

Further Study – February 21, 2021

Read: Matthew 4:1-11

If you heard the sermon this week, was there any part of the message or scripture passage that was particularly important or meaningful to you? If so, what?

Understanding Questions:

- Where did the Spirit lead Jesus and how long did he stay there? What was his state of well-being when the devil came to him?
- Describe the three different ways the devil tempted Jesus. What did he offer or suggest that Jesus do? How did Jesus respond and what was his justification for rejecting each of these temptations?
- What happened after Jesus rejected the temptations? Who came to his aid in the end?

Application Questions:

- Where have you felt temptation or trial over the past week (perhaps in many areas!?). How did you relate to God during this time? What learnings did you experience? Do you see any connections between these answers and our reading for today?
- What parallels do you see between this story and the Lenten journey? What practices does Jesus exercise in this story to aid in his spiritual growth? What practices do you practice or intend to practice over the next couple weeks to aid in your own spiritual growth?
- How do temptations draw on our identity as children or people of God? How do Jesus' responses to temptation help you think about your own response to temptations?