

# Jesus Was Tempted

## Matthew 4:1-11

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Vulnerable God

### Reflect

Outline: Recap

### Realize

Points to Ponder

### Respond

Questions to draw out understanding.

## REFLECT

There are many unique attributes of God. We love to talk about God's omniscience and omnipotence. We love to talk about God's holiness and love. Yet, we almost never talk about the unique vulnerability of God. In fact, the words vulnerability and God seem to have little to do with each other. Yet, the Bible teaches us something completely different. The incarnation of Jesus shows God's great and profound vulnerability.

We will begin our Christmas series by looking at Jesus in vulnerability as He is tempted by Satan at the beginning of His ministry. We will learn not only about Jesus, but also about ourselves.

## REALIZE

### 1. Jesus experienced our vulnerability

- **Scripture Reference;** Hebrews 4:15-16, 1 John 2:16
- **Questions for Reflection**
  - How does the vulnerability of Jesus change me?

### 2. The temptation from the lust of the flesh

- **Scripture Reference;** Deuteronomy 8:3

### 3. The temptation from the pride of life

- **Scripture Reference;** Psalm 91:11-12

### 4. The temptation from the lust of the eyes

- **Scripture Reference;** Deuteronomy 6:13
- **Questions for Reflection**
  - Where are my areas of temptation?
  - How can I better fight temptation with the Word of God?

### Optional Follow-up Questions:

- What makes you say that?
- How do you feel about that?
- How would you explain your answer to a non-Christian friend or neighbor?

- Why did God design it to work that way? Why not just do (whatever else) instead?
- What would you say to someone who disagrees with that?
- Why do we really have to do it like that? Why can't we just go (some other route) instead?