

WELCOME TO THE WILDERNESS

• All In Group Discussion Guide •
First Week Of Lent

SCRIPTURE

Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 13When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Introductions:

- Continue being curious about one another. Lent begins this week. Name one thing you love OR one thing you are challenged by in the season of Lent.

Scripture Reflection:

- What do we learn about God (traits, personality, priorities) in this passage?
- What do we learn about people, and ourselves in particular, this week?

Sermon Reflection:

- We've now entered into the holy season of Lent. What, if any, has this time of year meant to you in the past? Why observe this holy season?
- In Josh's sermon he talked about how all of us are currently in a wilderness. What does that wilderness currently look like for you?
- Josh's main point was that Lent is not about what we do or accomplish to get closer to God, but what Jesus does to get closer to us. How does that change your idea of Lent, or more broadly, of the Christian life?
- How might God be calling you to observe the season of Lent this year?

Closing Question & Application:

- Given our discussion, how might God want you to apply your learning in your life or in your community in the next week? Who might you share this with?

Prayers of the People:

- A leader opens in prayer then says to God, "We now lift up prayers for our world." Leave a time of silence during which people can briefly name their prayer requests. After each request, the leader will say "Lord in your mercy," and the whole group will respond "hear our prayer." Once it seems the group is done naming prayers for the world, repeat the same thing this time inviting people to pray for our country, then our church, then our loved ones. Once done, the leader will close in prayer.

Join us Wednesday mornings in Lent at 7:00 am for Lenten Prayer Breakfast!