

# Sermon-Based Small Group Bible Study

## Encounters with Jesus: Jesus and Satan (Luke 4:1–13)

### Open

Select one of these “ice breakers” to get the conversation going toward the study.

- What’s the snack food you can’t resist?
- If you could have one superpower, what would you choose?
- As a teenager, what was your biggest fan-fixation? Was it a band? An actor? An athlete?

### Dig

After reading Luke 4:1–13 together, discuss these questions.

1. Clearly Jesus had the power to do miracles. Why do you think he refused to turn stones to bread and take care of his own hunger?
2. The story of Jesus is the story of the arrival of God’s kingdom (Luke 1:33; 4:43). How would Satan’s second temptation of Jesus change the story?
3. Satan tempts Jesus to do something very dangerous and so demand that God protect him. Jesus refuses. Of course, later Jesus will go to his death on the cross. How does this earlier event help you understand that later event?
4. It has been said that each of Satan’s temptations of Jesus was a temptation to turn away from the cross. In what ways does that seem to you to be true?

### Reflect

Use any of these prompts to encourage group members to apply the text to their own experiences.

- Luke describes Jesus’ temptations as conversations with the devil. What does temptation feel like to you? A conversation? An intrusive thought? A magnet? A movie?
- Jesus trusted the Father instead of listening to Satan. In what part of life do you need to trust the Father more? Where is Satan’s voice the loudest for you?
- Pastor Bryan noted that in this narrative, Jesus succeeds in ways that Adam and Even in the Garden and Israel in the Wilderness failed. What encouragement does that give you? What warning does it give you?
- What piece of current “conventional wisdom” do Satan’s temptations of Jesus remind you of? What “godly wisdom” can counter that?

### Pray

Invite the group to pray together using any of these suggestions.

- Jesus trusted God for the food he needed. What need can you trust God to provide for now?
- One of the lines of the Lord’s Prayer is “deliver us from the Evil One.” What kind of deliverance do you/we need to pray for right now?
- Jesus appeals to Scripture to answer temptation. What promises of God in his Word can we rely on today as we pray?
- What needs have you heard from others in the group that we can pray about?