

March 7th, 2021

RE:Lent

Matthew 4:1-11 NIV; John 4:34 NIV

1. What's one thing from last weekend's sermon that you hope we talk about as a group?

2. If there was one thing or issue that you were having an extremely difficult time overcoming, who do you immediately think about reaching out to? Why would they be the ones you reach out to?

3. Share some of your concerns or questions with your home group in regard to fasting. Where do some of those concerns come from? In your previous times of fasting, what was your experience like? Share some of the difficulties and rewards from your time of fasting.

Challenge for the Church: In reading Matthew 4:1-11, we see that Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to fast. Pastor Terry did not go in too much detail about the Spirit's role in leading us to fast, however, we need to recognize the importance of it. Why is this something we should not overlook? What does this mean for our own faith journey?

b. Pastor Terry spoke on the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert and how God used this time to test them or make them aware of things that they learned to sustain them over relying on God. Pastor Terry then when on to say, "How easily we begin to allow nonessentials to take precedence in our lives. How quickly we crave things we do not need until we are enslaved by them." Share some of your thoughts on this and for those brave enough, share some of the nonessentials that have taken precedence in our lives.

c. In our times of fasting, Pastor Terry shared some significant benefits of those who are “diligently seeking” God out. Share with the group of what you hope the Lord is able to help you with if you were to choose to enter into a time of fasting.

Closing in prayer: Close in prayer this week as a group asking for the Holy Spirit to lead us to a time of prayer and fasting so that we can be made aware of anything that may keep us from hearing and receiving all that God is wanting us to have.

LEADERS: *Please make your home group aware of a NEW video that Pastor Terry posted on Monday, March 8th on the “Priority of Prayer”. IF you have some extra time please discuss Galatians 6:7-8 NIV and Paul’s statement “God cannot be mocked. A man will reap what he sows.”*