

September 17, 2017

Morning Overview

Lesson: *The Temptation of Jesus*

Lesson Objective: This week we begin our study of Jesus' life and ministry. As soon as Jesus is baptized the Enemy – the Devil – begins his attack on Christ. Jesus overcomes each temptation by looking to Scripture, but what we see at a very fundamental level is Jesus' trust in His Father's love for Him. All of Satan's temptations, at the center, are an attempt to convince Jesus that His Father in Heaven did not love him. But Jesus knew better; better than Adam in the Garden, better than Israel in the Wilderness, and better than us today. We can have full confidence knowing that our Father in Heaven loves us greatly because His Son, Jesus, comes to save us from our sins by His death and resurrection.

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

Story: Vos Children's Bible, Chapter 8 (Pages 272-273); Jesus Story Book Bible, Pages 208-209; Gospel Story Book Bible, Pages 168-169.

9:30am Sunday Schedule

Opening Activity

See instructions in classroom

Cherub Church

- Kindergarten/5's – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom's: 162, 121, 123, 124)
- 3's/4's – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom's: 168, 166, 165, 164, 163)

Craft: Temptation Heart

Supplies: Heart, oval, crown, bread

- Instructions:*
1. Color crown and bread
 2. Tape pieces to back of heart



Relay of the Day

See instructions in classroom

Snack

11am Sunday Schedule

Opening Activity:

See instructions in classroom

Craft: Fleeing Temptation

Supplies: Cardstock with figure, fleeing option circles (4 per child), binder ring

Instructions:

1. Color fleeing option circles
2. Place circles on binder ring and attach to figure's hand



Cherub Church for 3's (Classroom's: 168, 166, 165) – 11:30-11:55

Relay of the Day

See instructions in classroom

Optional Activity: See bin of squishy balls in classroom for ideas on reviewing catechism questions.

Story: *The Temptation of Jesus*

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the transition question: Boys and girls, what did you have for breakfast this morning? Was it delicious? Imagine if you did not eat for forty (40) days?!?! In our story today, that's how it begins with Jesus not eating for forty days, but that was not the hard part! Jesus had to fight an Enemy! Let's find out more!
3. **TELL** the Story. Use the Vos Children's Bible, the Jesus Storybook Bible, the Beginner's Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story. Feel free to edit and adapt to your own style. Include props and teaching aids as you see fit.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

Teaching Summary:

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps His promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- For many, many years God's people expected the Promised One – a King – to come and make all things right.
- After Jesus' baptism, the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert. Jesus stayed in the desert for forty days and nights.
- After the forty days and nights, the Devil tempted Jesus three times. The first test was to turn stones into bread, the second to have angels rescue him if he jumped off the temple, and the third test was all the glory and kingdoms of the world if Jesus worshipped the Devil.
- Jesus overcame each temptation and did not sin. Jesus trusted in His Father's love for him instead of believing the Devil's lies.

Story

Transition

Boys and girls, what did you have for breakfast this morning? Was it delicious? Imagine if you did not eat for forty (40) days?!?! In our story today, that's how it begins with Jesus not eating for forty days, but that was not the hard part! Jesus had to fight an Enemy! Let's find out more!

Led into the Desert

After Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist, the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert. The desert is a lonely place. There are no bushes, trees, water or food. Jesus stayed in the desert for forty (40) days and nights. During his time in the desert, Jesus did not eat either! After those forty days Jesus was very, very hungry!

But someone was waiting for Jesus in the desert. The devil was there, and he was going to try and get Jesus to sin, to mess up! The Devil was going to challenge Jesus; the Devil lied to Jesus three different times. The Devil wanted Jesus to believe that His Father in Heaven did not truly love Him!

The First Temptation

Jesus was very hungry. He had not had any food or drink in forty days. The Devil came up to Jesus and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these rocks to become bread." Jesus knew what the Devil was trying to do. The Devil wanted Jesus to do something that his Father in Heaven did not approve of. Jesus came not to do selfish things, but to serve and show God's love. Jesus knew His Father in Heaven loved him and cared for him. And Jesus wanted to please only His Father.

So Jesus answered the Devil, "The Bible says, 'A person does not live only by eating bread. But a person lives by everything the Lord says.'" Jesus would look to His Father in Heaven to meet His needs.

The Second Temptation

Then the devil led Jesus to the city of Jerusalem. He put Jesus on a very high place of the Temple. The devil said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off!" The Devil then did something very sneaky. The Devil quoted a Bible verse! The Devil used the Bible to lie to Jesus. This is what the Devil said, "It is written in the Bible, 'God has put his angels in

charge of you. They will catch you with their hands. And you will not hit your foot on a rock.” The Devil was trying to get Jesus to jump so the angels would catch him. But Jesus knew better. The Devil was hoping Jesus would do something that the Father would not approve of – jumping from the Temple. Jesus knew that he was not there to do crazy stunts, and he was not there to disobey His Father in Heaven. Jesus replied to the Devil, “It also says in the Scriptures, ‘Do not test the Lord your God.’” Jesus was not going to test His Father. Jesus knew that God’s ways and plans were perfect. Jesus knew that being obedient to His Father was what He was supposed to do!

The Third Temptation

Then the devil led Jesus to the top of a very high mountain. He showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and all the great things that are in those kingdoms. The devil said, “If you will bow down and worship me, I will give you all these things.” The Devil wanted Jesus to worship him. But Jesus knew that only God was worthy of worship. Jesus said to the devil, “Go away from me, Satan! The Bible says, ‘You must worship the Lord your God. Serve only him!’” So the devil left Jesus. Jesus knew that nothing could replace worshipping God! Jesus knew that he came not to get great things, but to give up his life to rescue people from their sins. Jesus trusted in God’s plan! Jesus’s big and powerful “no!” to the Devil sent the Devil away.

After all of this, some angels came to Jesus and helped him.

Conclusion

Jesus faced three very hard temptations from the Devil. The Devil tried his best to get Jesus to sin against His Father in Heaven, but Jesus did not sin! Jesus loved His Father and wanted to please Him! Only Jesus could overcome these temptations. This story shows the incredible love Jesus has for His Father in Heaven. Jesus knew that no matter what the Devil offered, nothing could compare to the love His Father had for him. And Jesus believed and trusted that His Father loved Him too. We can know the Father in Heaven loves us also. How? Because we see it in Jesus, His Son, coming to rescue us from our sins! We only need to trust this Good News!

Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- Where did Jesus go after his baptism?
- How long did Jesus stay in the desert?
- Who tempted (tested) Jesus in the desert?
- What were the three temptations?
- What did Jesus use to rebuke, or fight back, against the Devil?

Questions for Older Children:

- What does the story tell us about God?
- What does this story tell us about God’s faithfulness?
- What does this story tell us about God’s love for us?

Scripture Memory for September:

Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! (John 1:29)

Catechism Questions (1-20)

Hymn of the Month:

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing