



Mustard Seed Children's Lesson Summary for January 10, 2010
Released on Wednesday, January 6, 2010

"Resisting What Is Wrong"

Lesson Text: Matthew 4:1-11

Background Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11

Memory Verse: "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve" (Matthew 4:10).

Matthew 4:1-11

- 1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.
- 2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward ahungered.
- 3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.
- 4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.
- 5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,
- 6 And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.
- 7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.
- 8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and showeth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;
- 9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.
- 10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.
- 11 Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Help the children understand Satan's methods of temptation.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. Jesus said no to each of Satan's temptations.
2. Jesus' saying no to each temptation shows that He will not and cannot sin.
3. We may expect similar temptations to come to us.

PLANNING LESSON AIDS:

For Telling the Lesson, find pictures of Jesus, a stony desert, an angel, the temple, and a city.

For Helping to Remember, provide crayons and a half sheet of white construction paper for each student.

For the lesson activity, make a copy of the Word Search for each student.

TEACHER'S NOTES:

Time: A.D. 26

Place: Wilderness of Judea

Bible students disagree as to just how Jesus' temptation in the wilderness occurred. Was Satan really able to transport Him to the temple and high mountain, or did He see these things in a vision? Did He just consider options in His mind?

Whatever way it was, the temptations were real, and our children should come away from this lesson confident that Jesus did not, will not, and cannot sin. He is God. He said "No."

They will also better understand what to expect from Satan. They should expect to experience similar temptations. This lesson will encourage them to also say "No."

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

In last week's lesson, God did something He does not often do. Who remembers what God did?

He spoke from heaven when Jesus was baptized. He said, "This is My dear Son." Today's lesson is about what happened next.

TELLING THE LESSON:

Soon Jesus would be going here and there, teaching about God and His kingdom. (Show Jesus.) But He did not start teaching right away. God the Holy Spirit told Him first to go off by Himself for a while.

So Jesus walked away from where the crowds were. He went out to a dry, stony place where mostly wild animals lived. (Show desert.) He stayed in that stony place for forty days. He did not even eat anything. Forty days is a long time. In forty days you will have Sunday school six times.

No people were where He was, but Jesus was not alone. God was there. Jesus could talk to Him.

Somebody else was there too. Satan was there. Satan used to be one of God's good angels (show angel), but one day he decided he would rather do what *he* wanted instead of what God wanted. He turned into being the devil, or Satan. He began trying to spoil anything God was doing. He thought he knew how to spoil God's plan to take away people's sins. He would get Jesus to do something wrong. If He did, He would be like the rest of us and could not be our Saviour.

Satan waited till the forty days were over. Then he came to talk to Jesus. He knew God had said, "This is My dear Son." He knew that by now Jesus was hungry; so he said, "If You are God's Son, turn these stones into bread."

Now Jesus *could* turn stones into bread. Then He would have had something to eat. But He knew that was not God's way, and He said "No." He said doing what pleased God was more important than getting what He wanted.

Satan thought he would try something else. In some way he showed Jesus the big temple building back in Jerusalem. (Show temple.) He said, "If you are the Son of God, jump down from there. God's angels will take care of you." You see, Jesus wanted people to believe He was from God. If He jumped without getting hurt, right away everyone would know who He was.

But Jesus knew that was not God's way, either. It is never right to do foolish things, thinking, *Oh, God will take care of me*. It is the people who obey God that he promises to care for, so Jesus said "No."

But Satan kept on trying. Now he showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world. (Show city.) He knew how good and rich and beautiful everything looked. He said something like this: "I am in charge of all these good things. I will give them to You *if* You will just obey me instead of God. Make *me* the most important instead of Him. Do what I say."

And Jesus said "No." "Get out of here," He told Satan. "God's Book says we are to obey only the Lord. He is God. We do what *He* says." That was God's way for Jesus. It is God's way for us too.

Satan did go away - for a while. He had tried three different ways to get Jesus to do wrong, and he failed each time. He could not spoil God's plan for taking away our sins. Jesus did not do anything wrong, and He never will, because of who He is. He is God's perfect Son.

Then God sent some angels to take care of Jesus.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

Satan still wants to spoil anything God is doing, and he still does the kinds of things he did to Jesus.

Satan can make us want to do what feels good instead of what the Bible says God wants. He can make us think we can do foolish things and God will take care of us anyway. He can make us think it is all right to let some person or thing be more important than God. What can you do when Satan comes with thoughts like that? You can say "No".

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

Let the children fold their papers in half to form a book. On the front they should print "What to Say When Satan Comes," and then decorate it with geometric designs. Inside have them print in huge red letters "NO!"

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:

"Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve" (Matthew 4:10.)

There are lots of old words in this verse. "Thou" means "you." "Thy" means "your." "Shalt" means "shall." In this verse to serve God means to please Him because of who He is. The verse is saying that we should remember who the Lord is and do what pleases Him.

CONCLUSION:

Jesus is our example for how to do right when Satan tries to get us to do wrong. Satan tried to get Jesus to do wrong, but Jesus chose to do things God's way. Satan is still working - but now he is trying to get those of us who believe in Jesus to do wrong.

When Satan comes to you with thoughts about doing wrong, make sure to follow Jesus' example. Jesus said "No" each time that Satan tried to get Him to make the wrong decisions. Let Jesus be the example that you follow, and let Him help you to make the right choice.

PRAYER:

Dear God, forgive us when we do not make the right decisions. Help us to be like Your Son and not do what Satan wants us to do. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON:

Next week's lesson is "[Many Amazing Healings](#)" and tells how Jesus showed He was Messiah by healing the sick. Study Matthew 9:27-34; 11:2-6.

Lesson summarized by:

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WORD SEARCH

“Resisting What Is Wrong” (Matthew 4:1-11)

Find the following keywords from the lesson:

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|---------|--------|--------|------------|
| DESERT | SERVE | FASTED | DEVIL |
| JUMP | HUNGRY | SATAN | ANGELS |
| WORSHIP | JESUS | WRONG | RESIST |
| BREAD | STONE | TEMPLE | FORTY DAYS |

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SOLUTION TO WORD SEARCH

“Resisting What Is Wrong” (Matthew 4:1-11)

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