

Bible Story Page (4-5)

"Jesus is Tested in the Wilderness"

Matthew 4:1-11

READ the following instructions:

Have you ever been tempted to do the wrong thing? (Allow responses) **Did you know that even Jesus was tempted by the devil to do the wrong thing?** (Allow responses) **Let's read Matthew 4:1-11 from the Bible about the time this happened and see how Jesus used truth from God's Word to slice through the enemy's temptation!**

As I read, when you hear me say "UP," jump up. When I say "DOWN," sit down. And when I say "RIGHT" or "LEFT," turn to the right or left!

ALLOW kids to stand up, and then you **READ** the story:

One day, the Holy Spirit led Jesus DOWN into the desert. He was there for 40 days and 40 nights without any food. While Jesus was in the desert, the devil came UP to Him and tried to tempt Him three times.

The first time, it's like the devil could tell RIGHT away that Jesus was hungry, so the devil tried to tempt Jesus. He looked DOWN and saw some stones, then he said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

But Jesus remembered something from God's Word. He said, "It is written, 'Man must not live only on bread. He must also live on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Seeing that the first temptation didn't work, the devil took Jesus UP to the top of the temple and said, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself DOWN. The Lord will command his angels to take good care of you." But Jesus could see RIGHT through the devil's temptation. He said, "It is written, 'Do not test the Lord your God.'"

So they LEFT the temple. Finally, the devil took Jesus UP to the top of a very high mountain. He showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and how awesome they were. Then, the devil said, "If you bow DOWN and worship me, I will give you all of this."

But Jesus recognized how the devil was trying to tempt Him again. So He said, "Get away from me Satan! The Bible says to worship only the Lord your God!" After that, the devil got UP and LEFT Jesus.

When Jesus was tempted to do the wrong thing, He remembered verses that were written in God's Word to cut DOWN the devil's lies and temptation. In the same way, we can use the Sword of the Spirit, which is God's Word, the Bible, to slice through the enemy's attacks!

ALLOW kids to sit down, and then **ASK** the following questions:

- 1. What did you learn from this story?** (Allow responses)
- 2. Jesus remembered verses from God's Word and used them to cut down temptation. Have you ever learned a verse or story from the Bible that could help you in a situation when you are tempted?** (Allow responses)
- 3. How do you think you actually PUT ON the Sword of the Spirit?** (By reading God's Word and memorizing it)
- 4. How can you know if something is a lie from the devil in order to tempt you?** (Compare it to the truth in God's Word)