



# Life of Christ

## Jesus is tempted

## Matthew 4:1-11

Younger Verse

I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You. Psalm 119:11

Older Verse

I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You. Psalm 119:11

Lesson Goals

Help children understand how they can make correct choices like Jesus did  
See how prayer and Scripture verses are important to doing right and being pure in your heart

Welcome Time

We all have been tempted to do wrong. Jesus was too! Let's see what He did when He was tempted. It will help us see what we can do to help in hard times.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

When Jesus was young, He went to church and learned many things there. The boys had to learn and memorize lots of the Bible for school. So, Jesus learned and knew lots of verses from the Bible.

God led Jesus into the desert. Jesus stayed in the desert for 40 days and nights, praying and listening to God. After 40 days and nights, the devil came to Jesus and tried to tempt Him to do wrong.

First the devil said, "If you are God's Son, tell these rocks to turn into bread." Jesus would not do it. Instead, He answered by using a memory verse, "It is written in the Scriptures, 'A person does not live by eating only bread. But a person lives by everything the Lord says.'" This was a quote from Deuteronomy 8:3.

Next, the devil led Jesus to Jerusalem. He put Jesus on the top of the Temple building and said, "If you are God's Son, jump off." Then he tried to use a memory verse to convince Jesus. The devil said, "It is written in the Scriptures, 'He has put his angels in charge of you. They will catch you with their hands. And you will not hit your foot on a rock.'" However, Jesus answered with another memory verse, "The Bible also says 'Do not test the Lord your God' (Deuteronomy 6:16), so Jesus did not jump off the building."

A third time the devil tried to get Jesus to sin. He led Jesus to the top of a high mountain. He showed Jesus all the world. He said to Jesus, "If you will bow down and worship me, I will give you everything you see." Jesus would not bow down. He answered the devil by saying, "Go away from me Satan! It is written in the Scriptures, 'You must worship the Lord your God and serve Him only'." This was Deuteronomy 6:13.

So the devil left Jesus and the angels came to take care of Jesus. Remember that Jesus was tempted, but He did NOT do wrong. Jesus stayed pure.

What are some ways we are tempted? What did Jesus do when He was tempted? What can we do? How can we stay pure inside?

Jesus loved us so much that He did something just for you and me. He died on a cross for the wrongs that we have done. The best news is that Jesus didn't stay dead. He rose from the grave 3 days later. How exciting! If we believe and trust Jesus in our hearts, we will live with God forever in Heaven. If you want to know more, talk to us about it.

**Learning Activities**

Use activities that help the children understand why it is important to know the Bible and to memorize Scriptures.

**Memory Verse Activities**

Use fun activities to help them remember the verse. There are several activities in the lesson material. You can also try forming a circle and letting each person toss a ball and say a word of the verse. Teachers, please set the example of knowing the verse too!

**Prayer Time**

Remind the kids that Jesus also prayed when He was having a hard day. We can do the same. Pray for special needs and remember to ask about them next week.

**Snack Time/CleanUp**

You may want to bring treats as an extra reward for those who memorized the verse today. Talk to the kids during snack time. Review the lesson if it seems that they can't remember it.

Planning for June 30th  
What are the books of the Bible?  
Jesus reads the Bible in church  
Luke 4:14-22

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Preschool Lesson  
for  
Jesus is tempted

Bring several objects to show as you tell the story today:

Rock

Slice of Bread

Little box (for a church)

Little figure to be Jesus—could be a twisted pipecleaner, clothespin from last week or paper cutout.

Jesus went into the hot desert to pray. He stayed there a long time and He got very hungry. He had not eaten anything because He was trying to listen to God and do what He said. His tummy must have rumbled a lot!

Suddenly, the devil came. He is God's enemy and tries to get us to turn away from God. He told Jesus to turn a rock into bread so He would not be hungry (show the rock and bread). Jesus did not listen to the devil. He knew that the devil was trying to get Him to do something wrong. Instead, Jesus said a Bible verse. He told the devil it was more important to do what God says.

Then, the devil took Jesus to the top of the church (show the little box or picture of a church). He dared Jesus to jump off. The devil told Jesus that angels would catch Him. But Jesus told the devil that God did not want us to test Him. So, Jesus did not do wrong.

Again, the devil tried to get Jesus to do wrong. He took Jesus to a high mountain (find a high place in the room or stand up with the Jesus figure). Jesus could see everything all around. The devil told Him that He could have everything He saw if He bowed down to the devil. Jesus would not bow down. He told the devil to go away! He told him that we are to worship God and do only what He says.

Jesus had 3 chances to do wrong. Did He? NO! Jesus did the right thing each time. Jesus always did what was right. He must have had to pray a lot to make sure He was doing just what God wanted.

Sometimes we may be tempted to do the wrong thing. God wants us to do right! Jesus helps us know how important it is to do good and not evil.

Let's pray and ask God to help us do good things this week and not bad things.

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## Hands-on Activities for Jesus is tempted

Take time to help the kids memorize the Bible verse. If they try to make the excuse that it is too long, remind them of how they know verses to songs on the radio that are very long. Let them help make up a song to keep the verse on their minds.

Try Memory Verse activities to help the kids learn how to “hide God’s Word in their hearts.”

There is a fun object lesson to illustrate having God’s Word in our heart.

Try helping the kids learn this little rap about the story (to the tune of We will, we will rock you)

Jesus was a cool dude forty days without food,  
devil tried to tempt Him, but that’s ok  
He’s got love on His face, no disgrace  
He’s spreading His love all over the place  
saying, “We will, we will, do right”  
saying, “We will, we will, do right.”

See if they can make up more verses about the story!  
(Several girls from one of the Bible studies made up this verse.)

This may be a fun exercise in learning what temptation means: Purposefully leave some sweets out on the table while you knock on doors. Put a sign by it that says “Please do not eat.” See if any of the children secretly take a sweet treat. (or leave the room and see what the group does while you are gone.) Later, as you are asking them what temptation means, use the example of the treats. Temptation means wanting to do or take something that is not right. Sin means actually doing wrong. Don’t name names, but use the candy as an example. Explain that Jesus was tempted like we were. He knows what we go through. The good thing is that Jesus did NOT sin. He did Right.