Temptation

1. Read James 1:13-15 Can God tempt us with evil?
When are we tempted? Is there a difference between sin and temptation?
Read James 4:7 If we submit to God can we overcome the temptation?
What is the result of sin in our lives? Read Romans 6:23 as well (lust = desire)

2. Read Genesis 3:1-13
With your understanding from question 1 can you see how temptation works here?
Can you see how the devil attacked their submission to God? How did he do it?
They were then vulnerable to their own desires.
What three areas of their lives did the fruit appeal to?
Look at 1 John 2.16 to see how things are now in the world and are the basic elements in the "world". Have a good think and you will see how the things which attract people fall into these three categories. Write down one for each.
What happened to Adam and Eve?
Did they become the judges of their own condition?
Is this the spiritual death that God spoke to Adam about?
What was their reaction towards God? What was the long-term result for them?

3. Read Matthew 4:1-11
Can you see any similarities in the temptations of Jesus and the 3 categories above?
Which one fits which? How did Jesus overcome?
Do you think He just learnt the scriptures or did He know their power in His life?
When did the devil attack Him?
Is that a clue to us when we are most likely to be attacked?
What is the basic key to overcoming? (vs. 10)
Does this fit in with James 4:7?

4. Read 1 Samuel 15:15-23
What was Saul told to do with the Amalekites? Did he obey?
Who did he blame? Can we ever blame anyone else for our own disobedience?
Does God want the sort of sacrifice that was to be offered here?
What is the most important thing to do? (vs. 22-23)

5. Read Ephesians 2:2-10
Can you see how the devil ("prince of the power of the air") works in those who disobey?
And as a result they live in the lusts of the flesh and desire of heart and mind?
Read Colossians 1:21
Is this why Saul was the enemy of God? Because he used his own ideas?
But God has delivered us from all this in His Son! Read Romans 8.37

6. Read 2 Corinthians 11:2-3
Can you see how the devil would attack our minds and take us away from the Lord?
Away from simplicity and sincerity. Is this what happened to Saul?
What should he have done? What a difference between the Lord Jesus.
What about us? Read 1 Peter 5:8-9 - who should we follow?

7. Why should we suffer though? Read 1 Peter 2:19-25 & 4:12-16
Who is our example? What should we do in trials and temptations?
Whose suffering are we sharing in? Read John 15:18-19
What rests upon us to help us overcome? Who is glorified when we overcome?