

Advent

Advent Through the Wilderness

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Mathew 4:1-11

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Introduction: Advent begins with Adventure. When we are introduced to the Jesus of scripture, we can't help but notice that Jesus lived an Adventurous life. When we read through the gospels, there was never a dull moment with Jesus. With the turning of every page, the disciples learned something new about Jesus and also about themselves. They were being spiritually stretched by following Jesus. To look at scripture through the lens of adventure. Life in Jesus Christ should never be boring. Jesus didn't call us to live a mediocre life. From the time he was born until the time of his death and resurrection, there is always this sense of adventure. "Every step we take in this world is a step toward either darkness or light. Every harsh word, every mean act, every vengeful thought is a part of the works of darkness. Every act of forgiveness, every small act of charity, every temptation resisted is a piece of the armor of light."

Prayer: Father, this text is important for us when we are in the desert (wilderness). Amen.

Review: Did you learn anything new about Gabriel and Mary's meeting?

Read: Mathew 4:1-11

Discussion:

1. Why was Jesus lead into the desert to face temptations right after God's voice of "well pleased"?
2. Is there a reason why the first temptation involved food?
3. Why was Jesus's answer to the second temptation an appropriate response? Explain.
4. The devil claims to be able to give Jesus the kingdoms of the world in verse nine. Was this true? Or a lie?
5. Was the "angels attending Jesus" following the temptations an example of the humanness of Jesus?

Application: If temptations come this week, be ready with a response from scripture.

Prayer: Father, we are grateful for this lesson that temptations sometimes follow God's blessing and to be alert. Amen.