THE LIFE OF JESUS

A Bible Study Series

THE TEMPTATION of Jesus

FAITHFUL WHERE OTHERS FAILED



THE FAITHFUL SON.
THE TRUE ISRAEL.
THE OBEDIENT MESSIAH.

CINDY ENSLIN

BIBLE STUDY WORKBOOK

Scripture and Soil

THE LIFE OF JESUS

WELCOME

The Temptation of Jesus

FAITHFUL WHERE OTHERS FAILED

Welcome to this study in ***The Life of Jesus*** **series.**

The temptation of Jesus is a familiar story. We know the wilderness, the forty days, the three temptations, and Jesus' repeated response: ***"It is written."***

But what if there is more happening in the wilderness than we first realise?

- **Why does Jesus enter the wilderness immediately after His baptism?**
- **Why forty days?**
- **Why does Satan repeatedly challenge His identity as the Son of God?**
- **And why does Jesus answer every temptation from the same small section of Deuteronomy?**

These details are not accidental.

The wilderness is not simply the place where Jesus shows us how to resist temptation.

It reveals something far greater about *who He is.*



As we journey through this study, we will trace threads that reach back through Israel's story, into the Garden of Eden, and forward toward the cross. We will discover how Jesus stands where others had stood before Him—yet responds very differently.

SO COME
to this study with an open Bible and a curious heart.

READ SLOWLY.
Notice the details. Follow the connections.

AND BEFORE ASKING,
"What does this teach me about temptation?", allow the text to lead us to a deeper question:

"WHAT DOES THIS REVEAL TO ME ABOUT JESUS?"

Because before the wilderness teaches us how to face temptation, it reveals the *Faithful Son.*

CINDY ENSLIN

Preview • Scripture and

INTRODUCTION

More Than Three Temptations



> "The wilderness is not the end of the story. It is the place where the true Son is revealed."

WHEN WE THINK OF THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS, we usually focus on the three temptations:

- Turn stones to bread.
- Throw Yourself down from the temple.
- Worship me and I will give You the kingdoms.

But what if these are not three random tests? What if they are echoes of a much bigger story — a story that reaches back through **Israel's wilderness journey** and it dates back to the **Garden of Eden**?

Luke does something very intentional. Between Jesus' baptism and His temptation, he places His genealogy — and traces it all the way back to ***Adam, the son of God.***

Then, immediately after, the Son of God is led by the Spirit into thes wilderness and confronted by the tempter.

Why this order? Why these connections? Why this setting?

This study invites you to slow down and look deeper.

What to expect

You will be challenged.
You might be surprised.
You may see familiar verses in a new light.
And you will be drawn into a deeper wonder of who Jesus is.

This is more than a story about temptation.
It is a revelation of the Faithful Son.

IN THIS STUDY WE WILL EXPLORE:

- The connection between Jesus and Israel's wilderness story.
- The contrast between Adam's failure and Jesus' faithfulness.
- How Jesus uses Scripture — and how He shows us what true obedience looks like.
- The kind of Messiah Satan wanted Him to be — and how Jesus refused.
- The shadow of the cross already present in the wilderness.

SO COME WITH AN OPEN BIBLE AND AN OPEN HEART.

Let the Holy Spirit guide you through the wilderness of this passage, and lead you to the heart of Jesus.

Let's begin the journey together.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." | PSALM 119:105

Preview Soft

THE LIFE OF JESUS

BEFORE THE WILDERNESS – *The Beloved Son*



The temptation of Jesus does not begin in the wilderness.

It begins at the Jordan River.

The identity of the Son is revealed, affirmed, and then immediately challenged.

To understand the temptation, we must first understand who Jesus is.

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

Jesus comes to John to be baptised, not because He needs repentance, but to identify with us and to begin His mission in obedience to the Father (Matthew 3:13–17).

- He is baptised with water.
- The heavens open.
- The Spirit descends like a dove.
- The Father speaks.

Heaven bears witness:
Jesus is the Son.
Not just a son — the Son.

THE AFFIRMATION OF HIS IDENTITY

This is not the first time the Father declares Jesus as His Son, but it is the first public declaration.
It marks the official beginning of Jesus' ministry.

- At the Transfiguration: Matthew 17:5
- Before raising Lazarus: John 11:27
- At the cross (centurion): Matthew 27:54

Every witness points to the same truth:
Jesus is the beloved Son of God.

THE IMMEDIATE CHALLENGE

The Spirit immediately leads Jesus into the wilderness (Matthew 4:1).
Satan wastes no time.

His first words reveal his strategy:

"If You are the Son of God..."
(Matthew 4:3, 6, 9)

Satan will not deny who Jesus is.
He will try to make Jesus doubt and misuse who He is.

The battle begins with identity.
Can Jesus be trusted as the Son?

The wilderness is not the place where Jesus discovers who He is.
It is where Satan tries to distort who He is.
But the identity given by the Father stands unshaken.

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Matthew 3:13–17 Jesus is baptised; the Father declares, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 4:1 Immediately after, the Spirit leads Jesus into the wilderness.

Matthew 4:3, 6, 9 Satan's repeated challenge: "If You are the Son of God..."

Hebrews 4:15 Jesus was tempted in every way, just as we are — yet without sin.

Before the temptations,
the Father gave truth.
In the wilderness,
Jesus stands on that truth.

WHAT THIS MEANS

Jesus already knows who He is.
The wilderness will test whether He trusts that identity.

Satan always targets identity first.
Before he attacks what you do,
he attacks who you are.

Our identity is found in the same truth:
We are loved by the Father.
We stand firm when we remember that.

Before every battle, God whispers the truth we need to remember.
Listen for His voice.

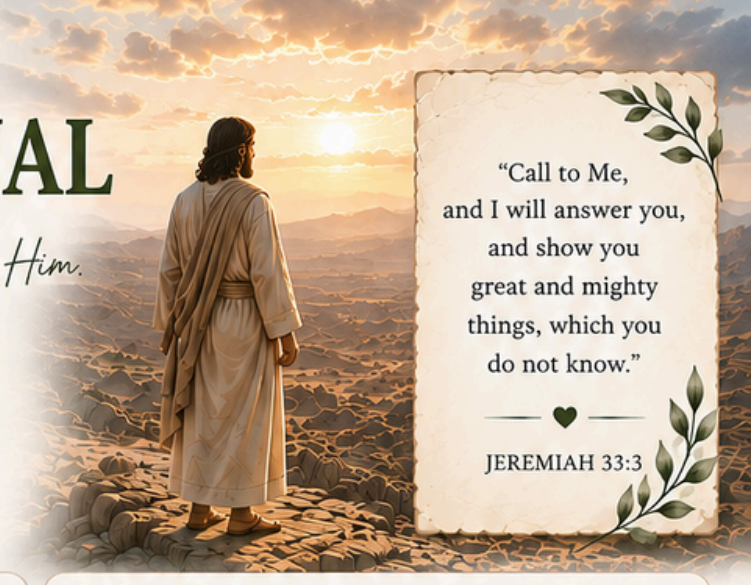
THE BELOVED SON ENTERS THE WILDERNESS —
NOT TO PROVE WHO HE IS, BUT TO FULFIL WHO HE IS.

Preview Scripture and Soir

THE LIFE OF JESUS

PRAYER JOURNAL

Talk to Him. Listen to Him. Walk with Him.



"Call to Me,
and I will answer you,
and show you
great and mighty
things, which you
do not know."

JEREMIAH 33:3

Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness
and remained close to the Father.
In every season, we are invited to do the same.
This is a space to pour out your heart
and hear from Him.

POUR OUT YOUR HEART

Talk to God about anything —
your joys, worries, struggles, and dreams.

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE

What is the Holy Spirit saying to you
through His Word, a thought, or a still,
small voice?

TODAY I PRAY FOR...

Write down people, situations, and places
you want to bring before the Lord.

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SCRIPTURE TO PRAY

Use God's Word to guide your prayers.
Write a verse that speaks to your heart today.

MY PRAYER TODAY

Write your prayer to God.

THANKFUL HEART

Thank God for what He has done,
for who He is, and for His faithfulness.



Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.
JAMES 4:8

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