

## Three Things I Pray

*“Day by day...Day by day...  
Oh Dear Lord, three things I pray  
To see thee more clearly  
Love thee more dearly  
Follow thee more nearly  
Day by day”*

(from the musical, *Godspell*; *Songs of Praise* hymnal, © 1931)



Often in scripture, we find biblical principles in groups of three (or more). As we read, we will see “lists” of examples, responses, approaches, and commands in a given situation. It can be enlightening to look for these lists and identify the “pieces” of the story as a way of applying God’s Word to our own lives. Here is an example:

### Read Luke 4:1-13

Find three temptations Jesus experienced:

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Find three scriptural responses Jesus gave to the devil; then find the original scripture verses Jesus was quoting.

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Challenge yourself: find three (or more!) things Jesus had to give up during His forty days in the wilderness.

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Once you’ve come up with your list, reword each of those items into a personal response to God. For example,

- *Lord, I will go to your Word first today, before I satisfy my hunger.*
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Draw a “symbol” next to each application that will help you remember what you are committing to do.



For other great examples of Scripture passages containing multiple “lists,” see Psalms 29, 31, 139; 1 Corinthians 13; Acts 2:37-47; Romans 12; Philippians 2. Don’t let the “three” stop you from coming up with longer lists. There are many “hidden treasures” of life lessons in God’s Word.