

**Scripture: Luke 4:1-13 (Jesus’ Temptation)**

**Metaphor:** Compass

**Theme:** Authentic Direction

**Felt Need:** I feel lost and am in need of a new direction

**Desired Outcome:** People would begin to take a look into spiritual disciplines.

**Altar Display**

Place maps, compasses, and other journey related items on chancel or altar area.

**Tangible Object**

Hand out compasses. Make “survival bags” containing cards with spiritual disciplines on them.

**Music suggestions**

“There is Joy in the Journey” - Michael Card

“Step by Step

“Lord Come to the Lakeshore”

**Call to Worship**

Good morning, and welcome to worship! This morning we begin a Lenten series called The Journey. Over the next 6 weeks, we’ll be tracking along with Jesus’ journey to the cross.

When we think about going on a journey, we often think about being outside.

There is something glorious about being outside. The splendor; the majesty; the vastness of God’s creation. I love being outside, but here is the only problem: the outside is so big that it is easy to get lost.

Despite all of the beauty there isn’t a scarier feeling than being in the middle of the wilderness and not knowing where you’re going. If you’ve ever spent anytime outside you know exactly what I’m talking about: Have I passed this tree before? Is this the right way? Does the sun set or rise in the east?

Nothing is worse than being lost.

Luckily there is one tool, one tool that we can use to give a sense of direction: It’s called a compass. And the beautiful thing about a compass is that it always works, no matter where we are in the world, no matter how lost we are; the compass can always point us in the right direction.

In today’s scripture, Jesus squares off with Satan in the Wilderness. Satan throws everything he can at Jesus to lead him in the wrong direction. Every times Satan challenges Satan with a temptation, Jesus responds with scripture.

Like a compass pointing true north, scripture points us in a direction that is true and timeless.

As we enter the season of Lent, it is easy to feel lost. How am I supposed to find my way with God? How do I know what God wants from me as I face temptations and challenges? In the vastness of our relationship with God there is a tool that can keep us moving in the right direction. Like the compass this tool gives us what we need to be on the path that God has in store for us. Scripture is the tool that; no matter where we are, no matter how we feel keeps us on the journey to a better relationship with God. So, today we invite you to stand and worship with us, as we pursue God’s **Authentic Direction**.

**Closing words.**

As you go from this place, keep your eye on the needle of God’s word as you pursue his Authentic Direction!