**Luke 4:1-13**

Introduction

I. We live in the world of the “selfie”: a self-centered culture.

II. Jesus was tempted towards this same mentality in his wilderness temptations

The Passage

I. Temptation #1: turn stones into bread

A. For Jesus this was the temptation: take control and get the result you want instead of doing the right thing and trusting God for the results.

B. For our children, they are constantly facing this temptation: they’re being told that results are all that matter (grades, money, success in sports), and you should do whatever you need to do to get the result.

C. Instead, we should be teaching them to do the right thing and do things God’s way and leave the results to him.

II. Temptation #2: the kingdoms of the world if you worship Satan

A. For Jesus, he was offered every material resource in the universe for a simple expression of loyalty to Satan

B. For our children, they are being told to pursue material possessions as the central focus of their lives (beginning with that first doll, bike, cell phone, etc.)

 C. Instead, we need to teach them how to love God first and trust him for our provision

III. Temptation #3: jump from the temple and God will save you

A. For Jesus, this was a temptation to put himself at the center of things and force God’s hand to rescue him.

B. For our children, they are constantly being told that they are at the center of attention

1. As parents, if our children are exceptional, then it makes us feel like exceptional parents.

 2. Sports: they are being called to be “better than the best”

3. School: B’s are the new C’s. Children are pushed towards academic excellence at all costs

C. Instead, we should encourage them to be faithful to who God has called them to be.

 1. “You Are Not Special”

 2. Being average is perfectly ok. Most people are.

Conclusion

I. We take pictures of things we find important and want to remember.

II. Will we spend our lives taking pictures of ourselves or God?

**Discussion Questions**

1. Consider Temptation # 1 as discussed on Sunday. Where do you see a results orientation playing out in the culture? In the church? In your own life?

2. Consider Tempation #3 as discussed on Sunday. We talked about the culture’s push towards exceptionalism, and the following comments were made: “You are not special. And average is ok.” How did you react to those comments, and how do they fit in within a biblical worldview?

3. As you consider your own children, grandchildren, potential children, or simply young people in your life, is there anything specific you would like to do differently in your approach to them as a result of Sunday’s message?

4. The Selfie is a poignant example of the self-centeredness of our current culture. As Christians, how specifically can we keep our focus on God and his kingdom rather than ourselves, our desires, and needs? What has worked for you?