

# JESUS WENT

## ...TO THE DESERT

NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER | MAR 6, 2022  
PASTOR DAVID LARSON | TURLOCK  
PASTOR JEREMY MOORE | PATTERSON



Matthew 4

*This High Priest of ours [Jesus] understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. Hebrews 4:15 (NLT)*

**1. I can \_\_\_\_\_ to be tempted.**

See Matthew 4:1-4

*And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, "God is tempting me." God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else. James 1:13 (NLT)*

*And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy." Matthew 3:17 (NLT)*

*Do not waste time arguing over godless ideas and old wives' tales. Instead, train yourself to be godly. 1 Timothy 4:7 (NLT)*

**2. Jesus takes me to the desert so I can \_\_\_\_\_.**

See Matthew 4:5-9

*"Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the LORD your God and serve only him.'" Matthew 4:10 (NLT)*

**3. Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ in the desert.**

*So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God, and God will come close to you. James 4:7-8a (NLT)*

*"Are you weary, carrying a heavy burden? Then come to me. I will refresh your life, for I am your oasis. Simply join your life with mine. Learn my ways and you'll discover that I'm gentle, humble, easy to please. You will find refreshment and rest in me. For all that I require of you will be pleasant and easy to bear."*

Matthew 11:28-30 (TPT)

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See Matthew 4:1-4

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### 2. Jesus takes me to the desert so I can SEE HIM.

See Matthew 4:5-9

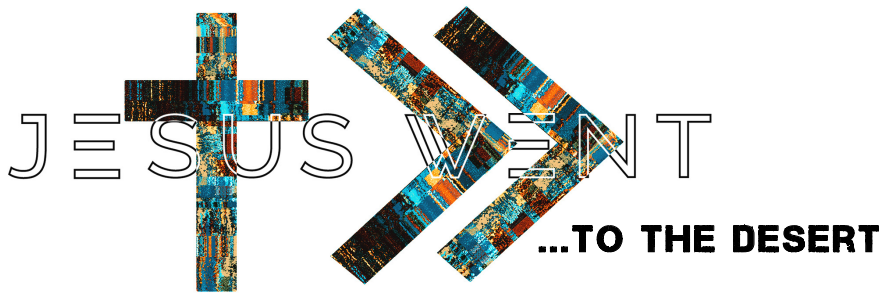
*"Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the LORD your God and serve only him.'" Matthew 4:10 (NLT)*

### 3. Jesus is WITH ME in the desert.

*So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God, and God will come close to you. James 4:7-8a (NLT)*

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The graphic features a cross and the text 'JESUS WENT ...TO THE DESERT'. The cross is composed of two intersecting lines with a textured, abstract pattern in shades of blue, orange, and black. The text 'JESUS WENT' is in a large, white, outlined font, and '...TO THE DESERT' is in a smaller, solid black font below it.

# JESUS WENT ...TO THE DESERT

## WEEK 1 DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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### [CONNECT]

What are some places you've been to that were unusual and different? What did you see? What did you learn there?

### [ENGAGE]

What impacted you the most personally from the message?

### [GROW]

Read Hebrews 4:15. How does it make you feel to know that Jesus understands the struggles and temptations that we face because he faced them as well? Does it make you think that Jesus is understanding... or that he's judgmental if we fail?

When you read the account of Jesus' temptation in the desert, does it surprise you that the Spirit led him there?

While God doesn't tempt us (James 1:13), he does use those situations to let us learn and grow. What have you learned from temptations and "desert" experiences in your life?

Read 1 Timothy 4:7. The Apostle Paul challenges Timothy to "train" not just "try." Why do you think we always resort to "trying harder" to be good and right for God? What are some ways we can "train" in godliness?

### [LEAD (YOURSELF)]

Read Jesus words from Matthew 11 below. What invitation does Jesus have for you? What rises to the surface as you read through this again?

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