



Elementary

“The Gospel Project”

Jesus’ Temptation

April 19, 2020

Unit Key Passage: *“He must increase, but I must decrease.” John 3:30 (CSB)*

Bible Passage: Matthew 4; Mark 1; Luke 4

Main Point: Jesus was tempted and never sinned.

Big Picture Question: *Why did Jesus become human? Jesus became human to obey His Father’s plan and rescue sinners.*

1 Getting Started

All Team Members: Make sure you have a name tag on! Welcome and introduce kids to one another.

2 Main Session Teaching

Supplies:

- ❖ **Bible story pictures-** (We are just referencing a few of the stories to review)
 - Jesus’ crucifixion
 - Jesus in the wilderness

- ❖ **Other templates-**
 - **Key passage:** John 3:30
 - **Main Point:** Jesus was tempted and never sinned.
 - **Big Picture Question/Answer:** *Why did Jesus become human? Jesus became human to obey His Father’s plan and rescue sinners.*

- ❖ **“The Gospel Project” DVD Lesson:** “Jesus’ Temptation”

Review:

- **Say:** Who remembers what we've been learning about recently? Can anyone remember any of those stories? (Take a few answers and then, review these stories below with pictures):
 - Last week, we celebrated Easter Sunday! Jesus had to die on the cross because of our sin. In doing so, He made a way for us to be forgiven if we believe in Him. Three days later, Jesus rose again from the dead proving He was the Son of God!

Today's story:

- **Say:** Have you ever been tempted to do something wrong? Did you do the right thing or the wrong thing? (*Allow kids to respond*) Today, we will learn that Jesus was also tempted to sin after He was baptized. Let's find out how He responded.
- **Play the DVD video story.** (If DVD not available, teach the story using the printed version at the end of this curriculum)
- **Recap:** (*Show picture of Jesus in the wilderness*) It is not usually sin to make bread, but the devil wanted Jesus to stop obeying God. Jesus was in the wilderness without food because that is what God's Spirit told Jesus to do. If Jesus had chosen to use His power to make stones into bread, He would have been disobeying God. Jesus never used His power to satisfy His human desires. He used His power only to glorify God. Each time Jesus obeyed God, He used a Bible passage to resist the devil's tricks. But did you notice what the devil did the second time he tried to make Jesus sin? The devil tried to twist Scripture to make it seem like something sinful was not sinful. Thankfully, Jesus is more powerful than all the forces of evil. God's plans never fail, and Jesus saw right through the devil's lie. Jesus resisted all three of the devil's attempts. (*Show main point template*) **Jesus was tempted and never sinned.**
- **Christ Connection:** *Jesus was tempted, but He trusted God and never sinned. Jesus is perfect and righteous. A perfect sacrifice was required to take away sin. Jesus was that perfect sacrifice. He died on the cross to free us from sin and to give us the power to say no to temptation.*
- **Big picture question:** (*Say*) (*Show big picture question/answer templates*) Our big picture question is *Why did Jesus become human? Jesus became human to obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.*
- **Review key passage:** (*Show key passage template*): "He must increase, but I must decrease." John 3:30 (CSB)

3 Snack & Life Group

IMPORTANT!!!! Please check each child for a yellow allergy sticker along with referring to the sign-in sheet to be properly informed on children who may have food and other allergies.

Snack: Hot Rolls and Butter—to represent the bread that Jesus was tempted to turn from stones.

As the children enjoy their snack, discuss these Life Group questions with them.

Life Group Questions:

- Why was Jesus in the wilderness? (The Spirit sent Him there to pray, fast, and be tempted by Satan; Mark 1:13; Matt. 4:1-2)
- What did Satan tempt Jesus to do? (turn stones to bread, jump off the temple, and worship Satan to get riches and power; Matt. 4:3,6,9)
- How did Jesus fight against temptation? (Jesus quoted Scripture to remember what is true; Matt. 4:4,7,10)
- Why do we face temptations? (*Guide kids to think about why Satan wants people to sin. Remind them that Satan wants to prevent people from glorifying God and keep Christians from living the way God has commanded us to live. We also have sin natures that desire sin and selfishness. We are tempted when we dwell on sinfulness and when Satan tries to get us to disobey.*)
- **Big picture question:** *Why did Jesus become human? Jesus became human to obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.*
- **Base 5/6-For Further Discussion:**
 - Can we resist temptation? (*Discuss the difference between people who trust in Jesus and people who do not. Help kids see without Jesus, we cannot avoid sin. Remind them, though, that everyone who trusts in Jesus has the Holy Spirit living inside. Christians can use the power of the Spirit and the Word of God to fight temptation and obey God.*)
 - Why is it important to know God's Word? (*Invite kids to discuss the importance of knowing what is true about God and about ourselves. We are often tempted when we believe lies about God or ourselves. Knowing God's Word and treasuring it in our hearts can help us stand up against temptation. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Ps. 119:9-11.)*)
- **Say: Jesus was tempted and never sinned.** When we face temptation, we can resist it through the Holy Spirit's power and the Word of God.

- **Review the Key Verse below with the kids:** *“He must increase, but I must decrease.”*
John 3:30 (CSB)

4 Activities/Games

GAME: Obstacle Course

Supplies: cones or chairs, hula hoops, masking tape or painter’s tape, etc.

Directions: Create a simple obstacle course with items you have available. Arrange cones or chairs for kids to weave through or step over. Position hula hoops for kids to jump into and out of, run around, or crawl through. You may use masking tape to mark a zig zag path or hopscotch pattern on the floor. Before kids begin, demonstrate how to navigate the obstacles. Invite kids to take turns completing the course.

Say: Sometimes obstacles come up in life that try to keep us from following Jesus. The devil is against God and those who love God. The devil might tempt us to sin against God, but Jesus gives us power to resist temptation. Today we are going to hear a Bible story about a time Jesus was tempted.

BASE 5/6 GAME: Practice Resisting

Supplies: Temptation Cards printables

Directions: Form four groups of kids. Give each group a temptation scenario card and give groups a couple of minutes to plan how they will act out the scenario. Call on groups one at a time to act out their scenario. Before the scene resolves, direct the actors to freeze. Lead all of the kids to discuss a right and wrong response. Then let kids act out the response showing a person resisting temptation. Repeat for each scenario.

Say: When Jesus came to earth, He experienced temptation just like we do. **Jesus was tempted and never sinned.**

5 Activity Page

Supplies: one “Just Like Jesus”/“What Would You Do?” activity page per child, pencils or crayons

Directions: Invite kids to complete the “Just Like Jesus”/“What Would You Do?” activity page. Help children to follow the instructions for each activity.

Say: Do you always choose to do what is right? Why or why not? (*Allow kids to share*) In our Bible story today, Jesus was tempted to sin, and yet He did not sin. To *tempt* someone is to try to get him or her to make a wrong choice or do something that is wrong. Jesus never sinned.

6 Journal Page & Dismissal

**Kids will complete the journal page for this lesson in their New Song Nashville Life Groups in homes this week.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING THE KING'S KIDS TODAY!

Main Session Teaching: (Use if DVD is not available)

After Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit led Him into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. Jesus did not eat for 40 days and 40 nights. He prayed and thought about God's plan for His life. *(Show picture of Jesus in the wilderness)*

Then the devil, who tempts people to sin, who tempts people to sin, came up to Jesus. He said, "If You are really God's Son, prove it. Tell those stones to become bread."

If Jesus used His power to turn the stones into bread, He could eat them so He wouldn't be hungry anymore. But Jesus refused. Instead of using His own power, Jesus chose to trust God to meet His needs. Jesus said, "God's Word says that man must not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."

The devil tempted Jesus again. He took Jesus to the top of the temple in Jerusalem and said, "If You are really God's Son, prove it. Jump off this temple and trust God to protect You." The devil even said: "God's Word says that God will order His angels to keep You safe, and they will protect You so that You will not even strike your foot against a stone."

The devil had used words from Scripture, but Jesus knew the devil's command was foolish. Jesus reminded him, "God's Word also says, do not test the Lord your God."

Finally, the devil took Jesus to a high mountain. He showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and how great they were. The devil said to Jesus, "I will give You all the riches and power of these kingdoms. They belong to me, and I can give them to anyone I want. If You want them, all You have to do is fall down and worship me."

Jesus resisted temptation again. He replied, "Go away, Satan! God's Word says: Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only."

The devil left Jesus, and angels came right away to serve Jesus. Throughout all these temptations, Jesus never sinned. *(Show main point template)* **Jesus was tempted and never sinned.**