1. **Luke 4:1-4**
* How was Jesus guided through the desert?
* **Exodus 13:18-22**
* Who was being guided through the “wilderness” in this story?
* How were they being guided through the “wilderness”?
* **Exodus 4:19-22**
* Reflect on this passage from **Exodus** and consider what was just said during Jesus’ baptism last lesson, what title does God give both the **Israelites** and **Jesus**?
* **Hosea 11:1**
* Who does God call “son” in this passage and from where are they being called?
* **Matthew 2:13-15**
* Who does the Apostle **Matthew** apply the previous reading in **Hosea** to?
* Consider who all the word “son” is being applied to, what does this say to you about the role Jesus is taking on during that time, what does this mean?
* **Exodus 34:27-28**
* Who is this story about?
* What do you find in this passage that is similar to Jesus’ experience in **Luke**?
* What second role might this **Gospel** imply Jesus is taking upon himself?
* What human conditions does the **Gospel** **of Luke** apply to Jesus in **Luke 4:2**?
* **Deuteronomy 8:1-3**
* Who directed the Israelites during their “journeying in the wilderness”?
* What was the purpose of allowing them to be “afflicted with hunger”?
* What might be the purpose of allowing Jesus to be afflicted with hunger and how does the devil tempt him initially?
* How does Jesus respond to the Devil’s first temptation (compare what Jesus states to **Deuteronomy 8:3**)?
* What does this say to you about the tactics of the Devil towards us humans?
* Consider how Jesus prepared for this, and share how you should prepare yourself for these types of encounters in the world?
* **St. Cyril of Alexandria** (378 AD – 444 AD) *Commentary on Luke Sermon 12*

“But observe this especially, that he was first baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit, and withdrew into the wilderness, and made abstinence, that is, fasting, as it were His armor; and being thus equipped, when Satan drew near, and He had overcome him, He has so set before us Himself as our pattern. Thou therefore too must first put on the armor of God, and the shield of faith, and the helmet of salvation. Though too must be clothed with power from on high, must be made, that is, partaker of the Holy Spirit by means of precious baptism, and then you may undertake to lead the life well beloved and honorable with God, then shalt thou keep holy fast, and mortify pleasures, and vanquish Satan when he tempts.”

* **St. Cyril of Alexandria** (378 AD – 444 AD) *Commentary on Luke Sermon 12*

“Then the devil drew near to tempt Him, expecting that the feeling of hunger would aid him in his innate wickedness, for often he prevails over us by taking our infirmities to aid his plots and enterprises. He thought He would readily jump at the wish of seeing bread ready for His use, and therefore he said, “If Thou be the Son of God, bid this stone become bread.” He approaches Him therefore as an ordinary man, and as one of the saints, yet he had a suspicion, that possibly He might be the Christ. In what way then did he wish to learn this? He considered, that to change the nature of anything into that which it was not, would be the act and deed of a divine power, for it is God Who makes these things and transforms them, if therefore, says he, this be done, certainly He it is Who is looked for as the subverter of my power, but if He refuse to work this change, I have to do with a man, and cast away my fear, and am delivered from my danger. And therefore it was the Christ, knowing the monster’s artifice, neither made the change, nor said that He was either unable or unwilling to make it, but rather shakes him off as importunate and officious, saying that “man shall not live by bread alone,” by which He means, that if God grant a man the power, he can subsist without eating, live as Moses and Elijah, who by the Word of the Lord passed forty days without taking food.”

* Share a though or two that came to mind upon hearing St. Cyril’s commentary.