

TALK IT OVER

Masks

BOTTOM LINE

The myths we believe create the masks we wear.

CONVERSATION STARTER

If you could only eat one food for the rest of the summer, what would it be?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCES

- The Daily: newpointe.org/thedaily
- [Live a Life of Significance](#) by Tim Tebow (5 min.)

KEY VERSES AND QUOTES

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: 'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.' Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'" Matthew 4:1-9 NIV

"Satan's myths are not new, they are recycled. His myths are all fueled by fear. ... Masks can protect us, but they also keep us from being seen by others, by God. If you don't let God and others see you, you can't find healing and redemption." – Dave VanDonge

TALK IT OVER

The image of God remains in us, but it has been blurred and distorted by how we try to possess three God-given needs of security, significance, and acceptance through providing, performing, and pleasing. Which area is most troubling in your life? Satan approached Jesus with these three, just as he did Adam and Eve. The temptations to Jesus all offered a short-cut to what we want to have, what we want to do, and what others think of us. Why are short-cuts so appealing? Why are these three temptations so strong for us? How is control a mask for providing? How is success a mask for performing? How is image a mask for performing? In your life, how have masks hindered your relationships with God and others? Do you find it hard to allow yourself to see yourself authentically here? Why or why not? How are you currently defeating the fears of uncertainty, failure, and rejection? How might you help a fellow struggler?

ACTION STEP

I will take courage from the fact that Satan tempted Jesus in the same way he tempts me. Jesus is uniquely equipped to help me. I will open my whole heart and give my fears to Him in trust and confidence that He will help me. _____