

# Lifegroup Questions

## Luke 4:1-13 and Romans 7:15-24

This is a deeply personal and potentially traumatic subject for many. Lots of us will be carrying shame or condemnation (we shouldn't need to, but we do!) and may not feel able to openly discuss this with our group. That's totally understandable.

I therefore encourage you to make time during your evening for some periods of quiet, so that if you are going to talk in more general terms, there is still time for individual, personal reflection – talk to the Father about your answers as well as to one another.



### The Big Picture...

*“We live in a love story, set in a world at war”*

- 1) What's your reaction to that statement? Does your heart resonate with this, or does it seem a bit 'extreme'?
  - a. Unpack, together, your initial reaction. Why do you feel this way?
- 2) Why is it important to consider this big picture – especially in the context of temptation? In what ways are we vulnerable if we don't see the wider landscape of temptation?

**“Deceptive ideas** (the Devil) that play to **disordered desires** (the flesh) that are normalised in a **sinful society** (the world).

- 3) Reflect on this reframing of the three enemies together. How do you see these playing out? Consider this both in terms of individuals and the wider culture.

**The lie:** “God is not as good or loving or wise as he claims to be. He's holding out on you. If you seize autonomy from God and do your own thing, you'll be better off.”

- 4) Discuss how this lie underpins temptation – both in your life, and perhaps throughout scripture.

### The Personal Moment – Get Practical

- 5) Which of the points raised resonated most with you in terms of the aims and arena of the devil's attack?
- 6) Aims – steal what God has done, spoil what he wants to do.
- 7) Arena – point of attack (often our strength), time of attack (HALT), place of attack (external and internal dimensions)
- 8) Which of the 'antidotes' struck you – which might you take hold of?
  - a. Prayer for revelation of the points of attack (1 Cor 10:12)
  - b. Develop awareness of the times
  - c. Find acceptable alternatives
  - d. Cultivate accountable relationships
  - e. Draw closer to the Spirit
  - f. Determine appropriate safeguards
  - g. Identify agreements / lies (including potentially therapy, counselling etc.)