

Week of September 20, 2009

## Lessons for the Leader

What tempts you? How do you respond to temptations? How do you stand up to your temptations? How often do you rely on Scripture to help you face the situations in your life?

- Read Luke 4:1-4. What physical needs do you experience that lead to temptation? In what ways do your physical needs impact the decisions you make? How does your knowledge of God's Word impact your decisions?
- Read Luke 4:5-8. What materialistic need was Satan using to tempt Jesus? What does Satan use to tempt you? How do you deal with his temptations? What about the spiritual temptation in these verses? Satan desired for Jesus to worship him. What lesson can you learn from these verses? Whom do you worship? Do you ever find yourself focusing more on the materialistic aspects of life instead of where God wants your focus to be?
- Read Luke 4:9-12. Satan's third attempt was to test the powers of God. Jesus again quoted Scripture as a response to Satan's desires. Do you ever find yourself testing God? Why? What could you do differently next time?
- Imagine if Jesus had told these events in a parable format. A man was tempted by Satan, but each time the man quoted Scripture and defeated Satan. Do you think it would have the same impact on you as knowing that Jesus Himself was tempted? Jesus was a master of the Scriptures. He knew God's Word and applied it to situations He faced. What about you? How well do you know the Scriptures? In what ways do you apply them to your life? What about the children in your ministry? How can you help the children know and apply what God's Word teaches? Remember, knowing is not enough, you must apply the Word of God.

### What do these symbols mean?

- ➔ **Application Activities Format:** Follow the numbers with arrows for a 30-minute, large group plus 20-minute Application Activities format.
- 1 Follow all the numbers for a 45- to 60-minute large group only format.



## Know the Word

**Focus Passage:** Luke 4:1-13

**Key Bible Verse:** Psalm 119:11

### Life Application

I can know God's Word and apply it to situations I face.

### Level of Biblical Learning (Bible)

The Bible tells me how to live the Christian life.

## Session at a Glance

### Introduction to Worship (6 to 8 minutes)

Greet the Children  
Make Sand Nameplates

### Worship (30 minutes/45 minutes)

Sing "Whoa!"  
Receive the Offering/Pray  
Introduce the Bible Story  
Tell the Bible Story  
Review the Bible Story  
Apply the Bible Story  
Sing "Ancient of Days"  
Learn the Key Bible Verse  
Show "Jamm Fam" Video #2  
Sing "I'm Gonna Bless"  
Review the Life Application  
Pray

### Application Activities (20 minutes)

### Wrap-Up (10 minutes)

# Introduction to Worship

**1** → Greet the Children

**2** → Make Sand Nameplates

## Pull It Together

Sheets of fine sandpaper, crayons, tape, scissors

- Cut each sheet of sandpaper into four strips. You will need one strip for each child.

- Distribute sandpaper and crayons.
- Instruct each child to write his name on the rough side of the strip of sandpaper.
- Guide each child to use a tape loop to attach his nameplate to a focal wall.
- Bring the children's attention to the nameplates. Ask: "Of what does the sand on your nameplates make you think?" Allow several volunteers to respond.
- Say: "The sand makes me think of the desert. Today's Bible story is about someone who had an important meeting in the desert."

## Worship

**3** → Sing "Whoa!" (DVD, 3 minutes)

**4** → Receive the Offering/Pray (1 minute)

**5** → Introduce the Bible Story (1 minute)

- State: "This month we are learning about God's Word. When we respect God's Word, we will want to read it every day. The more we read the Bible, the better we will know how God wants us to live. In today's Bible story, we will hear how knowing God's Word can help us fight the temptation to sin."

**6** → Tell the Bible Story (6 minutes)

## Pull It Together

Sand, large shallow container

- Fill the container with sand.

## Teacher Tip

Have a large group of children? Group the children into small teams. Assign an adult with a container of sand to each team. As the lead teacher tells the story, draw the items in each container.

- Place the container of sand on the floor. Invite the kids to gather around it.
- Say: "Today's story takes place in the wilderness. The word the Bible uses for wilderness is what we might call a desert."
- Open the Bible and tell the story in your own words. Draw pictures in the sand as indicated.

## Jesus Was Tempted

*Based on Luke 4:1-13*

After Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River, He went into the wilderness where the Devil tempted Him. For 40 days, Jesus stayed in the wilderness with no food. Knowing Jesus was weak from hunger, the Devil tempted Jesus to disobey God.

*(Draw a loaf of bread.)*

"If You are the Son of God, why don't You turn this stone into bread?" the Devil asked Jesus.

Jesus replied, "Man doesn't live on bread alone." Jesus meant that knowing God's truth is just as important for living as food is.

*(Draw a globe.)*

Then the Devil showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and said, "I have authority over all these kingdoms and I can give them to You. All You have to do is worship me."

Jesus answered the Devil, "The Bible says to worship only the Lord, your God."

*(Draw a church.)*

The Devil didn't give up. He took Jesus to the top of the temple.

"If You are the Son of God," said the Devil, "You can jump and not be hurt because the angels will protect You."

Jesus said, "Do not test the Lord, your God."

Jesus did not give in to the Devil's temptations. Jesus obeyed God, so the Devil left Him.

## **7** → Review the Bible Story (5 minutes)

### **Pull It Together**

Print "Jesus" Teaching Picture (CD).

- Smooth out the sand. Place the teaching picture on top of the sand. Instruct the children to study the picture while the teacher sprinkles sand over the picture.
- Encourage the children to name details they remember from the picture. Affirm each answer. Brush off the sand to reveal the picture a final time.
- Ask the following questions about the story. After each question, invite a volunteer to draw his answer in sand.

1. Into what did the Devil tempt Jesus to turn a stone? (*bread*)
2. What did the Devil promise to give if Jesus would worship him? (*the kingdoms of the world*)
3. From where did the Devil tell Jesus to jump? (*the top of the temple*)
4. Where were you the last time the Devil tempted you to disobey God? (*Answers will vary.*)
5. What helps you resist the Devil's temptation? (*Answers will vary but may include the Bible, church, parents.*)

## **8** → Apply Bible Story (5 minutes)

### **Pull It Together**

Worship Guides, pencils

- Distribute Worship Guides and pencils.
- Lead the children to complete "Situation Maze."
- Discuss the children's responses.
- Say: "When we read God's Word, we can learn how to handle situations in our lives."

## **9** → Sing "Ancient of Days" (DVD, 3 minutes)

## **10** → Learn the Key Bible Verse (4 minutes)

### **Pull It Together**

4 pieces of poster board, marker, paper

- Divide the key Bible verse into 4 phrases, including the reference. Write each phrase on a separate piece of poster board.
- Write a different number (1 through 4) at the top of each phrase. Do not number the phrases in the order which they appear in the verse.
- Write the numbers 1 through 4 on separate slips of paper. You will want one slip for every child. You do not need an equal amount of slips for each number.

- Distribute a numbered slip to each child. Tell him not to show his number to the people around him.
- Guide each child to read the piece of poster board that matches his number. Instruct him to keep repeating this phrase out loud and to gather with others saying his phrase.
- Help the children to form four groups as they repeat aloud their phrases. Lead the children to put themselves in proper verse order from left to right. Encourage the children to continue repeating their phrases during this process.
- Call for silence.
- Instruct each group to take turns saying aloud its phrase in the proper verse order. Repeat several times.
- Lead the children in saying aloud the verse.
- Challenge the children to memorize Bible verses so they can follow Jesus' example from the Bible story of resisting temptation.

## **11** → Show "Jamm Fam" Video #2 (DVD, 8 minutes)

- Ask: "Have your friends ever wanted you to do something that you knew was wrong? What did you do? What type of example did your actions provide for your friends?"
- Continue: "Pam's friends want her to do something she knows is wrong, however Pam wants to fit in with them. Let's see what Pam does and how it affects her and her friends."
- Show video.
- Ask: "What would you do if your friends tempted you to shoplift? What does the Bible say about stealing?"
- Conclude: "Pam knew she should call her friends and confess that she did not steal the items. What type of impact do you think this will have on the girls?"

## **12** Sing "I'm Gonna Bless" (DVD, 3 minutes)

## **13** Review the Life Application (4 minutes)

- Lead the kids to read "Use God's Word" on their Worship Guides.

## **14** Pray (1 minute)

## **15** → Transition to Application Activities or Wrap-Up

# Wrap-Up

(Large Group Only Format)

## **16** Review Bible Story (3 minutes)

- Invite volunteers to recall various aspects of the Bible story.
- Ask: "What does this Bible story teach us about knowing God's Word? How can knowing what the Bible says help us when we face temptations?"

## **17** Sing "I Just Love Worshiping You" (DVD, 3 minutes)

## **18** Pray (1 minute)

- Thank God for the Bible. Ask God to help the kids apply Bible verses to their lives.

## **19** Sing "Almighty God" (DVD, 3 minutes)

# Wrap-Up

(Application Activities Format)

## **16** → Review Application Activities (5 minutes)

- Invite the children to share their Application Activity experiences.
  - Arts and Crafts—Key Tag Bible Bookmarks
  - Dramatic Play—Situation Interviews
  - Games—Problem/Answer Match Game
  - Exploration and Discovery—Table Activities

## **17** → Review Bible Story (3 minutes)

- Invite volunteers to recall various aspects of the Bible story.
- Ask: "What does this Bible story teach us about knowing God's Word? How can knowing what the Bible says help us when we face temptations?"

## **18** → Sing "I Just Love Worshiping You" (DVD, 3 minutes)

## **19** → Pray (1 minute)

- Thank God for the Bible. Ask God to help the kids apply Bible verses to their lives.