Royal Redeemer Going Deeper Guide

Based on the sermon for February 16, 2025 Vocation: Spiritual Warfare



Begin by reflecting on/sharing a high and/or a low from your week

CONNECT

o How would you discern whether a challenge in your vocation is a normal hardship, a spiritual attack, or an opportunity for growth?

GROW

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall 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 and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 6 "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you,

and they will lift you up in their hands,

so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

7 Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9 "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

10 Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Matthew 4:1-11

- o Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today.
- o Where does the Spirit lead Jesus after His baptism, and how long does He remain there?
- o What are the three temptations that Satan presents to Jesus? How does Jesus respond to each temptation?
- o What Scripture does Jesus use to resist Satan's temptations?
- o What happens after Jesus resists all the temptations?
- o Why do you think Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted? What does this reveal about the nature of testing in the Christian life?

- o How does each temptation relate to Jesus' identity and mission?
- o In what ways do Jesus' responses to Satan demonstrate trust in God rather than self-reliance?
- o What does this passage teach us about the power and authority of Scripture in spiritual warfare?
- o How do Satan's temptations reflect broader struggles people face in their own vocations and callings?
- o How can we use Scripture in our own battles against temptation? What are some practical ways to lean on God's Word when we face struggles?
- o What practices can help you resist temptation and remain faithful to God's call on your life?
- o Jesus chose obedience to His identity and calling over immediate success or power. How does this challenge the way we think about success in our own vocations?

• SERVE others

- Jesus' response to Satan—"Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only" (v. 10)—is a call to prioritize God's will over any alternative. This call to action invites us to evaluate our priorities and consider if we're putting God first in our lives, especially in the area of our work, calling, or relationships. Reflect on how obeying God would help you better serve your neighbor.
- End with Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, or a short Blessing