

# Space for God Temptations in the Wilderness

## PREPARATION

*In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit...*

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. 2 Timothy 3:16

## WORSHIP

God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation.

**Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.** James 1:12

## CONFESSION

The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience.

**And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.** 1 Corinthians 10:13

## MEDITATION – Luke 4:1-13\*

Then Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan River. He was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where he was tempted by the devil for forty days. Jesus ate nothing all that time and became very hungry.

Then the devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become a loaf of bread."

But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say, 'People do not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil took him up and revealed to him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. "I will give you the glory of these kingdoms and authority over them," the devil said, "because they are mine to give to anyone I please. I will give it all to you if you will worship me."

Jesus replied, "The Scriptures say,

'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, and said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say,

'He will order his angels to protect and guard you. And they will hold you up with their hands so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.'"

### IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY

Read	Slowly, several times.
Reflect	What does the text say?
Respond	How does it relate to my life?
Rest	I welcome God's healing and renewal.

Jesus responded, "The Scriptures also say, 'You must not test the Lord your God.'"

When the devil had finished tempting Jesus, he left him until the next opportunity came.

## ANCHORING PRAYER

*Lord, your Word guides me through the wilderness.*

## REVIEW OF THE HEART

*What temptations have I resisted? What Scripture has sustained me?  
What temptations have I succumbed to?*

## WISDOM

And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, "God is tempting me." God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else. Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. James 1:13-14

"We never find out the strength of the evil impulse inside us until we try to fight it: and Christ, because he was the only man who never yielded to temptation, is also the only man who knows to the full what temptation means." –C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

TESTIMONY *What is God saying to me?*

INTERCESSION *Prayers for the Church, for others, and for me.*

## BENEDICTION

**O God, you are my God; I earnestly search for you.**

**My soul thirsts for you; my whole body longs for you in this parched and weary land where there is no water.**

**I have seen you in your sanctuary and gazed upon your power and glory.**

**Your unfailing love is better than life itself; how I praise you!**

**I will praise you as long as I live, lifting up my hands to you in prayer.**

**You satisfy me more than the richest feast I will praise you with songs of joy.**

**[Amen]**

Psalm 63:1-5

SPACE FOR GOD DAILY

Be still and quiet before God.

Seek the Holy Spirit's filling and

Speak and act from a listening heart.

Actively serve in community with others.