



“Dealing with Temptation”

Right after Jesus was baptized we are told he was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted while fasting forty days and forty nights. After leaving John the Baptist, Jesus likely headed due west across a flat desert peppered with scrub brush. There is not a lot to see between the Jordan River and the mountains of the wilderness. According to tradition, Jesus passed just north of Jericho in the Judean wilderness to a rugged and barren mountain known today as Mount Qurantal. Qurantal means forty. The mountain is so named because it is thought that Jesus spent his forty days of temptation here.

The wilderness where Jesus went is not a tropical forest. It is a dry, arid, desert. It looks similar to the desert South West, like many places in New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, or Nevada. This is where Jesus spent forty days praying, fasting, and wrestling with the devil in temptation. If you were to journey there today, you would find a cave halfway up the mountain that was the traditional spot where Jesus spent the night. Today standing over the cave is the Monastery of the Temptation. You can walk up there or take a tram and journey to the back of the cave to see the supposed place where Jesus slept.

While we don't know the exact place where Jesus spent these forty days and nights, we do know what he did. He prayed. He fasted. He slept alone under the stars or in a cave. He lived with the wild animals. The wilderness is often used as a metaphor for a place we don't want to go. It describes when life gets hard and we are wrestling with evil or the devil.

You can't help but think of Elijah who fled to the wilderness when Queen Jezebel wanted to kill him. David fled here when Saul wanted to kill him and he composed many of his Psalms here. Moses lived in the wilderness of Sinai for forty years as a fugitive from Pharaoh. These stories have something in common: God met each of them in the desert. Elijah heard God's still small voice here. Moses saw a burning bush and God spoke to him out of it. David received comfort knowing that God was his shepherd. And God will meet us when we enter into our wilderness. We often feel alone and hopeless, yet God is there. When we pay attention and listen, God will come to us and use our experience in the wilderness to strengthen us.

Jesus' temptations and his time in the wilderness was a way for him to connect with God's people of the past. It also served as a test for Jesus before he began His ministry and as an example for us to resist similar temptations we face. Satan used these temptations to try to break Jesus, but instead God used them to strengthen Him.

We each have moments of temptation. At those times God speaks to us through Scripture, through others, or through a still small voice. The devil attempts to do the same. He will quote Scripture, attempt to work through others to capture our hearts, or speak a word to your mind. But we can be like Jesus. When these times come, we can quote Scripture back and resist him, being strengthened in our faith. Jesus can empathize with us because He was tempted in every way yet was without sin (Hebrews 4:15-16). Go to Jesus with confidence so you may receive mercy and find grace.

Mark

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Arlington Church of Christ



Our Mission: Connecting People to Jesus and one Another

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Arlington Friends
Arlington Church of Christ Youth Group

Welcome

We pray you will be encouraged and uplifted
as we join together in worship.

Guest Information

- There is a **staffed nursery** available for children under age 2. There is also a **parent/child training room** at the rear of the auditorium.
- An optional **children's worship** is available for ages 3 to 8 during morning worship. Children will be dismissed before the sermon. Please pick up your child after worship
- If you are visiting, **please complete a visitor card** so we have a record of your attendance.

Weekly Meeting Times

Sundays:

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study 9:30 a.m.

Wednesdays:

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Weekly Statistics

	weekly budget	\$4,064
Jan. 7	<u>attendance</u>	<u>contribution</u>
	154	\$4,388

Arlington Family Pages

Seeking to edify, educate and
inform the Family of God

Sunday, January 14, 2018

Elders:	Mark Brackney	Ph: 622-0376
	Leland Price	Ph: 925-4424
	Danny Rider	Ph: 705-9713
	Wayne Shannon	Ph: 742-0517
	Gregg Summers	Ph: 223-4515
	David Tiller	Ph: 607-1945
Deacons:	Bud Norris - <i>Worship Participants</i>	
	Charles Owens - <i>Bldg & Grounds/Security/Treasurer</i>	
	Keith Tatum - <i>Education/Picture Board/Family Camp</i>	
	Ronnie Weldon - <i>Attendance/Communion Prep/Bldg</i>	
Minister:	Mark Brackney	Ph: 523-1764
Secretaries:	Becky Johnson	Jennifer Tatum
Missionaries:	Tom & Angie Langley - WEI	
	Tommy Drinnen - Hope Central	







Our Sympathy is extended to...the Cavin family in the sudden death of husband and father, David Cavin. Please keep Kay and the boys in your prayers during this difficult time.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers: Ben Cavin has been moved to Beverly Park Health and Rehab; Janie Johnson; John Burka recovering at home; Jeremy Snowden with heart issues; Roger Mink; Terry Trent; Jerry Fittro; Jean McQuaig; Becky Johnson; Casey Owens; Tom Drinnen; Karla Loftis and her dad.

Friends and Loved ones: Mike Kujawa battling pneumonia; Katherine Norman's son, Gordon, has stage four lung cancer; Bobby Cole's nephew, Michael Maddox diagnosed with cancer; Kelly Hunter's dad, Buddy; Patricia Ramsey's father; Ronnie Weldon's brother-in-law; Zack & Karen Johnson; Missy Esary; Betty Hodges; Aiden Darnell; David Hunter; Deb & Rob Colones; Bill Norris; Faith Tindell; Greg Dyer; Helen Monroe's god-son, Ian Whelahan; Heather Ream's mother; Janie Johnson's mom; Jason McDougal's mother.

Shut-ins: Betty Buckner; Jack & Rosaline Davis; Lynda Elliott; Fred Galbreath; Edna Hullender; Peggy Mehlhorn; Kathryn Norman; Jessie Rutherford; Dan Trent.

Coming Soon

- Please take a moment to **pick up a card or two** to mail this week from the Card Ministry table. 
- There will be a **wedding shower for Mikayla Parsley and Jacob Shannon** this afternoon from 2 to 4 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Guys are welcome. They are registered at Target and Amazon.com. 
- Small groups**, tonight at 6 p.m. See an elder for a home near you. 
- Family basketball** this Wed., Jan. 17, 8 to 9:30 p.m. 
- Guys meet at Shoney's**, this Thurs., Jan. 18, 8:30 a.m. 
- Connection Night**, Sun., Jan. 21, 5 p.m. Please bring finger foods to share.
- Kingdom Kids** begins Monday, Jan. 22, 4 to 6 p.m. at the church building.
- Fourth Sunday Fellowship**, Jan. 28.
- YPYF chili and game night**, Sunday, Jan. 28, 5 p.m., church building. Tina McDougal has the sign-up sheet for food items.
- Winterfest is February 16-18, 2018** Information is on the teen board. 

Family News

Sermon Topics Today
Sunday Morning:
Life of Jesus Series
"Baptism and Temptation"

Sunday Night:
Small Groups @ 6 pm

SERVING THE ASSEMBLY TODAY:

Serve @ Table:
Joshua Brackney, Jedidiah Cavin
Tyler Norris, Kevin Gillispie
Bruce McQuaig, John David Potter

Opening Prayer: Randy Riggs
Preside at Table: Ben Ream
Greeters: B Pruett & D Chapman
Nursery: Lisa Potter & Rebecca Riggs
Security: B Gilliam & J Hoff



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

(Oops! Please wish Ellen
Griffin a late birthday!)

Jan	10	Ellen Griffin
Jan	15	Bella Snowden
Jan	17	John Burka
Jan	17	David Giles
Jan	21	Glenda Thompson

Happy Birthday!!

Family Matters

MARRIAGE WORKSHOP

Whether you are enjoying a deep and loving connection with your partner or struggling to talk about simple things without conflict, we would love for you to join us on Sunday evenings, from 4-6 pm, beginning Feb 25th at Arlington Church of Christ for a marriage workshop. This workshop will not be group therapy, nor primarily lecture, but rather a time to learn practical tools and concepts. Ample time will be given to practicing new ways of relating to your partner during our time together.

The workshop will be appropriate for anyone in a deeply committed relationship, from engagement to couples who have been together 50+ years. The cost is \$100 per couple for the entire six week series. There is a direct link on our Arlington website for you to register and purchase materials.

You can also read more at; <https://www.knoxvillemarriageinitiative.org/>