

FOOTSTEPS
What it Really Means to Follow Jesus

WHEN THE DEVIL COMES KNOCKING

Matthew 4:1-11

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For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Hebrews 4:15

What do we learn from the devil's temptation of Jesus?

1. The devil often comes at us right after a great victory.

Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8

A. The devil is always on the prowl.

B. The pathway to victory: Watch and pray.

2. The devil subtly tempts us to meet our own needs.

And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." Matthew 4:3

A. The devil wants us to doubt the loving provision of God.

But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'" Matthew 4:4

B. The pathway to victory: Trust the Lord to provide.

3. The devil subtly tempts us to put God to the test.

A. The devil will misuse Scripture so we'll presume upon God.

B. The pathway to victory: Know His Word, and yield to Him.

4. The devil subtly tempts us to compromise with God's plan.

Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world, and their glory; and he said to Him, "All these things will I give You, if You fall down and worship me."

Matthew 4:8-9

A. The devil always promises a shortcut to the will of God.

B. The pathway to victory: Keep your focus on glorifying God.

Then Jesus said to Him, "Begone Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE

HIM ONLY.'" Matthew 4:10

When the devil comes knocking, let Jesus answer the door.