

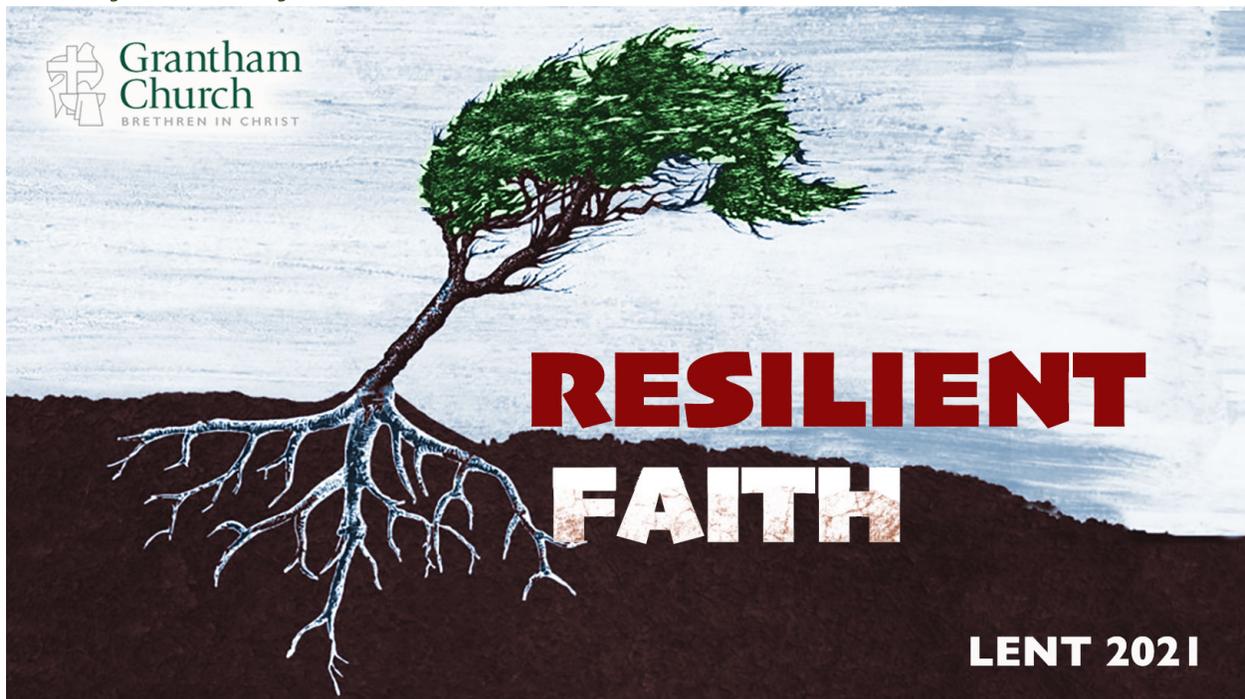
Resilient Faith (2 of 4) Small Group Discussion Questions

SUNDAY WORSHIP DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The global pandemic COVID-19 has forced us to adjust and adapt how we do church and stay connected to one another as a congregation. We're not closed as a church, we're just doing church differently! So, please stay connected to the body at Grantham Church. Join our congregation for worship online at 10:30 am each Sunday morning. Follow the worship liturgy and watch our [Vimeo](#) videos at granthamchurch.org/liturgy.

As usual, the sermons will be posted to the [recent sermons page](#) on our website and at the [Grantham Church Podcast](#) the following day, along with the small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for engaging with us online!

Sunday, February 28th 2021



Sermon Title: Resistance Builds Resilience

Scripture Reading: Matt 4:1-11; James 1:13-15, 4:7-8; Eph 6:10-18; 1 Peter 5:8-10

Sermon Focus: Jesus shows us that you can't build resilient faith unless you learn to resist temptation and evil. The New Testament reveals that we have three enemies that should be resisted: the world, our flesh, and the devil. But unfortunately, many Western Christians have not taken resistance to the devil seriously enough. Listen as Pastor David challenges us to follow Jesus by engaging in spiritual warfare through prayer.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group in person, by phone, or video call! Use the following questions to guide your small group discussion:

1. What was the most challenging part of this message for you?
2. Read Matthew 4:1-11. Pastor David said that he believes that Satan came to Jesus the way he comes to us all—in our mind/thoughts! For Jesus, the devil is not a symbol of evil, but a real spiritual being that ought to be resisted. What do you observe about how Jesus resisted Satan in the wilderness? Also, what does this say about how we too must resist the devil on the battlefield of our mind?
3. Read James 1:13-15. James says that temptation isn't from God. And if it leads to sin, it's ultimately no one's fault but your own. But James also says that we must resist the devil who tempts us and exploits our weaknesses (James 4:7-8). How have you experienced the tempter at work in your own life? How has he come at you with temptations, lies, accusations, etc.?
4. Pastor David said, "Many Christians do not pray as passionately as they could because they don't see how it could make any significant difference in their lives. Prayer is just some self-help, therapeutic, mind-calming spiritual practice." Why do you think that is? Why is Christian prayer different? How can we live out the difference in our personal lives and in the life of our church?
5. Pastor David called us to "devil-stomping" prayer? What does that look like to you? How is intercessory and deliverance prayer different from other forms?
6. You can resist evil and build *resilient* faith by practicing the following:
 - a. Religious Rhythms & Routines
 - b. Saying "No!" to Temptation
 - c. Using Prayer as a Spiritual Weapon

Discuss each of these. How might God be calling you to grow in each area?

7. James said, "So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God, and God will come close to you."

Consider the words of James. How do you need to *humble* yourself before God? What about your church? What does that look like? Also, what does resistance to the devil (as a church) look like? Give specific examples.

Close your time in prayer about these things and intercede for our church.