross. But the resurrection insures that his ministry of seeking and saving the lost will continue through his disciples once they have been equipped with the indwelling Holy Spirit. Luke reveals that Jesus is the King, and he has come to inaugurate his Kingdom. (Adapted from *Talk Through the Bible*).

APPLY // LUKE 3:1-38

1. Read Luke 3:1-22.
2. What's danger is John warning about in verses 7-9? How might we be tempted toward this same error?
3. Why is it important that we connect repentance (v. 8) to the good news (v. 18)?
4. What does it mean to "bear fruit in keeping with repentance"? How can we help each other pursue this fruit? What dangers do we need to avoid?
5. What significance does Jesus' baptism have for us?

STUDY // LUKE 4:1-13

Study the passage of Scripture aiming to faithfully interpret and apply what you observe. Remember we study God's word not just to increase our knowledge, but to increase our trust in and treasuring of Jesus Christ.

Overview: John "the baptizer" was raised up and sent to prepare the way for and point people to Jesus.

1. Read Luke 4:1-13
2. Why did Luke place the baptism and genealogy before the temptation?
3. What's the significance of Jesus' temptation coming right after the genealogy that goes all the way back to Adam?
4. Notice that Jesus is "full of the Spirit" and "led by the Spirit" to be tempted "by the devil." Why is it important to notice the Spirit is leading and the devil is tempting?
5. Luke tells us Jesus was in the "wilderness for forty days." What previous biblical incident is Luke calling to mind with this language?
6. Discuss the specifics of the three temptations:
 - a. What does the devil do in each temptation?

- b. What exactly is the devil tempting Jesus with in each instance?
 - i. Notice that the devil is not necessarily tempting Jesus with inherently evil things. For example, Jesus would use his power to make bread, and he will have authority of all the kingdoms of the world.
 - c. How does Jesus respond each time the devil tempts him?
- 7. What is Luke's authorial intent in writing verses 1-13? How do they fit into Luke's gospel? How do these verses fit into the one, overarching story of the Bible?
- General Bible study questions:
 - **God:** What does this passage teach me about the character of God?
 - **Humanity:** What does this passage teach me about myself and my need for God?
 - **Christ:** How does this passage teach me that God has met my needs in the person and work of Jesus Christ?
 - **Response:** How should I respond with my affections and my actions?
 - **God:** How does this passage help me hope in heaven?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.

QUESTION: Are there areas in your life where you need to have a happy reorientation of soul (i.e. bear fruit in repentance)? How is your joy in the good news of the gospel?