

# FORMED BY SCRIPTURE

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HEAR

## Read Luke 4:1-13

Right before this section, Luke tells the story of Jesus' baptism and then lays out his genealogy, as if announcing a King's lineage. Then the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness. This scene alludes to Exodus, recalling the Israelite's history of wandering in the desert for 40 years. Luke doesn't share with us what happens during those forty days; instead, he focuses the narrative on the devil's last three temptations. Luke's reference of Jesus eating nothing would have communicated that Jesus had been fasting and praying in the wilderness.

- What was Jesus doing in the desert for 40 days? Does this make sense to our modern experience?
- Why do you think the Devil tempt Jesus with food, the opportunity to have power on earth, and for the angels to protect him?
- Jesus responds to the Devil by quoting from the Old Testament. Why do you think he did this? How can we follow Jesus' example in answering temptations with scripture and follow the father's will? hard to believe that your multiethnicity is a gift and not a mistake?



RESPOND

## Go and do

Some of us may have a bad taste in our mouths from reciting Bible verses in Sunday school; however, scripture memorization is a helpful tool to aid us in keeping God's word written on our hearts. Is there an encouraging scripture you could try to memorize?

Consider going into the wilderness with your community! There is something about withdrawing that helps us to silence the noise so we can hear Christ. Unless we are constantly listening to him, we will be easily swayed when tempted.



DEBRIEF

## Reflect on what you learned

- What are the areas of your life where you struggle to follow God and how are you tempted? How can scripture help you to follow God's commands? Is the spiritual discipline of studying scripture life-giving to you? Or maybe Lectio Divina is a practice you can try?
- Community question: How, as a community, are you engaging in scripture?