

Getting to Know You

1. As the year begins, what would you say are your top 3-4 priorities in 2024? As a follow up, what are you actually doing to accomplish them?
2. Any plans to enjoy 2024? Vacations? Experiences? Local fun to be had?

Today we begin a series called *How to Study the Bible*. While we're not quite discussing the "how" yet, Pastor Nik talked about the essential nature of Scriptures in our lives. Enjoy your discussion about the Introduction below!

Digging Deeper

1. If the series is called *How to Study the Bible*, why didn't we immediately dive into "how" instead of going over Luke 4 to begin?
2. On a scale of 1-10, where would rate yourself in understanding how to study the Bible? Why?
3. Turn to Luke 4. Read aloud verses 1-2. In the Sunday message Pastor Nik talked about this. But what is significant about "the wilderness," "40 days," and that Jesus "became very hungry"?
4. In this story, we see the devil going to work on Jesus. Other ways to translate the name "devil" are satan, accuser, and adversary. How do these names help you understand who the devil is in your life?
 - a. Can anyone recall other stories in the Scriptures where the devil is described and at work in people's lives?
5. What is the common thread in each of Jesus' three responses? How do his responses challenge you?
6. Verse 13 gives us another key to temptation. What could that be and why does it matter in our lives?

Making It Personal

- Theologians often point to 1 John 2:16 as the three facets of temptation Jesus faced in Luke 4. ("For everything in the world—**the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life**—comes not from the Father but from the world.") Broken down simply, the lust of the flesh is fulfilling our desires our way instead of God's way, the lust of the eyes is the unhealthy want for power/prestige, and the pride of life is the passion to impress others by using God-given gifts for our glory instead of God's. If you had to pick one, which of the three would you say you struggle with most?
- Have someone in your group pray for everyone, for a diligence to study Scripture and to find the equipping of the Holy Spirit at work to overcome these temptations.
- Read aloud Acts 17:11. Are you up for the challenge of memorizing this verse over the next week until the group meets again?