

Questions

1) Have you ever used, or heard someone else use, a verse out of context?

Read 4:1-13 together slowly. Show students how to see when scripture is being quoted in scripture so they can enter the bigger picture the Bible is offering.

- 2) What scriptures do you have memorized? How do they help you?
- 3) What do you find yourself tempted by? What pulls you away from Jesus?
- 4) How does it make you feel knowing the devil twisted a psalm to tempt Jesus?

Read 4:14-30 together slowly. Again cue students into when scripture is being quoted.

- 5) Can you imagine throwing Jesus off a cliff? What would that scene look like? He walked right through them?
- 6) Have you ever been upset with God? Why?
 - it is perfectly ok to be upset with God. There are many times in the Old Testament where that happens.
- 7) Do we trust God's timing and blessings or is it an insurance plan? Meaning, is it back up in case what we do fails?
- 8) Are we coming to Jesus for relationship with God or for the things He can give us?
- -Jackie Hill Perry captures this concept well in her song "The art of Joy".
- "Now I'm living in reverse / seeing good gifts as a glimpse of the giver / not the gifts as a giver / merry Christmas if the vision works." The question is asking if we are satisfied in God alone. Does He have our whole heart or are we only giving parts? Subleasing to lesser things what should be the King's.

As a group this week, pick a verse to memorize. Maybe Galatians 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Not simply for the art of memorization, but to meditate on God and fight temptation.

