

Baptism and Temptation

Jesus' Beginnings
Lesson 2

Lesson Objectives

- The students will describe John the Baptist's relationship with Jesus.
- The students will identify the events before and after Jesus' baptism.
- The students will state one way that following the Bible will help them resist temptation.

Lesson Text

Matthew 3-4

Scripture Memory Verse

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:17

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Signs of the Times

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: Before and After

Craft: Big Shoes

Scripture Memory: Pennies from Heaven

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



Baptism and Temptation

Signs of the Times

The students will preview today's lesson as they make signs to use during the Bible Story.

Materials

For each student:

- 3 craft sticks
- crayons and markers
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- scissors
- invisible tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each student

Preparation

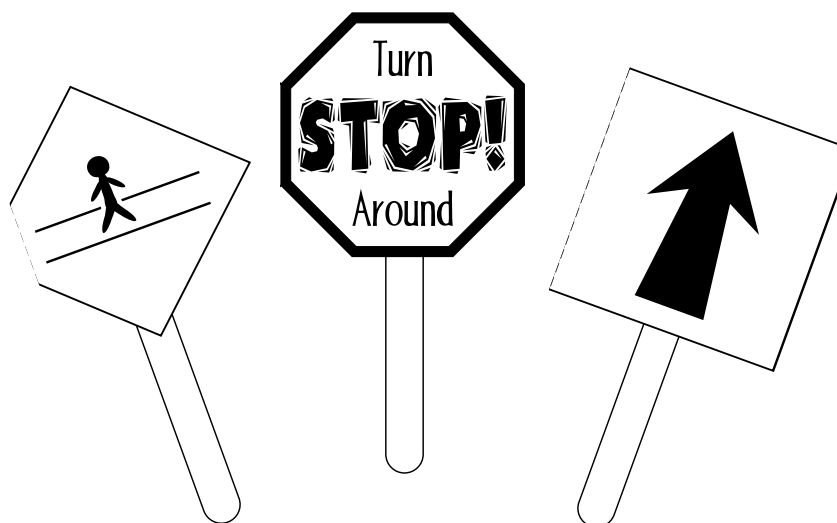
1. Cut out the signs from the copies of Reproducible Page A.
2. Make a sample set of signs to show the students.

Instructions

1. Greet the students as they arrive. Tell them that they will be learning about how John the Baptist came to prepare the people for Jesus. Show them the samples you made. Explain that each sign stands for one of John the Baptist's messages from today's Bible Story.
2. Encourage the students to work with a partner. Distribute the signs you prepared and crayons and have them color their signs.
3. When they are finished, distribute the craft sticks and glue sticks. Have the students fold and glue their signs to the craft sticks.
4. Circulate among the students to offer help and encouragement. Have the students write their names on the backs of their signs.
5. For students who finish early, encourage them to make an extra set of signs for students who arrive later.

Teacher Tips

- Bring in samples or pictures of popular traffic or directional signs to show the students.
- Reinforce the signs with invisible tape, if necessary.



Baptism and Temptation

Before and After

The students will participate in this Bible Story about the amazing events that surrounded Jesus' baptism.

Materials

For the teacher:

- 11 medium brown paper bags
- black marker
- leather belt
- jar of honey
- piece of fruit
- a toy dove
- a few medium size stones
- a toy angel
- a candle or cake topper with the number "40"

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher

NOTE: If possible, cut out each picture and enlarge.

Preparation

1. Neatly label the brown paper bags from 1 to 11 using the black marker. Write large numbers.
2. Cut out the four scenes from your copy of Reproducible Page B. Place the items from the list above in the bags using the chart on the back of this Lesson Card. Fold the tops down so that the students cannot see what is inside.
3. Practice presenting this Bible Story using the props.

Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Matthew 3. Tell the students that this week's Bible Story comes from Matthew 3 and 4, and have them open their Bibles there. *In our last lesson, you learned about the amazing ways that God protected Jesus when he was just a baby and small child. Jesus went to the temple in Jerusalem to worship God with his family. Jesus grew up loving and obeying God and his parents.*

When Jesus was a young man, about the age of thirty, he prepared to go out and teach the people about God. But before he started his ministry, some very important things had to happen. Can you think of some things that happened to Jesus before he started to teach the people? (Take responses.) One very important thing

that Jesus had to do was be baptized. In our lesson today, you will learn about the amazing things that happened to Jesus before and after he was baptized.

Presenting the Bible Story

Seat the students in a circle. Bring out the bags that you prepared and place them in the center of the circle. Tell the students that each bag has something to help them better understand the events of today's Bible Story.

John the Baptist was a relative of Jesus. He came to tell people to repent—or change their lives—to prepare for the kingdom of God. John knew that Jesus was the Son of God and he came to prepare the people for him. Remind the students to think of the signs they made in Preclass. Explain that these signs told the message of John the Baptist to the people of his time.

- *What would you do to prepare for the arrival of a very important person such as the President or a King? (Answers should include: put out a red carpet; line the street with flowers; clean it up, etc.)* Choose students to open Bags #1, #2, and #3 and remove their contents. Ask the students how they think a leather belt, honey, and fruit relate to this story. Continue the story.

In Matthew 3:4-6, the Bible says:

John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

John told the people and their leaders that they should show the change in their lives by producing "fruits" of repentance. That did not mean fruit that you eat, but rather they did things that showed they were different.

- *If Jesus came to our class next week, what would you want to change—or repent of—in your life before he came? (Responses may include: lying; talking back to parents; laziness; not reading the Bible or praying; etc.)*

Choose students to open Bags #4 and #5 and remove their contents. Ask the students to put the pictures in order.

Baptism and Temptation

John the Baptist came preaching and teaching. He also baptized people when they had repented. Then Jesus came and told John that he needed to be baptized, too. John did not think that he deserved to baptize Jesus—but Jesus insisted. Jesus knew that it was God's plan for him to be baptized.

Choose students to open Bags #6 and #7 and remove their contents. Ask the students how they think a dove and the number forty relate to this story.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry (Matthew 3:16-4:2).

The Holy Spirit came down on Jesus like a dove and God spoke so that the people would know how much God loved Jesus. Jesus went into the desert to fast for forty days and nights. Then Satan came to tempt him.

Choose students to open Bags #8, #9, and #10 and remove their contents. Ask the students how they think the stones and pictures relate to this story.

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God'" (Matthew 4:1-4).

Jesus resisted the devil's temptations by remembering God's words.

Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down..." (Matthew 4:5-6)

The devil reminded Jesus that God had always promised to rescue Jesus, so he tried to trick Jesus by using God's words in the wrong way. But Jesus knew better.

Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only'" (Matthew 4:7-10).

Each time that the devil came to Jesus to tempt him, Jesus responded with the Scripture—the words of God. Jesus knew that the devil had no power over God's words.

Choose students to open Bag #11 and remove its contents. Ask the students how they think this angel relates to this story. Then tell the students: "Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him" (Matthew 4:11).

Sharing with Others

Ask the students to briefly review with you the events that came before and after Jesus' baptism. Ask the students what they think was the most difficult temptation for Jesus to resist. Tell the students that Jesus teaches us that we can resist—or fight—the temptation to sin if we remember and use God's words in the Bible. Ask the students if they know someone who needs help resisting temptation. Encourage the students to share this story with them. Close with a prayer for the students to use the Bible to help them not to sin.

Teacher Tips

- Enhance the props in whatever way you can.

Bag#	Item to place inside:
1	Leather belt
2	Jar of Honey
3	Piece of fruit
4	Scene #1 from Reproducible Page B
5	Scene #2 from Reproducible Page B
6	Dove
7	The number "40"
8	Stones
9	Scene #3 from Reproducible Page B
10	Scene #4 from Reproducible Page B
11	Angel



3rd and 4th Grades

Baptism and Temptation

Big Shoes

The students will make a craft that reminds them of John the Baptist's relationship with Jesus.

Materials

For each student:

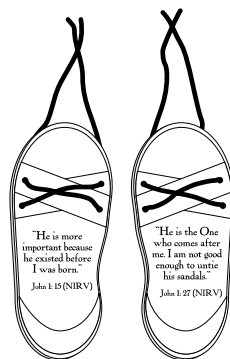
- 1 piece of poster board, 8" x 10"
- glue stick
- 2 pieces of string or yarn, 24"
- crayons or markers

For the teacher:

- 1 pair of shoelaces
- hole punch
- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for each student



Preparation

1. Cut out the sandals from the copies of Reproducible Page C.
2. For each student, trace the sandals on the poster board and cut out.
3. Make a sample craft to show the students.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your lesson this week, you are learning about the events that took place before and after the baptism of Jesus. Before Jesus was baptized, John the Baptist came teaching and preaching about the kingdom of God and preparing people for Jesus. Jesus and John the Baptist had a very special relationship. John knew that Jesus was the Son of God.*
2. Hold up the shoelaces you brought and ask the children to try and guess to whom they belong. *What would you think if I told you these were the shoelaces of the President? (Or fill in the name of a celebrity or sports figure.) What would you think if I told you they were the laces of Jesus? In your craft today, you will make a craft to remind you of how John the Baptist felt about Jesus.*

3. Show the students the sample craft you made and read the text. Explain that John told the people that even though Jesus came after John had begun to preach, Jesus had been alive with God for a long time before even Abraham—from the Old Testament. Ask the students if they remember their Bible Story from the Old Testament in which Jesus had been interviewed about creation. Explain that Jesus and God are one and have been together from the beginning of time! John the Baptist knew that Jesus had been alive forever. John did not feel like he deserved to even tie Jesus' shoes!
4. Distribute the sandals and pieces of poster board you prepared, glue sticks and crayons. Have the students color in their sandals and glue them to the poster board. Circulate among the students to punch two holes on both sides of the sandals, as shown in Figure A.
5. Distribute the yarn and tell the students to thread the sandals, as shown in Figure B.
6. Make sure the students write their names on the backs of their crafts.

Conclusion

Ask each student to say the name of the most important person in the world. (Take responses.) Tell them that John the Baptist believed that Jesus was the most important person in the world and that he did not even deserve to tie his shoes! Close with a prayer for the students to realize how powerful Jesus was—and still is today!

Teacher Tips

- For sturdier, more "realistic" looking sandals: reproduce Page C on parchment or tan paper; use leather-looking laces instead of yarn and vinyl or imitation leather instead of poster board.
- Budget plenty of time to cut out the sandals and poster board. To save time, glue the sandals to the poster board ahead of time and punch the holes.

Baptism and Temptation

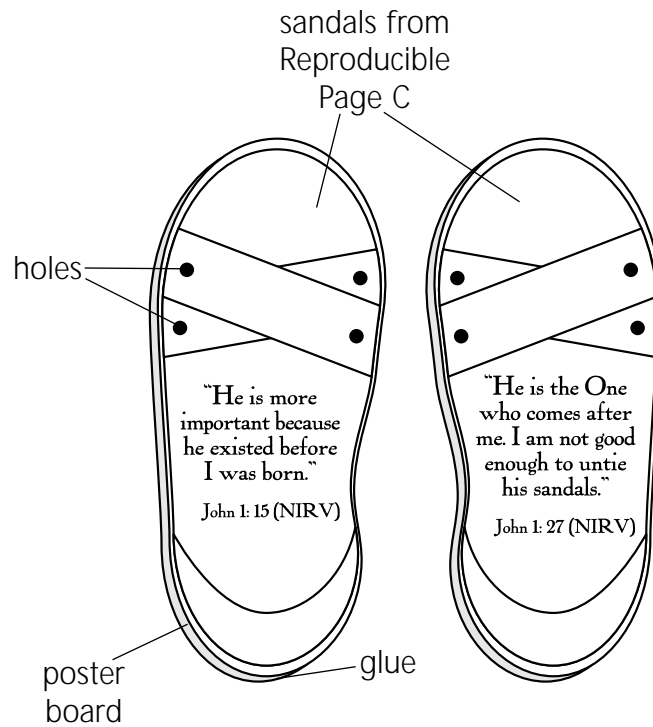


Figure A

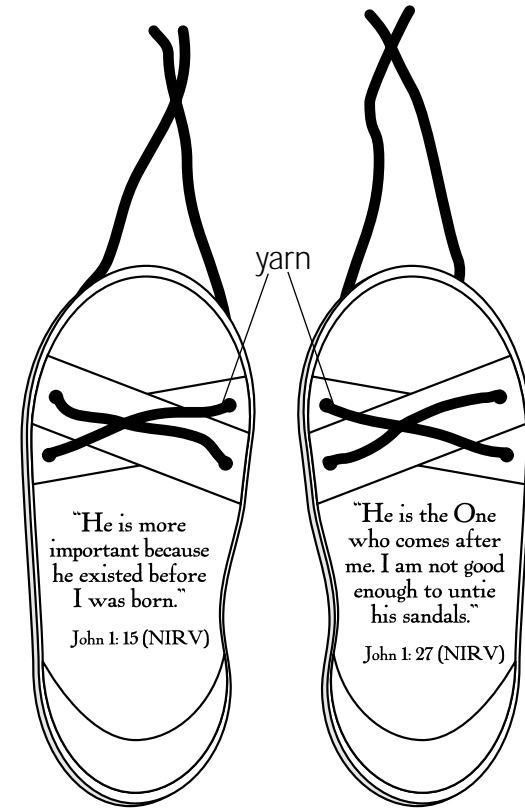


Figure B

Baptism and Temptation

Pennies from Heaven

The students will learn and memorize today's Scripture Memory Verse through this fun activity.

Scripture Memory Verse

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:17

Materials

For the teacher:

- 20 index cards, 3" x 5"
- 20 pennies
- 1 piece of poster board, 22" x 28"
- marker

Preparation

1. Neatly print each word from the Scripture Memory Verse on a different index card. Write the reference on the last card.
2. Draw a horizontal grid by filling the poster board with five columns and four rows. The index cards will be placed in these spaces.
3. Practice leading this activity ahead of time.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your lesson today, you are learning about the amazing events that took place before and after Jesus' baptism. Not only did John the Baptist come to prepare the people before Jesus was baptized, but God spoke to the people after Jesus was baptized! The Bible says that there was a voice from heaven. In your Scripture Memory Verse this week, you are going to learn whose voice it was and what it said.*
2. Show the students the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card. Say it to them three times as they follow along. Ask them to say it together with you three more times. Ask the boys to stand and say it together with you. Ask the girls to stand and say it together with you.
3. Tell the children that the voice from heaven was God's. Explain that God wanted the people to know that Jesus was his Son. God wanted the people to know that he loved Jesus and that Jesus made him happy! Tell the students that they will say

today's memory verse in different voices to help them learn it. Lead the students in saying the Scripture Memory Verse using the following voices: loud (but not shouting), soft, whisper, high-pitched, low-pitched, singing, monotone.

4. Divide the students into two groups. Show them the index cards you prepared. Explain that each card has one word of the verse written on it. Using the poster board, give each group a turn to take the cards and place them in the correct order from memory. Explain that the groups will take turns putting the cards in order from memory as the cards are gradually taken away.
5. Give the first group one penny and remove one card from the index cards. Mix up the cards and distribute them to the students. Have them put the cards in order, placing the penny where the missing card belongs. Have the group say the verse together. Remove the cards, but leave the penny on the poster board.
6. Give the second group two pennies and remove two more cards. Have this group place the cards in order, placing the pennies where the three missing cards belong. Remove the cards, but leave the three pennies on the poster board.
7. Give the first group three more pennies and remove three more cards so that there are now six cards missing. Have the students place the cards in order in the same way as before. Remove the cards, but leave all the pennies on the poster board.
8. Give the second group four more pennies and remove four more cards so that there are now ten cards missing. Have the students place the cards in order in the same way as before, saying the verse from memory. Remove the cards, but leave all the pennies on the poster board.
9. Give the first group five more pennies and remove five more cards so that there are now fifteen cards missing. Have the students repeat Step 8.
10. Give the second group the last five pennies and remove all the cards. Have them say the entire verse from memory, placing the last five pennies in the last five spaces.



3rd and 4th Grades

Baptism and Temptation

Conclusion

Ask the students how it would make them feel to know if God spoke from heaven and said, "This is my son/daughter, he/she makes me very happy." Encourage the children that they can make God happy when they try to be like Jesus. Close with a prayer for the students to want to be like Jesus.

Teacher Tips

- Know your students. If they enjoy competition and are confident in their abilities, bring a timer or stop watch to let them compete for the fastest time in this activity.

And a voice from heaven said,
"This is my Son, whom I love;
with him I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:17



3rd and 4th Grades

Lesson Objectives

- The students will describe John the Baptist's relationship with Jesus.
- The students will identify the events before and after Jesus' baptism.
- The students will state one way that following the Bible will help them resist temptation.

Lesson Text

Matthew 3-4

Scripture Memory Verse

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:17

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Cross the Desert

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: Just Say No!

Game: Tic-Tac-Toe (Me-in-a-Row!)

Bible Skills: Treasure Hunt

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.

Cross the Desert

The students will review key ideas from this week's Bible Story as they complete the crossword puzzle from this activity.

Materials

For each student:

- pencil

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for each student

Preparation

1. Fold the copies of Reproducible Page D on the dashed line so the students won't see the Answer Key.
2. Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page D.

Instructions

1. Greet the students as they arrive. Remind them that they are learning about the events that came before and after Jesus' baptism. Tell them that they will do a crossword puzzle that reviews important ideas from this week's Bible Story.
2. Have the students work with a partner or small group for this activity. Make sure you pair the students who did not hear this week's Bible Story with those who did. Distribute the folded copies of Reproducible Page D and pencils.
3. Circulate among the students to offer help and encouragement.
4. When the students are finished, have them check their answers with the Answer Key on the folded side of their pages.

Teacher Tips

- Encourage the older students to help the younger students in the class.

L i f e A p p l i c a t i o n

Just Say No!

The students will review this week's lesson as they think of ways that the Bible can help them resist temptation.

Materials

For the teacher:

- sunglasses

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Read Matthew 3-4 to review the events of this week's Bible Story.
2. Practice presenting this activity with great energy and personal conviction.

Reviewing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Matthew 4. *In your Bible Story this week, you learned about the things that happened to Jesus before and after his baptism. Before Jesus was baptized, John the Baptist came to prepare the people for Jesus. John told the people that Jesus was sent from God to save the people from their sins. He told the people to change—or repent—and do what pleases God.*

After Jesus was baptized, he was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert. While Jesus was fasting in the desert, the devil—called Satan—came and tempted him. Jesus was in the desert for forty days. Each time the devil tempted him, Jesus resisted the temptation and did not sin! Jesus used God's word to help him resist the temptation. Each time, Jesus told Satan the truth about God. Finally—Jesus told Satan to get away from him.

Life Application: Hands Up!

Tell the students that in the Bible they can learn a lot about resisting temptation. Ask one student to stand in front of you. Hold out your hands and tell the student to press against your hands as if they were trying to push you over. As you resist them, explain that you are using your strength to stop them—or resist them—from pushing you over. Next, let the student feel what happens when you stop resisting. Have the students find a partner and practice doing this.

Explain that temptation is when the devil tries to push a person to fall spiritually. When we are tempted to do the wrong thing, we must use our hearts, minds and strength to resist—or to fight back. Jesus resisted the devil by using the words of God and his own love for God. Today, we can use the Bible and our love for God to resist doing wrong just like Jesus did.

Have the students sit in a circle. Tell the students that you are going to present two situations in which the devil and the Holy Spirit will speak to them. Then they decide the right thing to do.

Using your copy of Reproducible Page E, present both scenarios. When presenting Satan, put on your sunglasses and speak in a sinister voice. When presenting the Holy Spirit, remove the sunglasses and hold your Bible close as you speak sincerely and earnestly to the students. Choose a boy to sit in the middle of the circle for the first scenario, and a girl for the second.

Ask the students to name temptations in their lives, e.g. lying, cheating, stealing, disobedience, disrespect, etc. Ask the students to think of ways that the Bible can help them resist temptation. (Answers should include: memorizing Bible verses; having a time to read and pray each morning before going to school; asking for advice from people who love God before giving in to a temptation; etc.)

Conclusion

Encourage the students for their participation and close with a prayer for the students to use their Bibles to help them resist temptation and stay away from sin.

Teacher Tips

- Be sensitive to new or first time visitors who may not be familiar with what the Bible teaches about the devil.



3rd and 4th Grades

Jesus' Beginnings 11-2-10



Tic-Tac-Toe (Me-in-a-Row!)

The children will review key ideas from this week's Bible Story as they play this game.

Materials

For the students:

- 1 self-sticking name tag

For the teacher:

- very large piece of cardboard, at least 5' x 5'
- heavy black marker
- small container
- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page F, 2 copies for the teacher

Preparation

1. Draw an extra-large "human size" tic-tac-toe board to fill the cardboard. The squares should be over 1 square foot.
2. Cut out the questions from both your copies of Reproducible Page F. Fold them and place in the small container.
3. Practice playing this game.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story this week, you have been learning about the amazing things that took place before and after Jesus' baptism. Before Jesus' baptism, John the Baptist came to prepare the people for Jesus. He told people to repent—or change—because God's kingdom was near! Then after Jesus' baptism, Jesus went into the desert where he fasted—or did not eat—for forty days! While in the desert, Jesus was tempted by the devil three times. Each time, Jesus resisted the temptation with God's words. Jesus loved God more than anything else and he did not sin! In today's game, you will review some very important verses from this week's Bible Story as you play "human tic-tac-toe."*
2. Divide the students into two teams, the "X"s and "O"s. Give each student a name tag and tell them to label it with the name of their team. Line them up on opposite sides of the cardboard. Make sure you mix students who did not hear this week's Bible Story with those who did.

3. Tell the students that they will take turns answering questions. For each student, you will read one question from the container. If a student answers correctly, he may place himself on the tic-tac-toe board in any space he chooses. If he does not answer correctly, play goes to the next team. Encourage the students to work together as a team to help each other with the answers and their position on the board. The game play continues until a team has "three in a row."
4. Play as many rounds as time permits. If necessary, mix up the teams each time.

NOTE: The questions from this game are taken directly from the questions on today's Preclass Activity.

Conclusion

Ask the students what is their favorite part of this week's Bible Story. Encourage them that God helped Jesus resist temptation so that we could, too! Close with a prayer thanking God for sending Jesus to be our perfect example.

Teacher Tips

- Use the questions over and over again. This will help reinforce the students' knowledge, and build their confidence.
- A large appliance box (flattened) is ideal for the size of cardboard needed for this activity.
- If you do not have enough students to play the game this way, play a traditional game of tic-tac-toe with paper and pen. Have the students answer a question correctly before placing their "X" or "O" on the board.



3rd and 4th Grades

Tic-Tac-Toe (Me-in-a-Row!)

Answer Key

G
A
M
E

Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the _____.'" (Matthew 4:7)

- a) test
- b) floor
- c) sky

"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose _____ I am not fit to carry. (Matthew 3:11)

- a) shirt
- b) sandals
- c) bookbag

And a voice from _____ said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17)

- a) the sea
- b) heaven
- c) the radio

After fasting _____ days and _____ nights, he was hungry. (Matthew 4:2)

- a) four
- b) fourteen
- c) forty

Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the _____ River. (Matthew 3:6)

- a) Jordan
- b) Nile
- c) Hudson

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on _____ alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (Matthew 4:4)

- a) money
- b) bread
- c) oxygen

Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: '_____ the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" (Matthew 4:10)

- a) Sing to
- b) Worship
- c) Believe in

The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these _____ to become bread." (Matthew 4:3)

- a) frozen rolls
- b) seeds
- c) stones

John's clothes were made of camel's _____, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. (Matthew 3:4)

- a) blankets
- b) hair
- c) tail

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, "_____, for the kingdom of heaven is near." (Matthew 3:1-2)

- a) Repent
- b) Run away
- c) Read a book

B I B L E S K I L L S

Treasure Hunt

The students will consider how they can use the Bible to help them resist temptation.

Materials

For each student:

- 1 index card, 3" x 5"

For the teacher:

- large writing surface

Preparation

1. On the large writing surface, neatly print: disrespect, lying, laziness, stealing, selfishness, putting others down.
2. On each index card, neatly print each student's name on one side and one of the following Scripture references on the other: Psalm 34:13; Leviticus 19:3; Ephesians 4:28; Hebrews 6:12; Philippians 2:3-4; Romans 12:16.
3. Practice leading this activity with enthusiasm and energy.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your lesson this week, you learned that Jesus used God's word to help him resist the devil. Jesus not only knew the words of God, but he spoke them too. Jesus told Satan to get away from him. God wants us to know and use his words today in the same way Jesus did. In our activity, we are going to look for some verses in the Bible that will help us to say, "No!" to temptation and, "Get away from me!" to the devil.*
2. Direct the students' attention to the large writing surface. Read each word and ask the students which of these they have been tempted to do. Make sure to explain each word so that the students understand. Use the back of this Lesson Card to help you describe and illustrate the temptations. Take a survey of your students to determine the "top" three and number them from 1 to 3.
3. Tell the students that they are going to go on a treasure hunt. Collect all of the students' Bibles. Tell the students to close their eyes. Take each of the index cards you prepared and hide one in each Bible. Have the students open their eyes.

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4. Tell the students that in each Bible is hidden an index card with a student's name and Scripture reference written on it. They must find the card with their name on it and then look up the Scripture written on their card.
5. Once all the students have found their cards and their Bibles, ask them which temptation from the large writing surface would their Scripture help them to resist. (For example: Leviticus 19:3 will help me to not be disrespectful to my parents.)

Conclusion

Ask the students how they think they would feel if they could resist the temptation to be the ways they discussed. Share from your own life how much better it is to live the way God wants, and how much happier and free you can feel. Close with a prayer for the students to use the verse on their card this week to help them resist temptation.

Teacher Tips

- Know your students. If there is a particular issue that needs to be addressed that is not listed here (i.e. pride, cheating, etc), make sure to include it in the temptation list and discussion.



3rd and 4th Grades

Treasure Hunt

Temptation:

Examples:

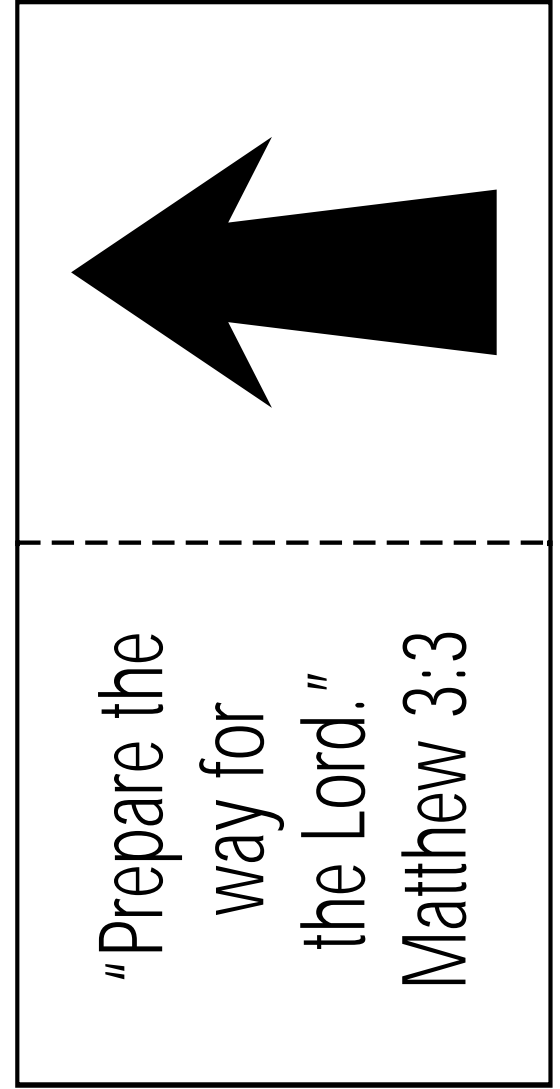
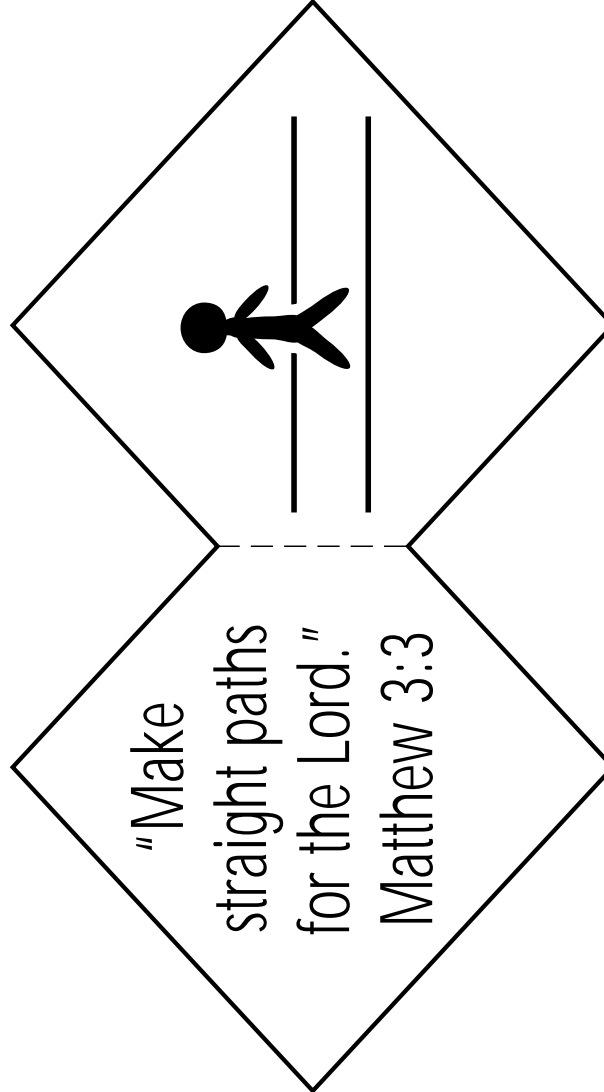
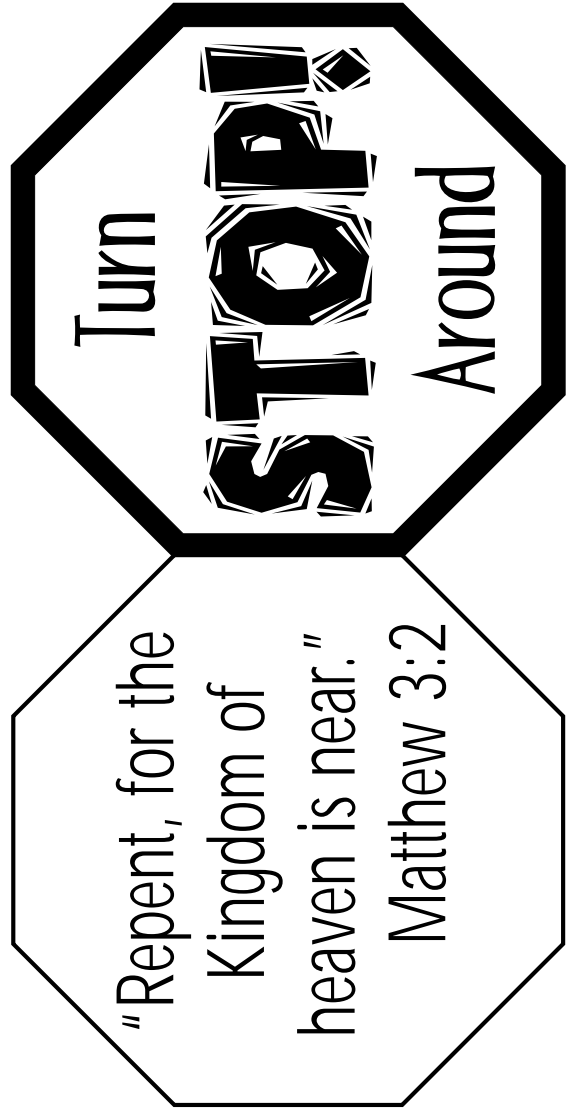
- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Disrespect | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talking back to parents, teachers, or any adult • Rolling eyes and showing bad attitudes • Using bad words; telling dirty jokes |
| Lying | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telling only one part of a situation • Not telling all the details • Telling what will make you look good |
| Laziness..... | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not caring about yourself or others |
| Stealing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • taking something that does not belong to you • cheating • "borrowing" something from someone without asking |
| Selfishness..... | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • only caring about yourself and your needs |
| Putting others down | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • thinking you are better than someone else • talking badly about someone else |



3rd and 4th Grades

Core/Preclass
1 copy for each student

Jesus' Beginnings
Lesson 2



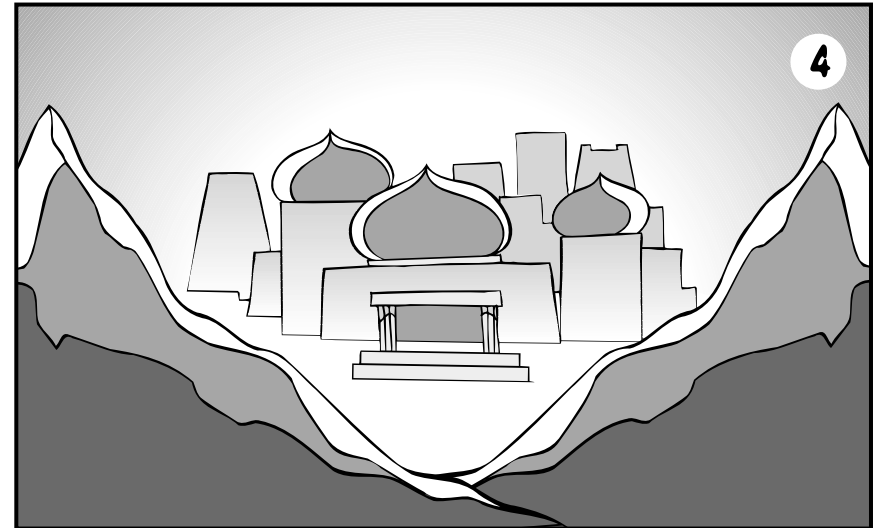
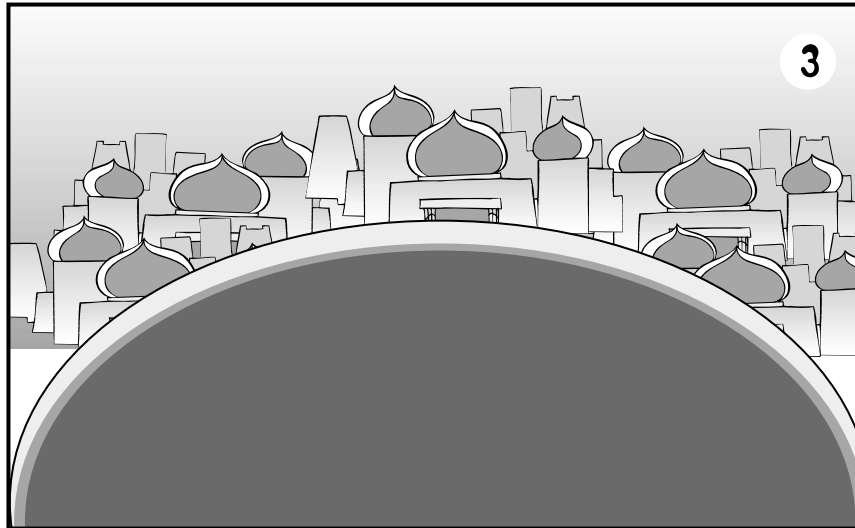
GENERATION
next

3rd and 4th Grades

Core/Bible Story

1 copy for the teacher

Jesus' Beginnings
Lesson 2



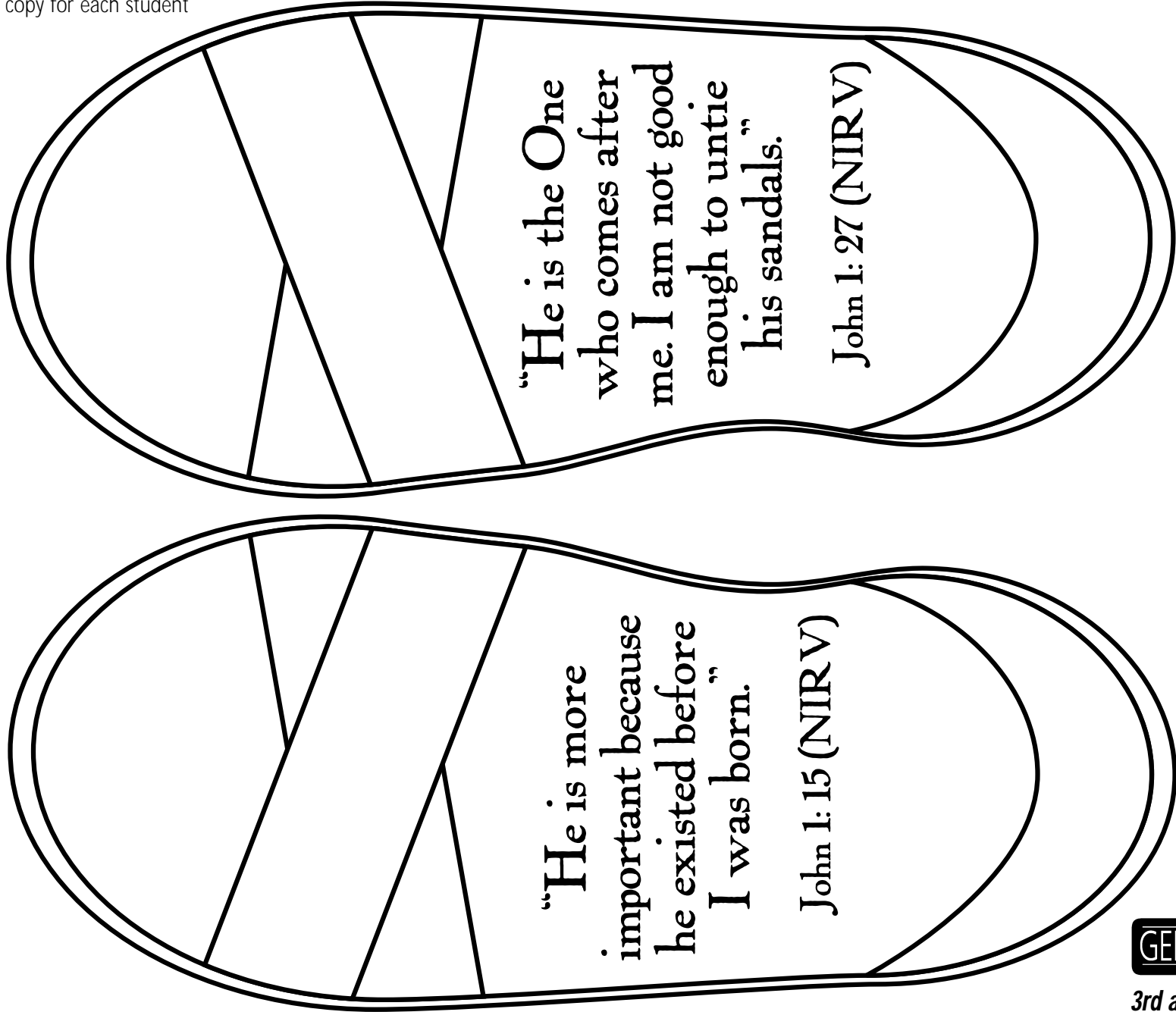
GENERATION
next

3rd and 4th Grades

Jesus' Beginnings 11-2-16

Core/Craft

1 copy for each student

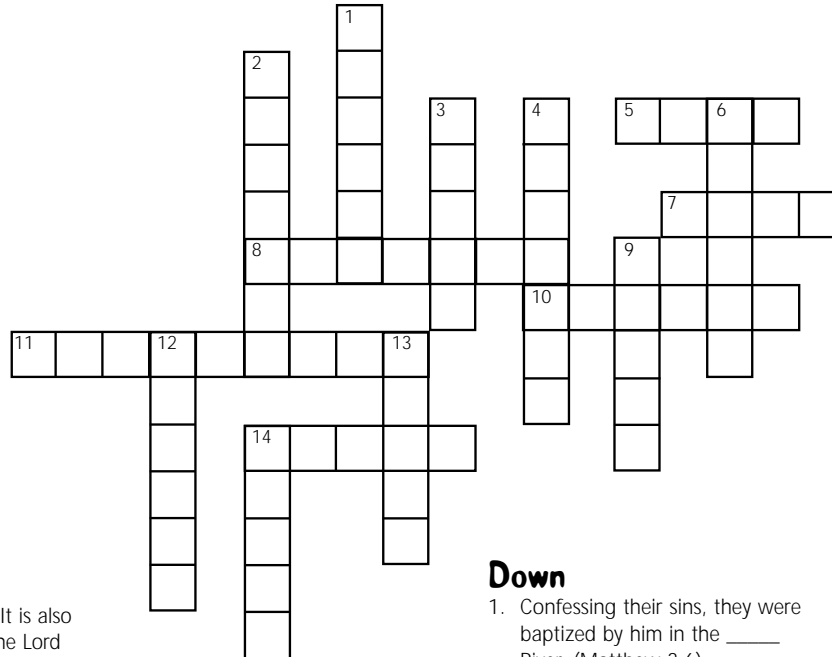


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Cross the Desert

Name _____

Instructions: Use the Scripture references from the clues below to fill in the blank and find the correct answers for the crossword puzzle.



Across

5. Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the ____.'" (Matthew 4:7)
7. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a ____ and lighting on him. (Matthew 3:16)
8. "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose ____ I am not fit to carry. (Matthew 3:11)
10. And a voice from ____ said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17)

11. But when he saw many of the ____ and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?" (Matthew 3:7)
14. After fasting ____ days and ____ nights, he was hungry. (Matthew 4:2)

Down

1. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the ____ River. (Matthew 3:6)
2. John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was ____ and wild honey. (Matthew 3:4)
3. Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on ____ alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (Matthew 4:4)
4. Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: '____ the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" (Matthew 4:10)

6. The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these ____ to become bread." (Matthew 4:3)
9. John's clothes were made of camel's ____, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. (Matthew 3:4)
12. In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, "____, for the kingdom of heaven is near." (Matthew 3:1-2)
13. Jesus said to him, "Away from me, ____! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" (Matthew 4:10)
14. Produce ____ in keeping with repentance. (Matthew 3:8)

Answer Key

Across

5. test
7. dove
8. sandals
10. heaven
11. Pharisees
14. forty

Down

1. Jordan
2. locusts
3. bread
4. Worship
6. stones
9. hair
12. Repent
13. Satan
14. fruit

Supplement/Life Application

1 copy for the teacher

Just Say No!

Do you remember when Jesus was tempted by the devil to turn a stone into bread? Jesus was very hungry, but he remembered that obeying God's word was more important than eating that bread. Think about what Jesus would want you to do in this situation.

SATAN: Do you see that boy eating his after-school snack? His mother just told him not to eat anything else until dinner. But dinner probably won't be ready for an hour. I will tempt him to disobey his mother and take another snack when she leaves the room.

HOLY SPIRIT: God says that the Bible is like food. When you read it, you feed your heart with truth. The Bible says, "Obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." God wants you to obey your parents, even if it seems difficult.

Choices

1. Wait until your mother leaves and then take another snack.
2. Remember how God feels about obedience and do something else until dinner is ready.

Do you remember when Jesus was tempted by the devil on a high mountain? The devil promised to give Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if Jesus would bow down and worship the devil. But Jesus knew that his father was Almighty God—and Jesus would worship God only! Jesus told the devil to get away from him! Think about what Jesus would want you to do in this next situation.

SATAN: Do you see that girl over there? She wants to be the class president. I will tell her that she deserves to be the class president—no matter what it takes. I will tell her that being class president is more important than her friends and her family. I will tempt her to lie and make promises she can't keep so that she will get elected.

HOLY SPIRIT: Almighty God has all the power in the world and the entire universe! Loving and obeying God is the most important thing a person can do. God knows if it would be best for her to be the class president or not. If she is elected, it will not be so that she can look good or feel important. It will be to bring glory to God—to make him look good! The Bible says, "Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." That's how God chooses a leader.

Choices

1. Do your very best to be honest and fair to all the students—even the ones who are competing against you. Ask God to choose the best person to be class president.
2. Make promises to do whatever people want you to do—even if you can't fulfill the promises. Be nice to the people who will vote for you and be mean to everybody else. Talk badly about the other students who want to be elected.



3rd and 4th Grades

Supplement/Game

2 copies for the teacher

<p>Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the _____.'" (Matthew 4:7)</p> <p>a) test b) floor c) sky</p>	<p>Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on _____ alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (Matthew 4:4)</p> <p>a) money b) bread c) oxygen</p>
<p>"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose _____ I am not fit to carry. (Matthew 3:11)</p> <p>a) shirt b) sandals c) bookbag</p>	<p>Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: '_____ the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" (Matthew 4:10)</p> <p>a) Sing to b) Worship c) Believe in</p>
<p>And a voice from _____ said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17)</p> <p>a) the sea b) heaven c) the radio</p>	<p>The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these _____ to become bread." (Matthew 4:3)</p> <p>a) frozen rolls b) seeds c) stones</p>
<p>After fasting _____ days and _____ nights, he was hungry. (Matthew 4:2)</p> <p>a) four b) fourteen c) forty</p>	<p>John's clothes were made of camel's _____, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. (Matthew 3:4)</p> <p>a) blankets b) hair c) tail</p>
<p>Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the _____ River. (Matthew 3:6)</p> <p>a) Jordan b) Nile c) Hudson</p>	<p>In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, "_____, for the kingdom of heaven is near." (Matthew 3:1-2)</p> <p>a) Repent b) Run away c) Read a book</p>