

CITY SG – October 5 - 6, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Are You Ready? (Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness) • *Luke 4:1-13 (Supporting: Matthew 4:1-11)*

Today's Bottom Line: Be ready to do the right thing.

Monthly Memory Verse: *God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life.* 2 Peter 1:3a (NIRV)

Monthly Virtue: Self-control—Choosing to do what's best even when you don't want to

PRE- SERVICE ACTIVITY

What You Need: ball

What You Do:

- Greet kids by name as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Ask:
 - What is an easy choice you've had to make lately?
 - What is a difficult one?
- When enough kids have arrived, explain that you'll ask a question and then toss the ball to someone in the group to share their answer.
- Kids can join in as they arrive.
- Toss the ball to any kid in the circle.
- Read a question from the list below.
- After that kid shares their response, invite them to toss the ball back to you.
- Toss the ball to someone else in the group and ask them a different question.
- Repeat in this way and repeat questions so different kids can share different responses as time allows.
 1. How would you prepare for a big soccer game?
 2. How would you get yourself ready for a play or musical at a fancy theater?
 3. How would you prepare for a pie-eating competition?
 4. How do you get ready for a math test?
 5. How would you get yourself ready to meet your favorite celebrity?
- **Say, "Today, we're going to discover how Jesus showed us we can be ready for something really important."**

SMALL GROUP TIME

1. Deal or No Deal

Bible Story Review

What You Need: “Deal or No Deal” Activity Pages (1 set per bin), tape, dry-erase board, and dry-erase marker

What You Do:

- Divide your group into two teams.
- Place the folded fifteen “Deal or No Deal” Activity Pages in a random order in the middle of your group in a grid pattern.
 - Make sure the dollar amounts of the suitcases are hidden. Reinforce their closure with tape if necessary.
- Instruct the teams to take turns choosing one kid to unfold a suitcase to reveal a dollar amount.
- Once a suitcase is chosen, that is the amount they receive if they answer correctly.
- Instruct that team to answer a review question (see below).
- Keep track of each team’s money earned on the dry-erase board - the team with the most money wins!
- Once the game is over, ask any remaining Review Questions from below that did not get asked.

Review Questions:

1. Where did God’s Spirit lead Jesus after Jesus was baptized? (*the desert*)
2. How many days did Jesus not eat any food as He focused on spending time with God? (*40*)
3. What was the first thing Jesus’ enemy, the devil, tried to tempt Him to do? (*turn stone to bread*)
4. How did Jesus respond to the devil when tempted to turn the stone into bread? (*Jesus quoted Scripture. He said: “Man must not live only on bread.” —Luke 4:4, NIV*)
5. In our Bible Story today found in the book of Luke about Jesus’ temptation, what was the second way the devil tried to tempt Jesus? (*The devil took Jesus to a high place and said he would give Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if Jesus worshipped him.*)
6. Can you finish this phrase Jesus said? “*Worship the Lord your God. He is the only one you should _____.*” —*Luke 4:8, NIV (serve)*
7. In our Bible Story today found in the book of Luke, what was the third temptation from the devil? (*The devil led Jesus to the highest point in Jerusalem, and said: “If you are the Son of God . . . throw yourself down from here.” —Luke 4:9, NIV*)
8. Can you fill in the missing word from Jesus’ response to the devil? “*Do not _____ the Lord your God.*” —*Luke 4:12, NIV (test)*
9. How many of the devil’s temptations did Jesus give in to? (*None!*)
10. Why do you think Jesus could respond so well to the devil’s temptations? (*Jesus spent His whole life preparing by studying Scripture. Jesus knew God, and He knew God’s heart.*)

2. Cross Craft

Application Activity

What You Need: Cross craft (one per kid), Purple Ribbon, thin markers

What You Do:

- Give each kid one of the cross crafts
- Set out the thin markers
- Have them color in the different sections of the cross
- When they are finished, tie a purple ribbon through the top
- As the kids are coloring Ask them to share some ways they can be ready to do the right thing (*read the Bible, memorize verses, talk with grown-ups, pray, etc.*).
- Encourage the kids to hang this cross somewhere to help them remember to spend time with God to prepare them to make the wise choices.

3. Memory Verse Motions

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
 - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - Read the memory verse from a Bible aloud to your group.
 - *God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life. 2 Peter 1:3a*
- Have the kids come up with motions for the verse
- Practice the verse with the motions together
- Encourage kids to think of a situation where they may need God's help to show self-control.
- If needed, ask some of the leading questions, like:
 - What might happen at school that could cause you to feel rushed?
 - What has happened at home where you've felt impatient?
 - What might happen with friends where you might be pressured to make an unwise choice?

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL:

PRAY

- Ask, "Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? *(Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises)*
- Take some time to pray for these things as a group, then finish with the prayer below...

"Dear God, thank You for helping us **be ready to do the right thing**. We know Your Holy Spirit can help us so we are always ready to have self-control and do what's right. Thank You for the many ways we can learn more about You, so we can follow You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

- If there is still time, pass out the Discussion Guides to the kids and begin to read through them together. Remind them they can do the activity at home to bring back next week for a prize.

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage each kid to remember to spend time this week preparing their hearts with God's truth.