



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Shepherd's Path

## A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

### Jesus Is the King Series, Lesson 35

**Lesson Title:** God Trains the King

**Take Home Point:** God's word helps us fight Satan.

#### Warm-Up:

Have you ever been urged to take something that was not yours? Have you ever been taunted to prove you have a certain quality such as courage? Have you ever been enticed to cheat to get something that otherwise required much work and sacrifice to obtain? You have likely encountered all of these temptations at some time. Know what? Those are exactly the things Jesus faced when he was tempted by the devil. Nothing fancy; nothing we don't experience. Jesus confronted the same temptations we do. How did he overcome them? By using God's word as the tool to reject Satan's subtle lies and ploys.

**Read:** Matthew 4:1-11

#### Observation (What happened?):

How long did Jesus fast in the desert after his baptism?

How did Jesus respond to each of the three temptations?

#### Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why do you think Satan waited for the 40 days of fasting to complete before he began tempting Jesus?

Did Satan have the right to offer the kingdoms of the world? (See John 12:30-33.)

#### Insight:

Satan is not an enemy to be taken lightly. He knows human beings and he knows how to carry out spiritual warfare against us. Notice that in the second temptation, Satan quoted scripture (Psalm 91:11,12) to make it sound like what he suggested would be within God's bounds. This was not the first time the devil used a statement by God to tempt someone. In Genesis 3:1, Satan twists God's word to Adam and Eve (from Genesis 2:16, 17). Because Eve did not remember God's word correctly, she gave in to the temptation. In the case of Satan tempting Jesus, he did quote it accurately; however, Jesus not only knew the specific words in Psalm 91, he also knew other scripture and how it all fit together. That's why he could respond fittingly. With the wonderful written Bible God has given us, we can do the same thing.

#### Application (What does it mean to me?):

What are you doing to memorize God's word and increase your Bible knowledge? If it is not a regular part of your week, think about how you could establish it as a habit and start today.