

Adventures with GOD!

JESUS IS WITH ME WHEN I'M TEMPTED

(B.1.WINTER.10)

Biblical Reference	Matthew 4:1-11
Key Verse	1 Corinthians 10:13
Key Concept	Jesus helps me say no to temptation.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Say three ways that Jesus was tempted 2. Comment on some of the ways they have been tempted 3. Recognize who can help them resist temptation

Life Application

Jesus was tempted. We are also tempted to do things that aren't part of God's desire for our lives. From the time we are little we should understand what temptation is and how we can say no. In the Bible we find a very important promise for us. The promise is that God will never let us be tempted beyond what we can resist. Jesus will always be with us to help us say no to temptation.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure w/God materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Activity	Paper, crayons, markers	10 minutes
Bible story	Drawings, illustrations	10 minutes
Game		10 minutes
Prayer		5 minutes
Activity	Booklet, crayons	10 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review: As children enter take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials on the Covchurch.org website in the same place as the Adventures with God sessions.

Opening Prayer: Gather children around a candle. Light the candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

Prayer Example: Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer)

Bible Reading: Explain that as we read the Bible we do that first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out stretched palms up to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read the Bible passage for the day two times and ask children to respond.

Question examples: What did you notice in this story? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you though the story?

Activity: Before the class hang a big piece of paper on the wall. In the center of the paper, write in big letters "Jesus said". Then using simple words write out the three temptations of Jesus:

1. Satan said "Order the stones to turn into bread." Jesus answered, "NO! A man does not live by only eating bread, but from God's word."
2. Satan said "Jump and ask God to send angels to protect you." Jesus answered, "NO! No one should challenge God."
3. Satan said "I will give you all the kingdoms of earth if you will worship me." Jesus answered, "NO! Get away from me Satan because God's word says: "Worship only the Lord your God and serve only God."

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The children can choose one of these conversations and draw an illustration of it on a sheet of paper. When it's time to tell the story you can use the drawings that they have made.

Bible story: It would be good to invite them to open their bibles and read the story together of when Jesus was tempted in Matthew 4:1-11. After they have read the story to themselves quietly, read the story out loud and ask them to show their drawings when it gets to that part in the story. Help them to understand that Satan tempted Jesus in three areas that all humans are tempted in: what we need daily, power, riches. Have children use play-doh or mylar paper to mold or draw something we (1) need daily, (2) what kind of power we would like – discuss how might power be used for evil, (3) what we would buy if we had lots of money – discuss how we should spend all our money on ourselves, what should we do if someone doesn't have food or clothing?

Explain – Jesus resisted temptation. He did this by focusing on God and by knowing the Bible. Jesus forgives us when we do something wrong, but Jesus also wants us to have a good life by doing what is right. Not just for ourselves but also for others.

Game: “It's a temptation.” Ask them to make a list of different temptations that they and others face. Then choose a child who will be the tempter and another who will be the one who is tempted. The tempter should say out loud one of the temptations on the list. The one who is tempted says, “NO!” and should give a reason why. Let everyone have a turn being either the tempter or the tempted.

Prayer: Invite them to make a circle and in this circle to take time to pray for the promises that Jesus has given us that we will never be tempted beyond what we can handle with God's help. Give thanks to God that Jesus is at our side in those times we are tempted.

Activity: Today they will add another page to their booklets. The title is: “When I'm tempted...” have them draw a picture of a time they were tempted. Have them write below, “NO!”

Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:

G: God's Word: What is the story? (give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story).

R: Relationships: Is there anything in today's bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others and give them a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead).

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O: Outward Action: Is there anything in the bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week).

W: Worship: Is there anything in the bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? How would you like to respond to God? What would you like to say to God?

Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

Prayer Example: Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen