



The Word @ Home

Lent 1

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:1-11

The Point

We can rely on God.

Key Verse

Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only [God].’”
– Matthew 4:10

Scripture Summaries

Gospel Summary: Matthew 4:1-11

Satan Tempts Jesus

At the beginning of his ministry, directly after his baptism, Jesus went into the wilderness and fasted for a long time. After this period of fasting, the devil appeared to Jesus and tempted him three times: to change stones to bread, to throw himself from the top of the temple so angels would rescue him, and to worship the devil in exchange for all the kingdoms of the world. Jesus overcomes each temptation by leaning on Scripture.

First Reading Summary: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

God puts the first human in the garden of Eden to till it and gives the permission to eat from almost everything, with the command not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The serpent tempts Eve who eats the fruit and gives some to Adam, breaking God’s command.

Second Reading Summary: Romans 5:12-19

Paul compares the work of Adam to the work of Jesus. The first led to sin and death, the second to the gift of righteousness and justification. While everything became wrong through Adam, everything is made right through Jesus.

Seasons & Festivals

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and lasts 40 days, culminating with Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter. Historically, black has been used on Ash Wednesday since it is the color of the ashes to which we will all return. Purple is typically associated with the season of Lent, suggesting repentance and solemnity.

Discussion Starters

- What temptation is hardest for you to resist?
- What Bible verse helps you remember that God is always with you?
- How do you feel when you hear the words “From dust you were made, to dust you shall return”?

Prayer of the Week

God, help us to give forgiveness when others hurt us and to ask for forgiveness when we hurt others. Amen.

Daily Bible Readings

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday

Read Matthew 4:1-11 Satan tempts Jesus.
Share one way that you overcome temptation.

Monday

1 Kings 19:1-8 Elijah flees to Horeb.
A bad day is better after a nap and a snack! Eat a snack together and pretend to take a nap.

Tuesday

Read Genesis 4:1-16 Cain is jealous of Abel.
If you have siblings, have you ever been jealous of them? How did you get over it?

Wednesday

Read Matthew 18:10-14 The shepherd rescues his sheep.
Act out this parable using cotton balls.

Thursday

Read 2 Timothy 1:3-7 God's power makes us bold.
Share one thing that you can do because God is with you.

Friday

Read Psalm 121 Our help comes from God.
Choose your favorite verse from this psalm and explain why it is your favorite.

Saturday

Read Luke 7:1-10 The centurion's servant is healed.
The centurion was a powerful man, yet he felt he was not worthy of Jesus' healing miracle. What other powerful people display humility?



Blessing for the Week

Share this blessing while tracing a cross on each person's forehead or hand with their permission:
From dust you were made; to dust you shall return.