**Bible Study on Luke 4 vs.1-13 prepared by Robert Lovatt 12th February 2023**

**Discussion Starters**

1. Most of us will have seen friends or family members depart from the Christian faith. Maybe they are between cold and lukewarm now or perhaps they are nowhere. From your observation what are the key factors which have led them to fall away?
2. Thinking of your own life what have been the factors which have held you back from close discipleship of Jesus? How many of them have been trials and temptations?
3. How does idolatry interfere with our relationship with Jesus?

**Looking at the passage**

1. What would you say was the fundamental element of the temptation to turn stones into bread? (Jesus’ response to Satan is very illuminating.) You may want to look at Q.6 at this point also.
2. And how would you answer the above question in relation to the remaining two temptations?
3. In each case can you think of a parallel situation we might find ourselves in? Suggest a scenario.
4. In each case why did Jesus use scripture as a means of countering the devil? What does it say about Jesus’ view of scripture? (Authority, relevance, power)
5. How do the words of God the Father and Satan differ looking at the words of the Father in 3v22 with Satan’s words in 4vs.3 &9 regarding who Jesus is? Does this have anything to say concerning how the church upholds the name of Jesus?
6. Where in today’s world do we hear voices similar to Satan’s concerning who Jesus is?

**Thinking about this story’s general significance**

1. We are told at the beginning of the passage that Jesus was filled by the Spirit, led by the Spirit and was led into the wilderness. Surely Jesus didn’t need to be tried and tempted?
2. How do you see the significance of this story in the wider ministry of Jesus? For example, how might the events of this passage prepared the way for the passage we shall look at next week Luke 4:17-21?
3. You may find Hebrews 4v15 helpful. How might this verse help us when we feel tempted?

**Meditate & Pray**

1. What steps can I take in God’s strength to remove myself from some of the temptations I so easily succumb to?