

Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

LESSON TITLE: Jesus is Tempted

**THEME: God's Word in our heart keeps us
from sinning.**



SCRIPTURE: Matthew 4:1-11

Dear Parents...

Welcome to Bible Time for Kids! Bible Time for Kids is a series of daily devotions (five per week) for children and their families through which we hope to reinforce Sunday's lesson, provide ideas for the application of God's Word, and encourage your children to develop a daily devotional life. Since the age of your child will affect how they respond to the content, we suggest you make them age appropriate by adding your own ideas.

In the lesson this week, we learned about the time when **Jesus was tempted** by Satan (**Matthew 4:1-11**). We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. We learned that Jesus went through temptations just like we do. Satan is our enemy. He desires to destroy us. He lies to us and tempts us to do wrong in order to turn us away from God. But, Jesus has defeated our enemy, Satan, and He is there to help us to resist him when we are tempted to sin.

When Jesus resisted the temptation of Satan, He used God's Word all three times. Our theme was: **God's Word in our hearts keeps us from sinning**. If Jesus used God's Word, how much more should we turn to God's Word to help us when we are tempted. We will see more this week in our devotions about how we need to look to God's Word for help in times of temptation

We hope you and your family will be blessed as you study God's Word together.

The Big Liar

Text: Genesis 3:4 - "And the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die."

Also read Genesis 3:1-5

Has anyone ever lied to you before? It really makes you feel bad when you find out that you have been lied to. Eve was lied to. You've probably heard the story. Satan tempted Eve to sin by telling her lies through a serpent. Just how did Satan trick Eve and ultimately bring such sorrow to her and all of mankind? He lied in three ways.

First, Satan tempted Eve to question God's Word. When the serpent came to Eve, he said, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?'" Satan will try to get us to question God's Word. He'll ask, "Did God really mean what He said in the Bible?" or "Can you really trust the Word of God?" In Matthew 24:35 we read, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away." God's Word will stand forever as truth.

Second, Satan sought to deceive Eve into thinking that her sin would not hurt her: "You will not surely die" (Genesis 3:4). And yet, because of her sin and the sin of Adam, she and ultimately all of mankind, became separated from God. Satan tries to tell us that our sin will not hurt us. Third, Satan sought to convince Eve that God was unfair, that He was withholding a good and pleasurable experience: "For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." Satan will try to convince us that disobeying God would be a good thing for us. He will try to convince us that we are missing out on something if we do not give in to sin.

The next time that you are tempted to do something wrong, do not listen to the lies of the enemy. In James 4:7, we are told, "...submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." *Submit* means to yield to God's control and authority over you. *Resist* means to stand firm against somebody, refusing to give in. If you are yielding to God's control, relying on His help, and armed with God's truth in the Bible, you will be able to resist the attacks of the devil. We are promised that when we submit to God and resist the devil, he will flee (run away from us)!

- What lies did Satan tell to Eve? Does he try to tell these same lies to us?
- What should we do when the enemy tries to lie to us?
- Can knowing more of God's Word help us to defeat the enemy?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Tempt: To try to make a person want to sin.

Looking Out For the Big Three!

Text: Genesis 3:6 - "So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate."

Also read 1 John 2:15-17

When it comes to temptation, Satan's lies aren't the only thing that we need to watch out for. 1 John 2:15-17 gives us a strong warning that we need to watch out for the desires of our flesh, the desires of our eyes, and the pride of life. These three things can cause us big problems. Sometimes, we might sin because we don't feel like doing what is right. Maybe one day you don't "feel" like doing your assigned chores. To not do them would be to yield to the desire of your flesh. Other times, you may be tempted by the desire of your eyes. You may have been told to stay away from a plate of cookies sitting on the kitchen shelf, but seeing them there and, perhaps, knowing that no one will notice that one is taken, presents temptation for you. Still other times, the pride of life may cause you to stumble and fall to temptation. The pride of life has kicked in if you feel a sense of satisfaction when you are bossy or look down on your little brother who does not know all that you do and has not been trusted with as much responsibility.

These three things are what got Eve into trouble when she disobeyed God (Genesis 3:6). The Bible says she knew that the fruit was "good to eat" (desire of the flesh), it was "pleasant to her eyes" (desire of the eyes), and it was "desirable to make one wise" (pride of life—she wanted to be like God). So, being tempted—drawn away by her own desires, as well as encouraged by the lies of the enemy—she took of the fruit and sinned.

We can learn from Eve's mistake. The desires of the flesh, and the desires of the eyes, and the pride of life are part of our sinful nature and will be an enemy to face as long as we remain in this body, but God has made victory available to us through faith in Jesus Christ. When Jesus died on the cross for our sins, we (that is our old sinful nature) died, too (Romans 6). Because Jesus rose, we can now live a new life controlled by the Spirit, no longer ruled by the sinful desires of the flesh. Sin no longer need be a master over us. We can make the choice to yield to the Spirit and, by faith, walk in the power and victory made available to us at the cross of Jesus Christ. By His strength, we can do our chores when we don't feel like it, not take cookies without permission, and even to be nice to our little brother. We will always be tempted to sin, but we need not give into it. We can have victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

- What are three big ways our old, sinful nature can cause us to stumble?
- How has God made victory over our sinful nature available to us?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Flesh: The body with its strong desires which oppose God (our sinful nature.).

Desire: To want something very strongly.

Day three

Jesus Understands

Text: Hebrews 4:15 - "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin."

Also read Hebrews 2:18

Have you ever known someone who got really sick? Maybe they had to stay in bed and couldn't play with their friends or go outside. How did you feel for that person? You probably "sympathized" with them. Sympathy means that you feel bad for someone else because they are hurting in some way.

The Bible says that Jesus can sympathize with our weaknesses. Even though Jesus was God, He came to this Earth as a man. Because He was a man, He knows what it is like to be a man. He knows what it is like to be tempted. Three different times Satan came to Jesus and tried to get Him to sin. Jesus never gave in to Satan or his tricks. When He was tempted, He fought back answering the lies and temptations of Satan with the Word of God.

Though as Christians, our lives now belong to God, we will still have temptations to sin (to do wrong). Jesus understands our weakness and knows those areas in which we might make mistakes or fail. Not only does He understand, in Hebrews 2:18 we read: "For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted." Jesus will uphold us in the midst of temptation and will not allow us to be tempted above that which we are able to endure (1 Corinthians 10:13).

Jesus was victorious over temptation by standing firmly on God's Word. As our model, He showed us the lies of Satan, our enemy, can be overcome as we, too, can stand firmly upon the Word of God when faced with temptation.

- Think about a time when you "sympathized" for someone else, maybe a family member or friend. Describe what that was like.
- How does it help you to know that Jesus understands your weaknesses?
- How did Jesus combat the lies of Satan? How can we combat the lies of Satan?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Sympathize: Being able to understand what someone else is going through.

More Than I Can Take!

Text: James 4:7 - "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."

Also read 1 Corinthians 10:13

Jared always struggled with his spelling. On examination day he was stumped by many difficult words. Softly the tempter whispered, "Look at Jane's paper; she's an honor student and always gets them right!" Jared heeded the suggestion and copied several answers. The teacher noticed his actions and was greatly surprised, for she had always thought of him as an honest boy. When it came time to collect the completed work, she observed that Jared was struggling inside. After bowing his head for a moment, he suddenly tore up his paper. Although at first he had given in to temptation, he finally decided to take a zero rather than be dishonest. Calling Jared to her desk, the teacher said, "I was watching you, Jared, and I want you to know that I'm very proud of you for what you did just now. Today, you really passed a much greater test than your spelling test!"

Sometimes, temptation can be very strong. But if we trust in the Lord, He will deliver us out of temptation. You have fallen for a lie of Satan if you feel you "have to give in." The Bible says that God will not allow us to be tempted more than what He knows that we can handle and will always provide a way of escape (1 Corinthians 10:13).

When faced with temptation, submit (yield) yourself to God and resist the enemy, even if it means taking a very bold action like Jared did or running away from a temptation that seems too strong to handle. You are promised as you do, the enemy will flee from you. We serve an awesome God who loves us and will not leave us alone when we are tempted but will always provide a way of escape.

- Describe the "greater test" that Jared's teacher told him that he passed?
- Will God ever allow us to be tempted above what we can handle?
- When faced with temptation, what can we do that will make the enemy flee from us?

Kid's Bible Challenge



The next time that you are tempted to do anything that goes against God's Word, stop, ask God to deliver you, submit yourself to Him, and resist the temptation. See what happens when you put your trust in the Lord!

Memory Madness!

Text: Psalm 119:11 - "Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You."

Also read Psalm 119:9-16

"What's the memory verse?! I have to find my workbook! It's almost time for Bible Club to start!" Joel moaned as he searched his room frantically. He knew that it was almost time for Calvary Kids' Bible Club, and he had not worked on his memory verse all week long. Now, he was going to have to memorize it quickly so that he would not lose any points. "What's all of the commotion in here?" Mom asked. "I have to find my workbook, which has my memory verse for Kids' Club." Joel was looking under his pillow and in his toy box. "What did I do with that workbook?" Joel asked out loud.

Mom left the room and returned a few moments later with the workbook in hand. "Is this what you are looking for?" Joel's eyes lit up and he shouted "Yes! Where did you find it?" "It was right where you left it last Wednesday night, the back seat of our car," Mom said. "Oh yeah," Joel responded. "I guess I forgot to bring it in."

Mom sat down next to Joel as his breathing started to return to normal, and he started to calm down. "Why do you suppose that we memorize scripture each week?" "To get a patch!" Joel quickly replied. "Well, it's not just to get a patch. Memorizing the Word helps us not to sin. It's how Jesus fought temptation when He was tempted by the Devil in the wilderness. Memorizing Bible verses is very important so that we can make the right choices whenever the enemy wants us to do wrong." Remember the Psalmist words, "Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You." "Thanks Mom," Joel said, "next week I'll remember to start earlier and work on the verse all week." "What if we learn it together?" Mom said. "Sounds great!" replied Joel.

- What should Joel have done differently?
- Why do we memorize Bible verses?
- Do you have a plan to memorize Bible verses?

Kid's Prayer Time



In the upcoming weeks, remember to continue to hide God's Word in your heart that you might stand strong against temptation. Remember to pray, to submit (yield) to God, and to resist the enemy. Remember, Jesus understands your weaknesses and is ready, willing, and able to help you to stand strong against temptation.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

“Our High Priest is able to understand our weaknesses because He was tempted as we are, but did not sin.”

Third Grade and Above

“For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.”

Hebrews 4:15