

Just Say No (Part 5)

Sermon Series: Luke: All Things New



Series Goal

That Mercy Hill Church would be made new as we follow the One who is making all things new!



Sermon Text

Luke 4:1-13



Big Idea

Even at the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the devil is not done. He shifts his strategy from war with the Son to war the church.

Just as the devil made war on the Son, so now he is making war on you and me. It's as if he's saying: "If I couldn't keep the Son from going to the cross, perhaps I can keep the church from holding onto it! Heaven might still be empty yet. The Bridegroom might still be brideless yet. God might still be foiled yet. For the cross of Christ only benefits those who receive it by faith and hold firmly to it to the end. Therefore, I'm going to bait my hook; I'm going to turn up the heat; and I'm going to see if I can't just make this church crack!"

(1) Know the *Incarnated* Word

I am thinking here of what I consider to be the fundamental principle in the Christian religion: namely, union with Christ. It is not enough to know of Him, to admire Him from a distance, to try to be like Him, we must be in Him and He must be in us, by His Spirit, through faith—union with Christ. Before Jesus is our Example He must be our Savior. He is doing what we could never do in ourselves so that He might come into us by His Spirit and do it again in and through us.

(2) Know the *Inscriptured* Word

Here are five strategic ways we can use the Scriptures to press towards the Son and experience more of His victory over Satan and temptation in our lives:

(1) **Feast on the Word**

(2) **Fight with the Word**

(3) **Flee towards the Word**

(4) **Fellowship around the Word**

(5) **Fall upon the Word**

Reflection Questions



- Is Jesus your Savior? Ironically, the first step in resisting the devil is admitting that you can't resist the devil. Are you still striving in your own strength or are you trusting in Christ?
- Do you make space in your busy Silicon Valley life to feast on His word? Why or why not?
- Is the Sword in your hand? When's the last time you picked it up? How many "It is written... 's" have you stored up in your heart that you might not sin against Him?
- Are you fleeing towards the word or flirting with the world? Where in your life are you getting too close to the line? What would fleeing look like for you in this?
- Do you have anyone in your life that you are truly pursuing righteousness, faith, love, and peace with? Why or why not? What does this look like for you? How has it helped you resist temptation?
- How do you usually respond after you give in to temptation? Do you feel condemned, apathetic, hopeless? What would it look like for you to fall upon the word?