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The Wilderness: Finding God in Your Difficult Season

Overcoming Temptation in the Wilderness

Matthew 4:1–11 (HCSB)

*Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the Devil. ² After He had fasted 40 days and 40 nights, He was hungry. ³ Then the tempter approached Him and said, “If You are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” ⁴ But He answered, “It is written: **Man must not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.**” ⁵ Then the Devil took Him to the holy city, had Him stand 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 give His angels orders concerning you, and they will support you with their hands so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.**” ⁷ Jesus told him, “It is also written: **Do not test the Lord your God.**” ⁸ Again, the Devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹ And he said to Him, “I will give You all these things if You will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰ Then Jesus told him, “Go away, Satan! For it is written: **Worship the Lord your God, and serve only Him.**” ¹¹ Then the Devil left Him, and immediately angels came and began to serve Him.*

How to overcome temptation in the wilderness.

1. _____ TEMPTATION HEAD-ON WITH THE WORD OF GOD

- Scriptures cover the entire human experience, _____ it.

- The Bible provides our greatest defense against the Devil, quote it.
- The word of God provides the strength we need, _____ upon it.

2. RECOGNIZE THE _____ MOMENTS IN LIFE

- Jesus was _____ when He was fasting.
- The enemy knows when we are our weakest.
- Difficult seasons make us easy prey of the _____.

1 Peter 5:8 (HCSB)

Be serious! Be alert! Your adversary the Devil is prowling around like a roaring lion, looking for anyone he can devour.

3. BE AWARE OF THE DEVIL’S POINTS OF _____

- Our _____ needs vv 3-4
- Our _____ to test God vv 5-7
- Our propensity toward other gods vv 8-10

4. GOD PROVIDES ALL WE NEED TO _____ TEMPTATION

Ephesians 6:11 (HCSB)

Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the tactics of the Devil.

James 4:7 (HCSB)

Therefore, submit to God. But resist the Devil, and he will flee from you.

The Next Step:

When you are in the wilderness and temptation shows up, trust God to help you overcome temptation.