

LENT :
A Time of
Encounter,
Testing
&
Preparation

Study Guide – Sunday 21st February Lent Week 2 – Not by Bread Alone



Please read Luke 4.1-4

“Jesus, like us, was subject to the physical realm and the needs and desires of this physical realm. Our physical, social and emotional needs are real and important; they need to be met – when they aren't it becomes obvious. But there is a whole other realm that we need to be aware of – the spiritual realm.”

Read Philippians 2.6-11. It is thought this was an early Christian hymn that the church learned and sang to worship Jesus and to learn about who he is.

1. What does this hymn teach us about Jesus' relationship to the physical realm and the spiritual realm?
2. Paul uses this hymn to encourage the Philippians to be like Christ when they encounter relationship difficulties (Philippians 2.1-5). How can it also inspire Christ-likeness when we encounter hardships, testing and temptation?
3. What challenges do you face in trying to make sure your physical, social and emotional needs don't eclipse your spiritual needs and spiritual responsibilities?

“If you are the Son of God....” Luke 4.3

There are really important links between Adam and Jesus. Adam was also called 'son of God' (Luke 3.38) Jesus is called the 'Last Adam,' (1 Cor. 15.45) because he would sort out – once and for all - the hideous mess that the first Adam had brought into the world. Adam was tempted by Satan and fell; Jesus was tempted but never fell into sin. “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3.23) - Jesus is the only human being to whom this does not apply. The Last Adam's willing sacrifice would bring life to humanity where the first Adam brought death.

Read Genesis 2-3 (or just Gen 3.1-5 if you are short on time!)

4. What parallels can you see between how Satan tempted Adam and Eve and how he tempted Jesus?
5. Satan wanted to undermine Adam's and Jesus' identity, ministry, purpose and relationship with God – and he wants to do that to us, too. How does Satan try to undermine your identity as a son/daughter of God?
6. **Read 1 John 2.12-17.** What encouragement and challenge do we – the sons and daughters of God - need to take from the apostle John's words here?

“Not by bread alone.” Jesus responds to Satan by quoting from Deuteronomy, where Moses calls the Israelites to remember God's steadfast love through their hard times and His promises to bless them and keep them through all seasons of their lives.

Please read Deuteronomy 8.1-5.

7. Why does Jesus quote from this passage to respond to the Devil?
8. Think of something you are struggling with right now, a particular struggle or temptation. What response can you give to Satan from God's word that resists his lies and restores your faith and trust in God? (you may even want to use www.biblegateway.com to look up a word/reference/bible verse – it's very handy!)