

ORGANIC DISCIPLES

WEEK 1 "BIBLE ENGAGEMENT"

BRANDON WESTPHAL

MESSAGE DESCRIPTION

The Bible is the Holy Spirit-breathed truth of heaven. Jesus is the living Word of God, and while he walked this earth, he loved the written Word. He knew it, quoted it, and let the Scriptures speak to him and through him. As his followers, we need to know the Scriptures, love them, and follow what they teach. As we do this, the world will see an unchanging message of truth in a world of radical uncertainty. God's Word will send us out on Jesus' mission and teach us how to live in the world so that Jesus' light shines brightly.

IMAGE

1. Bible(s) on the screen as a visual
2. Bible reading plan on screen

NEED

1. Bible Engagement is an opportunity for followers of Jesus to sit at the feet of Jesus and be fed. If we as followers are striving for our faith to deepen, Bible engagement is not an option; it's a choice we make every day. As you spend time in God's Word, you will hear the still small voice of God as you connect with Him. Get ready for time well spent!

SUBJECT

1. Tonight we get to look at Jesus when he was tempted. His main weapon of defense was the Word of God. As the Spiritual battle rages in our life, it's imperative to fight back just as Jesus did.

PREVIEW

1. We are diving into an incredible moment in the Gospel of Matthew. It's the moment Jesus is tempted by Satan. Jesus has been fasting for 40 days and 40 nights, so it's safe to say he was a bit vulnerable at this point. And Satan seizes his opportunity to try to win. He tries to get Jesus to turn stones into bread, he attempts to get Jesus to throw himself from the holy temple, and lastly, the devil shows him on the splendors of the world from a high mountain and tells Jesus, "all this can be yours if you just bow down and worship me". And during their interaction, we see Jesus fight back with the Word of God.

TEXT ADDRESS

1. We see this unfold in **Matthew 4: 1-11**, and tonight you will walk away encouraged, and ready to fight. You will also walk away with a passion for Bible Engagement

SETUP

1. Jesus has just been baptized by John the Baptist, and the Bible says the moment He went up out of the water, heaven was opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. This is an amazing scene unfolding at the end of chapter 3, and chapter 4 kicks off with a "BANG," as the devil arrives on the scene and tries to mess everything up. But, Jesus knows that the best way to fight against the devil's schemes is the Word of God. Check out what Matthew 4: 1-11 says.

TEXT

1. Matthew 4:1-11 (read with passion)

MAIN POINTS

1. Attempt 1, "stones to bread" (1-4)

- a. Personal story of my passion for God's Word (Awana growing up), and how that passion slowly faded as I entered MS and HS), and was revived my Junior year of HS.
- b. Describe what fasting is, and bring this to LIFE

- c. Deuteronomy 8:3 (Jesus fights back with Scripture)
- d. The Devil wasn't finished yet

2. Attempt 2, "highest point of the temple" (5-7)

- a. Show picture of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem on screen
- b. Add in a personal story of being tempted multiple times
- c. Deuteronomy 6:16 (Jesus once again, quotes the Word of God)

3. Attempt 3, "the mountain" (8-11)

- a. Personal story of temptation over and over again and victory was won
- b. Show a picture of a high mountain (Everest, K2, etc) on screen
- c. The BANG moment (Away from me Satan).
- d. The moment you became a follower of Jesus, was the very moment you became an enemy of Satan. Get ready for the battle. You are in for a fight every day.

THE 3 L'S

1. Love

- a. Love the Bible (Psalm 119:97-98)
- b. Do you LOVE the Word of God?
- c. What we love, gets our time (sports for me)--share about your life

2. Learn

- a. Rushing through our time with God just to squeeze in 10-15 min
- b. Journal/Memorize

3. Live

- a. James 1:22
- b. Walkthrough Exodus 20 (10 commandments)
- c. Which ones are a struggle?

SUMMARY

1. As you continue your pursuit of Jesus, I can't encourage you enough to engage in the Bible. This will be your main weapon of defense. When Jesus was tired, weak, and weary, He needed the Word of God to be His strength. When the temptation kept rolling and Satan was relentless, He needed the Word of God. If you have given your heart to Jesus, you are a target. Love the Word of God. Learn the Word of God. Live the Word of God. This will make all the difference in your life!

LANDING

1. As you leave here tonight, I want to challenge you to dive into the Word of God every day this week. We have created a weekly Bible reading plan for you all, and I encourage you all to sit at the feet of Jesus. Feast on God's Word and let His Word saturate your heart and soul. Love it! Learn it! Live it!

WEEKLY READING PLAN

1. Day 1 (Galatians 5)
2. Day 2 (Colossians 3)
3. Day 3 (2 Timothy 3)
4. Day 4 (Psalm 119)
5. Day 5 (Psalm 23)
6. Day 6 (Romans 12)

Make Yearly Bible reading plans available next week