

MESSAGE BIG IDEA

Following Jesus in his way of being human means learning to resist temptation by grounding our identity in God.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 4:1-13, Hebrews 2:17-18

ICEBREAKER

It's ok if people struggle with this. Don't probe too much. We're just looking for a baseline.

OPENING THOUGHT

It might help think of identity as the basic values that motivate your choices. Many of us internalize our identities from our environments and social context. Lack of clarity around identity can lead to confusion about a person's direction in life.

BIBLE DISCUSSION

As you discuss these passages, try to include the new understanding of Jesus' human experience.

LIFE APPLICATION

- Our identity in Christ is loved, valued, cherished, whole, worthy, complete. You can also read Luke 3:22. What does God say of Jesus?
- The Performance Lie: Believing this lie can leave us feeling like we never measure up like we always have something to prove.
- The Power Lie: The power lie says you're somebody only when you're imposing your will and desires on those around you.
- The Popularity Lie: Your value is determined by how many people like you.

CHALLENGE

Like Jesus in the desert, we can experience victory against the lies and temptations of the evil one when we ground ourselves in who we are. Take the rest of the group time to ground yourselves in your identity by reflecting on Scripture. Take a deep breath and get comfortable. As you read these passages, ask the Holy Spirit to impress the truth of your identity, your beloved-ness on your heart. These statements are what's true of you:

- "to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God." (John 1:12)
- "You are my Son, whom I love, with you I am well pleased." (Luke 3:22).
- For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3:26)
- For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. (Ephesians 2:10)
- I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:15)
- Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. (Romans 15:7)
- For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin (Romans 6:6)