

Reality – Bible Lesson for May 24, 2020 – Preschool

New Testament Section One: The Life of Jesus Lesson 4: The Temptation

1. **Lesson: The Temptation**
2. **Scripture:** Matthew 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13
3. **Memory Verse:** "The LORD is my shepherd. He gives me everything I need." Psalm 23:1
4. **The Jesus Storybook Bible:** Pages 208 – 209
5. **Materials useful for teaching the lesson - Craft: Preschool -** downloaded template; printed Bible verse - "And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear..." – 1 Corinthians 10:13

Craft: Bear Craft -

<https://www.creativelittleexplorers.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/build-a-shape-bear-color-PDF.pdf>

<https://www.creativelittleexplorers.com/build-shape-bear-paper-craft/>

Videos you can use to reinforce the story:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=afzoWMTkKHY>

Pursue GOD kids:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1EbMGyzaAYw>

1. Prayer and Welcome Activity: Pray with your children – then introduce the following discussion:

- **Ask:** What is temptation? (Wanting to do something we can't or shouldn't do)
- **Ask:** What are some things that kids are tempted by? (Wait for responses.)
- Teacher - share something that you are tempted by. Help kids to understand that temptation isn't something we grow out of once we reach adulthood, but we must constantly rely on God to help us overcome temptation.
- **Ask:** When you are tempted by something, what do you do?

Have you ever been tempted to do or say something that you know is wrong? Temptation, by itself, doesn't have to be sinful - It's what we do when we're tempted that matters. Sometimes it's really hard to walk away from something we want (even if it's something we shouldn't have.) But when we give in to temptation, that leads us into sin.

Did you know that even Jesus, who never sinned, was tempted? He wanted to show us what to do when we face temptation, through His example. He responded to temptation by quoting Scripture from God's Word. Let's listen to what He did...

You can also have them do the following songs:

Trust and Obey

Trust and obey (march in place and then salute)
For there's no other way (cross arms in front of body)
To be happy in Jesus (move fingers to make happy smile at mouth)
But to trust and obey (march in place and then salute)

Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord

(to the tune of Row, Row, Row Your Boat)

Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord
For He is our King.
We love Him so we give Him praise.
For He is our King.

Vs. 2 Thank, Thank, Thank the Lord

Vs. 3 Love, Love, Love the Lord

2.Bible Story: (You can teach the story below or read it from "The Jesus Storybook Bible" – Pages 208 - 209)

After John baptized Jesus, the Holy Spirit led Him into the wilderness – into the desert. There Jesus spent time praying and fasting. Does anyone know what it means to fast? (To go without food for a given amount of time in order to spend time praying and thinking about God.) Jesus wanted to spend time talking to His Father about the ministry He was about to begin.

But Satan was watching and waiting for his chance. He wanted Jesus to fail because he didn't want Jesus to rescue us. Now, we need to remember that Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus could have zapped Satan to another planet to put him away from Him...but He didn't. He knew all along that Satan was going to try to tempt Him. After all, God had sent Him into the wilderness. Satan never takes Jesus by surprise. Jesus had taken on human flesh; He had become a man - and He wanted to show us what to do when Satan tempts us. He wanted to show us how to stand against temptation. The temptations we face never take God by surprise either. He knows everything we are facing, and we need to understand that God will be with us to strengthen and guide us through those times.

Well, after Jesus had prayed and fasted for 40 days, Satan thought he saw his chance. Jesus had fasted and prayed all that time so He could give everything He had, physically and spiritually, to God. At the end of those 40 days, how do you think Jesus

felt? Satan saw that Jesus was hungry. He tried to tempt Jesus when He was vulnerable from being hungry. "He said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." But Jesus answered, "It is written, 'Man must not live only on bread. He must also live on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (Deuteronomy 8:3) Instead of thinking of how hungry He was, Jesus remembered what God's Word said.

Satan often tries to get us to ignore God and think only about our own needs, especially when we're hungry or tired or not feeling well. That's what the Israelites were doing in the Bible verse Jesus quoted. They were wandering through the wilderness too, but they were more worried about what they were going to eat than about the God who was providing for them. Jesus showed us that living by God's Word is more important than worrying about what we want or need.

Satan must have gnashed his teeth in frustration! He failed at trying to tempt Jesus' physical nature so next he tried to tempt His spiritual nature. He took Jesus to the highest point of the temple in Jerusalem and said, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. It is written, 'The Lord will command his angels to take good care of you. They will lift you up in their hands. Then you won't trip over a stone.'" (Psalms 91:11,12) Jesus probably wanted to laugh at this bit of trickery the devil tried to use on Him. He knew every verse of the Bible and that was not what the verse meant. He answered, "It is also written, 'Do not test the Lord your God.'" (Deuteronomy 6:16) Jesus knew that being tempted is not sin – giving in to temptation is sin. His response to Satan's ridiculous suggestion is that we are not to test God.

Satan knew that what he was doing wasn't working and one would think he would just give up. But he tried one last idea. He tried to tempt Jesus away from His very reason for being on the earth. He took Jesus to the highest mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, "If you bow down and worship me, I will give you all this."

Jesus knew that God is the only One worthy of worship. He looked at Satan and said "Get away from me, Satan! It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God. He is the only one you should serve.'" (Deuteronomy 6:13) Then the devil left Jesus and angels came to Jesus to take care of Him and to comfort Him. As it reads in The Jesus Storybook Bible, "Jesus wasn't like Adam. Jesus was a new kind of man. He would not believe the terrible lie that the enemy spoke. Jesus knew God loved Him. And He would trust God. No matter what."

God knows that we will be tempted by many things in our lives, and He has given us a powerful weapon to help us fight against it. Does anyone know what it is? (The Bible) God's Word reminds us of what is true, even when Satan tries to tempt us to forget it. It is like a sword God gives to us to defend us against the enemy and send him away from us. James 4:7 says "So obey God. Stand up to the devil. He will run away from you."

There are many other verses that are good to memorize and will help us when we are tempted – a few are 1 Corinthians 10:13; John 3:16; Romans 5:8; and many more. Jesus showed us how to resist temptation by hiding God's Word in our hearts. You and I can do the same thing.

3. Bible Application - Craft:

Verse Bear Craft:

1. Print the template, color the shapes, and cut them out.
2. Glue the Bible verse onto the triangle. – "And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear..." – 1 Corinthians 10:13
3. Now it is time to build the bear. Glue the ears behind the head, and then glue the face shapes onto the front.
4. Next, put together the body.
5. And then add the rectangle arms and the bear is complete!



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4. Memory Verse: Have the children say the memory verse one more time –
“The LORD is my shepherd. He gives me everything I need.” Psalm 23:1

Preschool –

Play: Crazy Stand-Ups –

Those wearing blue, stand up and say the verse – then those who are 3 years old, those who have brown hair, those who have a dog, those who have a cat, etc.

5. Closing Prayer: Lead the children in a closing prayer. Encourage your child/children to also say their own individual prayers about any additional concerns they have.