

## **“ Away from me, Satan ! ”**

*“Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert 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.”*

*Jesus answered, “It is written: Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.”*

Is this happening today, all around us? Many people are “fasting” but unfortunately, they are fasting on “the Word of God”. Are we on special diets consisting of business as usual or the busyness of More, More, More! People are quick to grab a snack when those hunger pains set in to their stomachs, but what about that “spiritual hunger”. Are we taking care of that or are we “starving ourselves to death”?

In Luke’s gospel we read: *“Jesus was led into the desert, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.”* Satan does not give up trying to tempt us. He is at work 24/7 and he is relentless in his desire for us to stumble and fall. Satan continued working on Jesus, promising worldly possessions, power and authority even though it was not Satan’s to give away. Jesus did not give in.

Finally, Matthew writes: Satan promised anything and everything if Jesus would “just worship me” said Satan. Jesus said, *“ Away from me, Satan!”* *For it is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.”* Luke writes: *“When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.”*

The world is a busy place, and we may skip a meal or two, but we need to set our priority on listening to God. So do not fast on the Word of God at any time. Read The Word Daily and Pray to God Unceasingly. Remember that Satan is still looking for “that opportune time”.

Scripture references: (Matthew 4:1-11) (NIV)  
(Luke 4: 1-13) (NIV)