



SERMON DISCUSSION

Progress

Scripture: Matthew 4:8-10 & 1 Samuel 15

Key Things You Heard:

- There's always more at stake than what we think.
- Your ability to withstand temptation is impacted by your confidence in the person making the promise.
- Jesus' third temptation: The temptation to pursue the right thing in the wrong way.
- "I will not worship the goal more than God."

Pray: Jesus, thank you for your presence through the Holy Spirit living inside of me. Because of that, I can experience your peace, even when there is no peace around me. I confess my sin of taking shortcuts rather than trusting in Your provision and direction for me. Today I choose to worship You alone, and seek your will before my will. I will actively do your work, but follow your lead. Help me to learn to trust you more and more. I love you, Jesus. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Moving Forward:

- Choose to say daily: "I will not worship the goal more than God."
- Memorize Matthew 4:10
- Re-watch and/or share the sermon with a friend. Go to rivertown.cc or the RCC App.

Quotable Moments:

- Every temptation is an opportunity to trust God to meet your needs.

Questions for Group Discussion:

First Minutes: What achievement in life are you the most proud of?

- Think back over the last 12 months. In what area have you worked for progress, or wanted to see progress? How does it make you feel when you don't see progress?
- What shortcut have you been tempted to take, in order to push for progress?
- Read Matthew 4:8-10. What was the progress Satan promised? What shortcut did he give Jesus?
- Read 1 Samuel 15:22. Summarize the story of Saul's disobedience in this chapter. What did Saul lose by becoming impatient and taking the shortcut of progress?
- Paul said, "You'll never maintain God's presence by abandoning God's principles." How much is God's presence and peace worth to you?
- What is it that you want so badly - that you're tempted to trade what's most important for what's most immediate? Is it financial, possessions, a relationship, a promotion or recognition, a title? Share your answers with your group.

- Now that you have named the temptation above, what principle from God's Word can you apply to your life, so that you maintain God's presence and stay in His peace?