



# AS PROMISED

## Sermon Discussion Questions

Matthew 4:1-4 // The Trial of the Son

- Think back on a time you had to “test” something to find out if it really was what it said it was. How important was that testing process?
- If you were reading the gospel of Matthew for the first time and had just gotten to the end of chapter three, what would you have wanted Jesus to prove? Why?
- Pastor Joey talked about lots of parallels between the story of Israel and the story of Jesus in Matthew 4:1-11. What parallels do you see?
- How would a first-century Jewish audience have understood the phrase “son of God”? How is that similar to and different from how we understand the phrase today?
- Pastor Joey spent a lot of time differentiating between a “trial”/“test” and a “temptation”. What’s the difference between the two?
- What’s the significance of “forty days and forty nights”? How does that significance affect your understanding of the story?
- What was the essence of the devil’s suggestion to Jesus?
- Why does Jesus respond “Man shall not live by bread alone”? What significance does that verse have for responding to the devil?
- How does the Old Testament context (Deuteronomy 8) for that quotation affect the way you understand how and why Jesus used it in Matthew 4?

- Pastor Joey said that the big theological application from this passage was that Jesus is a new kind of real, true, genuine humanity, a humanity which we are invited into through faith in Jesus. How does your community help you live into and live out of that new humanity?
- What kind of Son is Jesus?

