

# Jesus Was Tempted

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 4:1-11

**MAIN POINT:** Jesus was tempted and never sinned.

**UNIT KEY PASSAGE:** 1 Timothy 1:15

“This saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance:  
"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"-and I am the  
worst of them.” (CSB)

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What makes Jesus  
different? Jesus is fully God and fully man.

**GOSPEL GEM:** When we trust in Jesus our sins are  
forgiven and we have the Holy Spirit to help us fight temptation.

**THE RESCUE BEGINS**

**God the Son**

**Unit 19 Lesson 5**

**April 19, 2020**

**PreK-K Grade Small Group**

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## Leader BIBLE STUDY

After Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit led Him into the wilderness. Jesus fasted for 40 days, and He was hungry. There in the wilderness, the Devil, who is the agent of temptation and father of lies, appeared to Jesus. The Devil said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”

If You are the Son of God? The Devil knew who Jesus was. He challenged Jesus to prove it. The Devil wanted to ruin God’s plan of redemption which was set in motion in Genesis 3. In the garden of Eden, Satan used a seemingly innocent question to arouse doubt in Eve: “Did God really say, ‘You can’t eat from any tree in the garden?’” (Gen. 3:1).

Adam and Eve ate the fruit God had forbidden them to eat, and sin entered the world.

Jesus came to reverse the curse, to succeed where Adam failed. The Devil’s aim was to use a similar trick as in Eden to get Jesus to sin, to disqualify Him from the role of sinless Savior.

The Devil targeted Jesus in His weakness. He tempted Jesus to turn stones into bread, to put Himself in danger, and to worship him as a way to fulfill His mission without going to the cross. “Go away, Satan!” Jesus replied.

The writer of Hebrews said that Jesus, our High Priest, can sympathize with our weaknesses because He was tested in every way we are, yet He never sinned. Jesus’ actions are an example for believers, but what happens when we do give in to temptation?

Emphasize to kids that we can boldly approach God's throne to receive grace to help us through temptation, and mercy and forgiveness when we sin (See Heb. 4:14-16.) We have hope because Christ died for sinners.

## INTRODUCE THE STORY

### Welcome

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. As kids arrive, ask them about a time they wanted to do something they knew they should not do. Did they resist temptation or give in to it?

**SAY Every day we face different kinds of temptation. Sometimes we resist and obey God, and sometimes we fail to resist and sin against God. Today we will hear a story about a man who faced temptation but never sinned. Can anyone guess whom we will learn about?**

### Activity page

Invite kids to use the key to find and circle the foods hidden in the picture.

**SAY You found all the foods hidden in the picture! After Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness. Jesus stayed in the wilderness for many days. He prayed to God and thought about God's plan for His life. Jesus did not eat anything while He was in the wilderness, and He was very hungry. The Devil came to tempt Jesus. Listen to what happened in today's Bible story.**

### A Good Fight

Give out index cards that say: *fire, bear attack, the flu, shark attack, mean/not nice kids*. Form up to six groups of kids and give each group an index card, markers or crayons, and a large piece of paper.

Instruct kids to imagine they are facing the scenario on their card. How would they fight it? Encourage kids to discuss within their groups possible solutions and then draw a picture of the best defense. After several minutes, lead groups to share their solutions.

**SAY • Those are some good solutions to some tricky problems. In today's Bible story, we are going to hear about how Jesus fought against something we all face—temptation. We will find out what Jesus did when He was tempted.**

## TRANSITION TO LARGE GROUP

Walk across hall and sit as a group on risers.

## EXPERIENCE THE STORY

### OK or go away

Pass circles on popcicle sticks with “OK” and “Go Away” on them. Explain that you will give children commands. If the command is something good to do, they will hold up the correct side and shout, “OK!” If the command is something bad to do, they will shout, “Go away!” Remind preschoolers that Jesus said, “Go away!” to the Devil when he told Jesus to worship him.

- Take a piece of candy from the grocery store shelf.
- Pull someone’s hair if she won’t give you her toy.
- Put on your shoes when your parents ask.
- Complain about your food.
- Help your younger brother put on his shoes.
- Put away your toys.
- Don’t let your sister play with you and your friends.

**SAY • Even when we know something is wrong, it is really hard to obey all the time. We can ask Jesus to help us say no to sin. Jesus was tempted, but He never sinned. He knows what it is like to be tempted, and He wants to help us. But when we do give in to temptation and sin, we can ask Jesus to forgive us and He will!**

### Pray

Take prayer requests. Pray, thanking God for sending Jesus to save us from sin and providing us with the Holy Spirit to help us resist future temptations.

## JOIN WORSHIP IN SANCTUARY

When prompted wrap up and line up in to get ready to enter the sanctuary.