



## Jesus is Tested in the Wilderness

Matthew 4:1-11

**Who thinks that superheroes are really awesome? (Allow responses) I do, too! But do you know who the most awesome hero is? I'll give you a hint. His name starts with a "J" and He lives in heaven! (Allow kids to guess – "Jesus")**

**Right! Jesus is our hero because He saved us from the punishment for our sins. He was able to do this because He came to earth and lived a perfect life. He NEVER did anything wrong!**

**Now, that doesn't mean that Jesus wasn't tempted to do the wrong thing. In fact, there's a time in the Bible when Jesus was tempted by the devil. Let's find out how Jesus was able to use God's Word to cut down the lies and temptations of the enemy!**

**Now, as I'm reading this story, I want you to test your superhero reflexes! When you hear me say UP, I want you to jump up as high as you can! And when you hear me say DOWN, I want you to sit down. If you're ready to do this, stand UP with me! (Stand up with kids)**



**One day, the Holy Spirit led Jesus DOWN into the desert. He was there for 40 days and 40 nights without eating anything! Do you think Jesus was hungry? (Yes)**

**Well, the devil came UP to Jesus while He was in the desert and tried to tempt Him three times.**

**The first time, the devil could tell that Jesus was hungry, so he tried to use that against Him. The devil looked DOWN and saw some stones. 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.’”**

**Jesus remembered a verse from God’s Word, and He used it to cut down temptation. Have you ever learned a verse or a story from God’s Word? (Allow responses)**





**Next, 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 that the devil was trying to trick Him. So He said, “It is written, ‘Do not test the Lord your God.’”**

**Again, Jesus remembered something that was written in God’s Word to cut DOWN the devil’s lies and temptation.**

**Have you ever been tempted to do something, like be mean to your brother and sister or lie by saying something you made UP? (Allow responses)**

**Just like Jesus remembered what God’s Word said to cut DOWN the enemy’s temptation, we can use the Sword of the Spirit by remembering God’s Word. It will help us slice through the enemy’s attacks!**

**Now, let’s find out what happened the third time the devil tempted Jesus!**



**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 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 went away from Jesus. Because Jesus remembered what the Bible said, he was able to defend Himself when He was tempted. In the same way, the enemy will try to defeat us by tempting us to do what is wrong. But we can defend ourselves from the enemy using the Sword of the Spirit!**

**Is the Sword of the Spirit a light saber OR God’s Word? (God’s Word)**

**True or False: We can suit up with the Sword of the Spirit by reading and learning God’s Word. (True)**

Allow kids to sit back down.