

Jesus is Tempted
(Matthew 4:1-11)

Main Point: Jesus faced temptation but did not sin

Lesson Introduction Questions

- **Ask:** What is temptation? (*The desire to do something shouldn't do*)
- **Ask:** What are some things you are tempted by? (*let children give answers*)
- **Parents:** share something that you are tempted by. Help your children to understand that temptation isn't something we grow out of. We must constantly rely on God to help us overcome temptation.
- **Ask:** When you are tempted by something, how do you deal with the temptation?
- **Say:** Today we'll learn that **Jesus faced temptation but did not sin.**

READ THE BIBLE STORY OUT LOUD :The Temptation of Jesus

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. **2** He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. **3** The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” **4** But he answered, “It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, **6** saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

7 Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; **9** and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” **10** Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’”

11 Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Lesson:

SAY: The Holy Spirit sent Jesus into the wilderness which is the desert where he fasted for 40 days. What is the desert like? (Hot, sandy, rocky, lonely . . .)

Ask: He did not eat or drink for over one month! At the end of those 40 days how do you think Jesus felt? (HUNGRY and THIRSTY, CRABBY and TIRED . . .)

Tell the Story: Jesus was hungry! Suddenly Satan appeared to Jesus and tried to tempt him. He said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”

Ask: Do you think Jesus had the power to make the stone become bread? (YES!) If you were in Jesus’ place what would you have done? (Let children answer)

Read Matthew 4:4 “Jesus answered, ‘It is written: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Say: Instead of giving into the temptation to turn the stones into bread, Jesus remembered what God’s Word says. We need God more than we need anything else in the world because it’s God Himself who feeds us. **Jesus faced temptation but did not sin.**

Tell the Story: Satan wasn’t finished with Jesus! Next he took Jesus to Jerusalem and had him stand at the very top of the temple. Satan said that if Jesus was truly the Son of God he could jump from the top of the temple and wouldn’t be hurt. “God will take care of you.” Satan told him. “It even says in God’s Word that God will send angels to take care of you. They will lift up your hands and you won’t even hit your foot on a stone.”

Say: Now Satan was using the Bible, too! He was tempting Jesus to test God’s protection.

Read Matthew 4:7 “Jesus answered him, ‘It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” **Jesus faced temptation but did not sin.**

Tell the Story: You would think by this time Satan would just give up, but he still wasn’t finished trying to get Jesus to sin. This time Satan took Jesus up to a high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world. “Look at all this!” Satan said. “All of this will be yours if you would only bow down and worship me!”

Read Matthew 4:10 “Jesus said to him, ‘Away from me, Satan! For it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’ Do you remember which commandment this is? (The first one!)

Tell the Story: For a third time Jesus used the Bible to Satan, reminding him of the truth of God’s Word. **Jesus faced temptation but did not sin.**

Pray Dear God thank you for Your Word and what a powerful weapon it is as we fight against temptation. Thank you for showing us how **Jesus faced temptation but did not sin**. We praise you for your amazing grace in our lives and for loving us so much that you would send your only Son to die for our sins. Amen.

Lesson Review Questions to send to mvahanian@stgeorgenewnan.org

- **What was the main point of the story?** (Jesus faced temptation but did not sin.)
- **Where was Jesus when he was tempted?** (The wilderness, the desert)
- **What did Jesus do for 40 days and 40 nights?** (Fasted – not eat or drink and he prayed)
- **What is something you learned about Jesus from this story?**