Message Date: October 15, 2023

Message Text: Luke 4:1-14

Message Title: Where Do I belong?

Big Idea: Your belonging shapes your being.

Questions:

1. **Activity:** Have each person take a piece of paper, write their name on it, and in 3 minutes, write as many words that describe them as possible. Place them in front of yourself. (At the end you will be able to speak words about someone else)

2. When have you struggled with knowing your true identity or feeling that your identity is not what you thought it was?

3. Read Luke 4:1. Why do you think Jesus was brought out into the wilderness, away from the Jordan River?

4. Read Luke 4:2-4. How does what we have (or don't have) tend to impact how we view our value?

5. Share a few things you tend to desire in a healthy way. Then, consider some things you desire in an unhealthy way. Share one of these, too.

6. Read Luke 4:5-8. Because we are human and around other people who struggle with their identity, we often feel as if we need to prove something to someone. In what aspect of your life do you crave achievement or recognition?

7. When have you thought you deserved something from God and tried to control your situation? How did Jesus resist the devil's challenge to provoke and manipulate God in verses 9-13?

8. Which belief that the devil tempted Jesus to believe do you resonate with or struggle with the most? (I am what I have. I am what I achieve. I'm significant when I'm in charge.)

9. Discuss ways to combat the beliefs Bryan mentioned - fasting, resting, serving, supporting others, surrendering. Plan as to how you can hold each other accountable to combat this lie this week (texts, calls, prayers, etc.)

10. **Break into groups of two.** Each person should take another piece of paper and write down words that describe the person across from them. This week, compare the list you wrote with the one your friend wrote about you.

BRYAN MARVEL · LUKE 4:1–14

the WILDERNESS

a place of RETREAT and of TESTING

1 **TEMPTATION 1:** desire

We were created to DESIRE – it's hard-wired into us.

BELIEF "I am what I have."

ACTION Consume!

2 **TEMPTATION 2:** drive

The DRIVE to achieve is also in us

BELIEF "I am what I achieve."

ACTION climb

3 **TEMPTATION 3:** demand

BELIEF "I'm significant when I'm IN CHARGE."

ACTION Control

★ **OVERALL TEMPTATION** Identity

OVERALL TRUTH your PLACE of BELONGING belongs to HIM.

You are HIS and HE has all you need.

No temptation can COMPARE.

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