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2.01 JESUS IS TEMPTED

LUKE 4

Have you ever been tempted? Do you know what being “tempted” means? Have you ever wanted to do something you shouldn’t do, but you really, really wanted to do it? This is being “tempted.” Jesus was tempted, too.

It was time for Jesus to start the work that God had sent Him to do. Jesus had been baptized by John. The Holy Spirit had also come down to Jesus from Heaven so He would feel close to God all the time. The next thing that happened in Jesus’ life was a time when He would be tempted.

The devil is in charge of all the trouble that occurs here on earth. God is everything that is good. The devil is everything that is bad. The devil is the enemy of God. The devil decided to tempt Jesus.

Jesus was guided into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit. The devil tempted Him for forty days. Jesus had not eaten all this time. Jesus was hungry and the devil said to Jesus, “If You are God’s Son, why don’t you make this stone into some bread to eat?”

Jesus told the devil, “The Bible says we do not have to just eat bread. We need to be nourished in our hearts by God’s words.”

Then, the devil took Jesus up to the top of a mountain. He said, “See the world in front of you? I have the power to give it all to you, if you will just worship me and do what I ask.”

Jesus was angry with the devil. He said, “Go away! God’s word says to worship Him only!”

The devil tried one more thing. He took Jesus to the city of Jerusalem. There, he took Jesus to the top of the temple and said, “If You are God’s Son, jump off of this high place and You will be safe. For God says He will have the angels all around You to rescue You.”

Jesus said to the devil, it is written in God’s word, “You shall not tempt the Lord your God.” (Another name for Jesus is “Lord.”)

After that, the devil left Jesus alone. He decided not to tempt Jesus any more that day. He would tempt Him again on another day.

There is a big difference between Jesus and regular people. Since Jesus was God’s Son, He would never disobey God. It would be hard sometimes. Sometimes, Jesus was tempted with things He really wanted to do, but He still obeyed God by knowing and speaking God’s Word. What happens when we are tempted?

Think about times when you really wanted to disobey your parents or your grandparents. They told you to do something, but you didn’t do it. Or, they told you NOT to do something, and you did it anyway. When we learn to trust Jesus and know God’s word, He helps us to obey when we want to disobey. All we have to do is ask for His help and speak God’s word like Jesus.

2.01 JESUS IS TEMPTED - TEACHER'S GUIDE

LUKE 4

HIGHLIGHTS:

- 1) Jesus was tempted to disobey God just like we are tempted. He was guided into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit, where He was tempted by the devil.
- 2) The devil is in charge of all the trouble here on earth. He was there with Jesus to tempt Him after Jesus had spent forty days in the wilderness with no food to eat. The first thing he tempted Jesus with was food. He told Jesus to make bread out of the stones. Jesus told the devil we need to be nourished in our hearts with God's words.
- 3) The devil also told Jesus to worship him, then all the things of the world would be given to Him. Jesus said to the devil, "You shall only worship God."
- 4) The devil next took Jesus into the city of Jerusalem to the very top of the temple. He told Jesus to jump off. The devil told Jesus that God's word said He would be protected by the angels. Jesus told the devil to go away and leave Him alone. Jesus said, "Do not tempt the Lord Your God." (Another name for Jesus is "Lord.")
- 5) When we learn to trust Jesus, we can ask Him to help us when we are tempted to disobey.

QUESTIONS:

- 1) Who is in charge of all the trouble here on earth?
- 2) How many days was Jesus in the wilderness?
- 3) What did the devil say to Jesus when Jesus was hungry? What was Jesus' answer?
- 4) What did the devil tell Jesus he would do if Jesus would worship only him? What was Jesus' answer?
- 5) When the devil wanted Jesus to jump off the top of the temple, what did Jesus tell him?
- 6) What can we do when we are tempted to disobey?

ANSWERS:

- 1) The devil is in charge of all the trouble on earth.
- 2) Jesus was in the wilderness for forty days.
- 3) The devil told Jesus to make bread out of rocks. Jesus said we needed to be nourished with God's words.
- 4) The devil told Jesus he would give Him the whole world if Jesus would worship him. Jesus said we should only worship God.
- 5) When the devil told Jesus to jump off the top of the temple, Jesus said, "Do not tempt the Lord Your God."
- 6) When we are tempted to disobey, we can ask Jesus to help us.

When we speak God's word like Jesus, we overcome temptation!