

Thornbury Baptist Church  
Matthew Teaching Series

Small Group Discussion Questions

**Talk Date:** October 6<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Talk title:** 'The Jesus resistance'

**Passage:** Matthew 4:1-11

**Speaker:** Elliot Mocharrafie

**Discussion Questions**

In the talk, Elliot focussed on how Jesus resisted the devil in the wilderness under testing circumstances. Satan tried to twist Jesus' perception of his identity as a son of God and God's identity. Jesus overcame by humble surrender to the Father's will and purpose. We are invited to follow suit.

- In the wilderness, Jesus initially quoted Deuteronomy 8:3 saying that 'man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God' (Matt 4:4). What scriptures have been significant and nurturing in your walk with God?
- Jesus experienced this testing time for humanity but he also showed an example of how we can engage with tests, trials and difficulties. How do you feel you are being tested at the moment?
- Jesus demonstrated the power of God's words in the midst of testing times. What do you think God is saying in amongst the tests you're currently going through?
- Jesus exemplified humble surrender to God the Father in this passage. This looked in part like fasting, becoming weak (physically and mentally) and resisting the temptation to use his power for self-centred gain. What does a greater surrender to God look like for you at the moment in your discipleship?
- After this episode the devil leaves Jesus (Matt 4:11. See also Jas 4:7). Jesus then begins his ministry which is filled with signs, wonders and miracles. Where do you need God's miraculous power in your life? Spend some time praying for these things as a group.

**Takeaway**

What is the main thing each person is taking away from this discussion?

All talks are recorded and may be viewed on TBC's YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM1OwaJ4eSICosAjl9Ofzjw>