



**Carrollton Christian
Fellowship**

Matthew 3:16-4:11, Outline

1. Introduction

- a. Importance of coming together in God's Word as an act of worship
- b. Recognition of the power of the Holy Spirit and His Word

2. The Role of the Gospels

- a. Different perspectives in the Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
- b. The collective sketch they give of Jesus' life and work
- c. Analogy: Composite sketch similar to eyewitness testimonies in crime investigations

3. Matthew Chapter 3

- a. Jesus' baptism (Matthew 3:16-17)
- b. The descending of the Holy Spirit
- c. God's declaration of love before Jesus' ministry begins

4. The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry (Matthew 4:1-11)

- a. Matthew 4:1
- b. Importance of being filled and led by the Holy Spirit
- c. The Christian life requires the Holy Spirit

5. The Role of the Holy Spirit

- a. Necessity of the Holy Spirit for the Christian life
- b. Relationship with the Holy Spirit: Personal not impersonal
- c. Holy Spirit's work: Conviction, empowerment, sanctification

6. Challenges and Temptations

- a. Jesus led to the wilderness to be tempted by Satan
- b. God's testing vs. Satan's tempting
- c. Analogy: Baking process as a form of God's testing

7. Overcoming Temptation

- a. Fasting: intentional to seek God's will in a situation over our immediate desires.
 - i. Strengthens us not to respond to the first options which may be good for our situation but are not God's desire for our direction in the situation.
- b. Satan's temptations (Similar to Genesis 3:4-5)
- c. Jesus' reliance on Scripture (Deuteronomy) to combat temptation
 - i. Deuteronomy is an instruction for the children of Israel for how they will take position of God's promised land for them and live long in the land, a picture of a Spirit filled life.

8. Importance of Scripture

- a. Relationship with the Word of God
- b. Jesus not simply quoting Scriptures to refute Satan
- c. Obedience and application of God's Word

9. Spiritual Warfare

- a. Ephesians 6: The armor of God
- b. Role of meditation on the Word
- c. Incremental spiritual growth through God's testing

10. Practical Christian Living

- a. Christians often face trials
- b. Need for fellowship with other believers
- c. Avoid prosperity gospel and focus on God's kingdom

11. Rejection of Carnal Methods

- a. Holy Spirit vs. corporate business structures in church
- b. Danger of exchanging spiritual power for secular methods
- c. Emphasis on God's Word for life and ministry

12. The Power of the Holy Spirit
 - a. Distinction between receiving and coming upon of the Holy Spirit
 - b. Role of the Holy Spirit in leading and equipping believers

13. Call to Action
 - a. Encouragement to be led by the Holy Spirit
 - b. Reflection on sacrificial living for Christ
 - c. Benediction: Numbers 6:24-26