



I. CHECK-IN

- Check-in with each other. How is life? What is happening?
- If you attended Ash Wednesday worship, what was your takeaway?

V. PRAYER

Spend some time sharing prayer requests with each other. As the small group leader, we ask that you do two things:

1. write them down
2. ask someone to pray

IV. CHALLENGE

Spend some time in prayer and reading scripture this week and notice if it is helping you to better face temptation. Be prepared to share about how your trust of God has grown when we meet next week.

III. DISCUSSION

- What stands out to you from the scripture above?
- The Greek word "diabolo" does not refer to the Devil, but rather a being who tempts. How does this knowledge change how you understand Jesus' temptations?
- What kind of temptations do you struggle with? As you share with others notice any patterns.
- Pastor Fernie mentions that Jesus overcame temptation through a deep understanding of scripture and time in prayer. Do you think these practices are helpful? Why or why not?
- Do you believe that, like Jesus, it is possible to overcome temptation? Why or why not?
- What would your life look like if you were able to overcome temptation?

II. SCRIPTURE

Matthew 4:1-11:

Then the Spirit led Jesus up into the wilderness so that the devil might tempt him. After Jesus had fasted for forty days and forty nights, he was starving. The tempter came to him and said, "Since you are God's son, command these stones to become bread." Jesus replied, "It's written, People won't live only by bread, but by every word spoken by God." After that the devil brought him into the holy city and stood him at the highest point of the temple. He said to him, "Since you are the God's Son, throw yourself down; for it is written, I will command my angels concerning you, and they will take you up in their hands so that you won't hit your foot on a stone." Jesus replied, "Again, it's written, Don't test the Lord your God." Then the devil brought him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. He said, "I'll give you all these if you bow down and worship me." Jesus responded, "Go away, Satan, because it's written, You will worship the Lord your God and serve only him. The devil left him, and angels came and took care of him."