

Navigating Hard Times: Imitate Jesus

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – May 16, 2021

Luke 4:1-15

1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." 4 Jesus answered, "**It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone.'**" 5 The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. 7 So if you worship me, it will all be yours." 8 Jesus answered, "**It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'**" 9 The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here. 10 For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; 11 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" 12 Jesus answered, "**It says: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'**" 13 When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time. 14 Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. 15 He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

What can we learn from Jesus during hard times?

1. JESUS WAS EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT

Luke 3:21-22

21 When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened 22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Luke 4:1

1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert.

2. JESUS PRESSED INTO THE FATHER

Luke 4:1-15

2... for forty days [Jesus] was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

3. JESUS RECOGNIZED THE TRAPS OF THE ENEMY

Luke 4:3, 6-7, 9-11, 13

- Tempted by: PHYSICAL DESIRES
3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."
- Tempted by: POWER & PRIDE
6 And [the devil] said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. 7 So if you worship me, it will all be yours."
- Tempted by: SELF-CENTEREDNESS
9... "If you are the Son of God," [the devil] said, "throw yourself down from here. 10 For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; 11 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'"

4. JESUS KNEW AND APPLIED GOD'S HOLY WORD

Luke 4:4, 8, 12

4 Jesus answered, "**It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone.'**" 8 Jesus answered, "**It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'**" 12 Jesus answered, "**It says: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'**"