



THRIVE CHURCH

GROWTH GROUP STUDY GUIDE | SERIES: SILVER LININGS

TITLE: HOLINESS

SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 4.1-11

One Thing Follow-up:

The first Easter was similar to the one that we just celebrated. The first disciples' fear and isolation are easy to understand, but the resurrection changed everything!

Q. How did reality of the resurrection help you last week?

Opening

We've probably heard the saying "Every cloud has a silver lining." It means every difficult situation or setback contains potential for a good outcome. By searching for positives in difficult or confusing circumstances, we not only begin to experience more peace, we gain the ability to solve any parts of the problem within our control and accept the parts beyond our control.

Series Review

We are continuing the Silver Linings series this week that will challenge us to find the silver linings during difficult situations or setbacks. We will be in the Gospel of Matthew where we will be challenged to reorient our lives around holiness.

Review the Message

The verses that we are going to study in this lesson come immediately after Jesus' baptism. We will see how Jesus faces temptation and overcomes them.

Each record of this account mentions the Holy Spirit. There is a divine purpose in this encounter.

Read Matthew 4.1-2

Q. When you experience trial and temptations, are you tempted to feel God is absent or not involved?

Q. How does time and experience change the way you view these scenarios?

Read Matthew 4.3-4

Q. Have you ever been tempted to use your power for personal ends?

Q. Has Satan ever played on your fears, doubts, shame, or guilt to get you to give in or believe the lies?

Thankfully, Jesus stood strong in the midst of His physical hunger, but instead points to Scripture as His ultimate sustenance.

The same resources are open to us. **Scripture is a gift that provides perspective and protection that rises above our current circumstance.**

Q. How does this truth bring enable the believer?

Read Matthew 4.5-6

Satan changes from the physical weakness that Jesus is under and goes after his strength.

The way of the Christian is quiet trust, reliance on Scripture, prayer, community, communion, baptism, and being sensitive to the Holy Spirit.

Q. Have you ever been tempted to test or to make God prove his love for you? How?

Read Matthew 4.7

Jesus again uses Scripture to make his point.

Steve mentioned 2 consistencies that we learn from Jesus' ministry; Jesus adores Scripture and disdains shows.

Read Matthew 4.8-9

Satan now tempts Jesus with something he loves, the world!

Q. Have you felt tempted to do something wrong, for a godly outcome?

Q. This is incredibly subtle. We may be willing to do anything to see something succeed. Have you substituted God, with your work for him?

Read Matthew 4.10-11

Q. Do you feel that you have the power to dismiss Satan like Jesus? Why or why not?

Two implications from this text:

1. Jesus is our champion. Where Adam, Moses, and Peter failed, Jesus succeeded.



When we fail, we have a champion that took our place and through faith we succeed.

2. Jesus is our model. Jesus used the Spiritual disciplines of reading Scripture, prayer, and fasting as model of how we should seek holiness.

**Living It Out
Application**

What is God saying to you through this lesson?

What will you do about it?

How can we help you?

Prayer:

Are there any specific things we need to pray about or needs to focus on?