

Jesus is Tempted

Mark 1:12-13; Matthew 4:1-11;
Luke 4:1-13





After John baptized Jesus, the Holy Spirit led Jesus further into the desert.

There he spent time praying and fasting. He talked with His Father about what to do next and what their plans were.

But Satan was watching and waiting for a chance. He wanted Jesus to fail. He didn't want Jesus to rescue us. The whole time Jesus prayed and fasted, Satan tried to trip Jesus up.

After Jesus had prayed and fasted for 40 days Satan saw his chance.



Satan appeared to Jesus and said, “It’s been so long since you’ve eaten. Have you thought about turning these stones into bread? Imagine eating fresh from the oven bread with a crunchy crust. Smell the yeast of the bread.”

Jesus shook his head, “It says in God’s Word, ‘Man does not live by bread alone, but by God’s word.’”



Satan gnashed his teeth in frustration, then took Jesus to the top of the temple and gestured down, “Are you sure you’re God’s son? Throw yourself off this temple. The Bible says ‘God will send angels to save you.’”

Jesus laughed at this bit of trickery. He knew all of what the Bible said, and that was not what the verse meant. “It also says in Deuteronomy, ‘Do not test God.’ I don’t think I will jump off.”



Satan growled in frustration. “This isn’t working,” he thought. “But wait, I’ve got one last one. This’ll work!”

Finally, he took Jesus to the highest mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world.

“If you bow down and worship me, I will put you in charge of all these nations. No one will question you. You will never suffer. Think about the power!”

Jesus brow lowered as he thought, “For the third time do I answer you and I am done. It is written, ‘Worship only God. Serve only God.’”

Satan left Jesus in an angry huff, plotting and planning.

After Satan left, angels came to Jesus and comforted him.

Questions

Younger Kids

1. What did Jesus do after being baptized? Why do you think he went to the desert to pray?
2. What did Satan try to tempt Jesus with? What do you think Satan would try to tempt you with?
3. How did Jesus answer Satan in each of the tests?

Middle Kids

1. Read Mark 4:13. Was Jesus tempted the whole time? Have you ever been tempted by something for a long time?
2. Read Matthew 4:1 and Luke 4:1. Where did Jesus go? Why do you think he went away? What reasons would you go away from everyone else?
3. Read Matthew 4:10 and 2 Timothy 3:16-17. How does Jesus refute Satan? What other ways can you use the Bible? Did Jesus have to stop and look up the verses?
4. Read Deuteronomy 6:10-15. What commands does God give in those passages? What reason does God give for His commands?

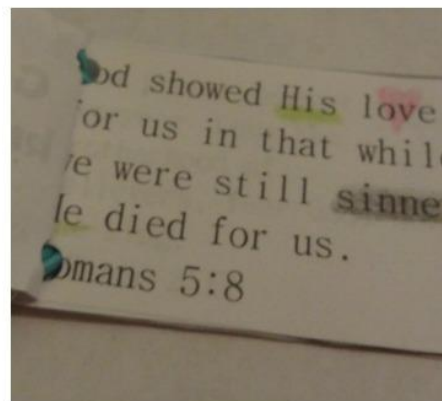
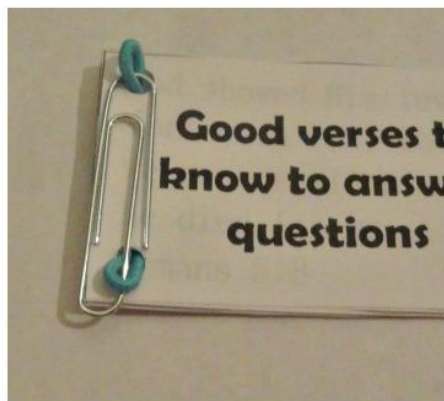
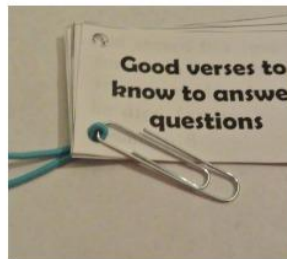
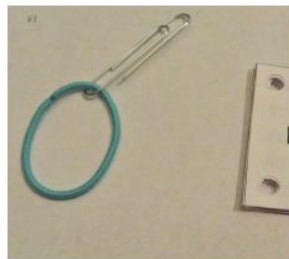
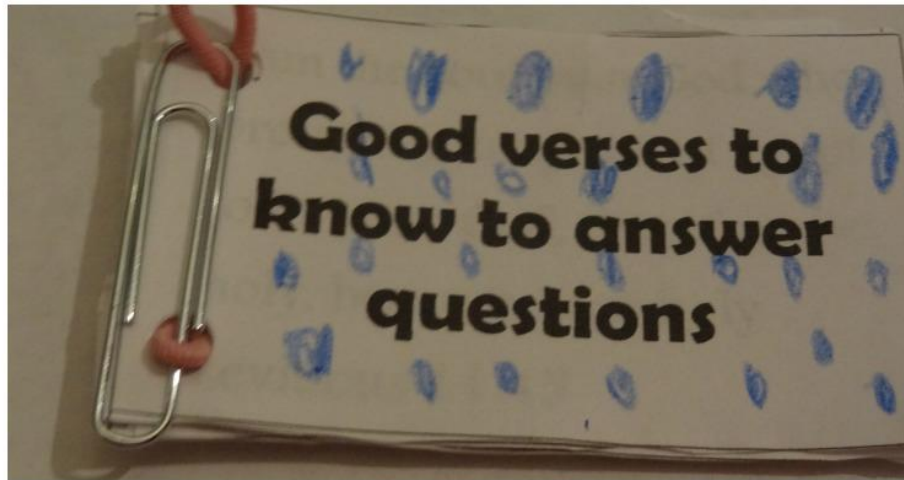
Older Guys

1. Read Matthew 4:6 and Psalms 91:11-12. From those few verses do you think the Psalmist is suggesting you should throw yourself off the cliff? Now read all of Psalms 91. What is the whole context of the Psalm? Can you think of other verses that have been taken out of context to mean a different thing?
2. Read Matthew 4:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13. What differences do you note between these two passages? What order are the temptations in? Why do you think the different authors had a different order? What was the point in that?
3. Read Deuteronomy 6. What is God telling Israel to do? What other commands do you see in this chapter? Why do you think Jesus chose this chapter to quote from?
4. Read Luke 4:3. What is Satan implying? Read John 8:44. Do the people talking in that verse recognize who Jesus is? How do you think Jesus felt being compared to Satan?

Activities

1. Put together a memory verse book to help you memorize verses and quote them like Jesus did.

Supplies: printable, hole punch, paper clip, rubber band or hair tie



2. Talk through what are other ways you can resist temptation? How did Joseph resist temptation? How did Daniel resist temptation?
3. Go for a walk in a park or somewhere by yourself for a time. Spend time talking to God and finding out what you should be doing. This is a good idea for everyone to stop and do from time to time, not just kids.
4. Jesus fasted from food for 40 days to focus on praying. What can you stop doing for a week to focus on God?

Online

1. Jesus is tempted worksheet-
<http://kidsbibledebjackson.blogspot.com/2012/10/jesus-is-tempted.html>
2. Coloring page and crossword puzzle-
<http://www.littletaka.com/2010/02/19/christian-kids-activities-the-temptation-of-jesus/>
3. Resisting temptation object lesson-
http://www.sermons4kids.com/resisting_temptation.htm

Good verses to know to answer questions

For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only son that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16

I am the Lord your God who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God, therefore be holy, because I am holy
Leviticus 11:45

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
Romans 3:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life with Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 6:23

God showed His love for us in that while we were still sinners He died for us.
Romans 5:8

If we confess our sins God is faithful and just and forgives us of all unrighteousness.
1 John 1:9

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
Ephesians 2:10

All the runners run, but only one gets the prize, run in such a way to get the prize.
1 Corinthians 9:24

A new command I give to you: Love one another.
John 13:34

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
Genesis 1:1

All scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:16-17

Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.
1 Peter 2:17

Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.
James 1:12