



Bible study for the week starting January 18, 2026

SHARE

What's your ultimate "guilty pleasure" – that thing that if someone offers it to you, you can't resist?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

1. Read **Luke 4:1-13**. This is the story of the temptation of Jesus, that happens right after the highlight of His baptism (see also accounts in **Matthew 4:1-11** and **Mark 1:12-13**). How would you have fared? Thinking back to the Israelites in the wilderness, how did they fare?
2. Read **Acts 4:8-13**. Peter speaks these words – the Peter who had a spectacular fail when he denied Jesus 3 times. When you fall (*fail?!)* into temptation, does that mean it's over for you and God can't count on you to use you again? How does God put you back into position to have another chance at faithfulness?
3. Read **2 Peter 1:2-8** (or **2 Peter 1:1-15**, if you want more). Peter knew failure when it came to temptation. Still, God used him to feed His lambs (**John 21**). What does Peter say about "escaping corruption"?
4. What helps you resist temptation? What have you learned from Jesus that helps, and what have you learned through experience (and trial and error...)?
5. Temptation often looks small or harmless in the moment, but its long-term impact can be significant. Looking ahead to this coming week, what is one practical, faith-filled step you can take beforehand to rely on God's strength rather than your own when that moment comes?

PRAY

Pray for God to "lead us not into temptation," but deliver us from evil.



LIGHT & LIFE: TESTED AND/OR TEMPTED

Luke 4:1-13 (Acts 4:8-13; 2 Peter 1:2-8)

January 18, 2026 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

Walking in the LIGHT changes your LIFE.

Temptations often come when you're THRIVING.

Satan also uses opportunities to EXPLOIT human WEAKNESS:

H – HUNGRY

A – ANGRY

L – LONELY

T – TIRED

S – STRESSED

The devil's playbook:

1. Cast DOUBT on the WORD of God to undermine TRUST;
2. Try to DISRUPT the created ORDER, where we live in OBEDIENCE under the sovereign authority of God.

The temptation of Jesus is not just being faithful in ONE instance, but being faithful on your BEHALF where you would and could not.

What do we do with this?

1. Thank Jesus for His STRENGTH and CONVICTION
2. Follow the WAY Jesus has shown
3. Understanding the TACTICS of the devil

"If we are FAITHLESS, He remains FAITHFUL..." -2 Timothy 2:13

For next week, read John 1:35-51.