



January 20, 2019

Matthew 4:1-17



Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.

Pray: Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

O Lord, your son did not succumb to temptation under the most extreme duress. May we show even a fraction of his faithfulness, keeping our eyes on you and our hearts true to who we are. In the name of Jesus. Amen.



Read: Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (Matthew 4:3-4)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

At the height of hunger and isolation, Jesus keenly feels the stab of temptation in the wilderness. Will he cave in to his primal needs and desires, or stay true to his identity and muster the strength to resist?



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

How does a community come to agreement about which laws, rules, or norms are to be followed? Which rules or norms are unique to your setting? How are they followed? How are they enforced?

What tempts you the most? How can your faith help you resist temptation?

For the littles: Which is harder to resist... a sweet treat or staying up past bedtime? God can help you resist both!



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God deliver you from temptation. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Choose one temptation to resist this week. Look at the challenge not as a punishment, but as an opportunity to be free from the object of your temptation. Notice how you feel after one week of abstinence.

Go Deeper: Go to clergystuff.com/daily-devotions for devotions on the daily readings.

Monday, Psalm 91:9-12, *Psalm*



Tuesday, Genesis 1:26-27, *Creation of Humanity*

Wednesday, Genesis 3:1-7, *Temptation in the Garden of Eden*

Thursday, Deuteronomy 8:1-10, *A Warning from God*

Friday, Matthew 4:18-22, *Jesus Calls the First Disciples*

Saturday, Matthew 4:23-25, *Jesus Ministers to Crowds of People*

Next Week: Matthew 5:1-20, Sermon on the Mount