

“Aha Moments About Jesus – His Temptation”
Matthew 4:1-11
Sermon Discussion Questions, p. 1

Hope Fellowship
January 18, 2015

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this Sunday’s message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, troubling or interesting? Explain.

2. Read Matthew 4:1-11
 - a. Jesus was faced with temptation as soon as he began his public ministry. How does this serve as a warning for new believers and anyone who makes a public stand for Jesus? Have you experienced this yourself? How so?

 - b. The tempter came to Jesus at the end of his forty day fast when he was physically and emotionally vulnerable to attack. When have you been especially vulnerable? If you feel safe enough in your group, discuss the things that tempt all of us when we’re in pain or under stress.

 - c. Pastor Peter suggested that the three temptations were different – the first was physical, the second was spiritual and the third was political – but that they had one thing in common: a battle between various forms of lust and trust in God. What do you think about this idea?

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Going Deeper

1. Read Romans 5:17 and I Corinthians 15:22 and 45. As you consider the two “Adams” that Paul is comparing in these verses, what did Jesus do as the second Adam of a new humanity that the Adam failed to do? According to Paul, what are the benefits of being represented by and belonging to the second Adam, Jesus?

2. As an example of the battle of lust versus trust, Pastor Peter connected his message to his interview with Knox Christian School’s new principal, Paul Marcus. While acknowledging that there are legitimate reasons for not choosing Christian education, he challenged those who do not send their children to a Christian school, high school or college for financial reasons.
 - a. Did his challenge upset you, unsettle you, motivate you or encourage you? Why?

 - b. Can you think of other situations in which fear tempts us to put our trust in human will, effort or resources rather than simply trusting God to provide, protect and prevail?

3. Is there anything you need or want to do as a result of what you heard and learned this week?