



**PART1: THE TEST**  
TOBY NEWNUM  
APRIL 14&15, 2018

**MATTHEW4.1-3**

*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."*

Life will \_\_\_\_\_ us ... a lot!  
TEST

Jesus knew \_\_\_\_\_ .  
IMMEDIATELY

Jesus did not \_\_\_\_\_ .  
ENGAGE

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vision **TEACHING NOTES**



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vision **TEACHING NOTES**

### THIS WILL END BADLY

When our kids were small we lived in a home surrounded by large trees. Walking outside one day, I thought I heard a cat meowing, but couldn't tell where it was coming from. I heard it again the next day and finally, about the third day, I decided I would find it. Turns out, the poor thing had been stuck up in the top of a tree for days.

Leslie and the kids came out on the porch to watch the rescue as I backed the truck up to the tree and put a ladder in the back to reach the lowest limb. I knew it would be difficult to climb back down with the scared (grateful) kitty so wisely, I took a paper bag with me and climbed about 30 feet high.

I got to the cat and as soon as I grabbed him to pull him free from the branch, he let go of his branch, wrapped around my forearm, dug in his claws and bit me. To the horror of my innocent audience, I instinctively shook him off and he fell down, down, down, bounced off the hood of the truck and jumped to the ground and ran away.

I climbed back down with my empty paper bag. As far as I know, the cat was fine. I got doctored up and figured I had learned a good lesson.

Jesus answered the devil by quoting Deuteronomy 8 where Moses is encouraging the people to learn from past mistakes. God gives us everything we need to make sure we don't have to keep making bad decisions or doing dumb stuff as we learn to discern the ideas and messages that come into our minds every day. Take it from me. You can't (should never even try to) stuff a cat in a bag when you're 30 feet in the air. You're welcome!



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