



Jesus's Baptism & Temptation

11

Key Theme

- God provides salvation from sin through Jesus.

Key Passages

- Matthew 3:1–2, 3:5–6, 3:13–17, 4:1–11

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Describe why Jesus's baptism was important.
- Explain how Jesus overcame the temptations of Satan.



Lesson Overview



Come On In

Students will practice the memory verse by working on a crossword puzzle and reciting the verse to a friend.



Activity 1: Jesus's Baptism and Temptation Class Notes

Students will fill out the Jesus's Baptism and Temptation Class Notes as you study the lesson.



Studying God's Word

Jesus was fully God and fully man. In order to accomplish God's purpose for Him, He had to identify with man in every way except sin. Today we will see two ways Jesus identified with man: His baptism and His temptation. Both events occurred at the very beginning of His public ministry.



Activity 2: Scripture Scrutiny

Students will play a team game and compete for points by answering questions about the lesson.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



COME ON IN

- Print one Memory Verse Review Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.

- Memory Verse Poster
- Memory Verse Review Sheet for each student



JESUS'S BAPTISM AND TEMPTATION CLASS NOTES

- Print one Jesus's Baptism and Temptation Class Notes from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

- Jesus's Baptism and Temptation Class Notes for each student
- Jesus's Baptism and Temptation Class Notes Answer Key
- Pencils



STUDYING GOD'S WORD

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.

- Student Take Home Sheets
- Lesson Theme Poster



SCRIPTURE SCRUTINY

- Print one Scripture Scrutiny Teacher Guide and Questions from the Resource DVD-ROM for your use.
- Print and cut out the Scripture Scrutiny Category Title Cards and Point Cards from the Resource DVD-ROM. Put them on the board as directed.

- Scripture Scrutiny Teacher Guide and Questions
- Scripture Scrutiny Category Title Cards
- Scripture Scrutiny Point Cards



Memory Verse

Philippians 2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

➤ **Pace your lesson!** Use the clocks to mark the time you want to finish each section. This will help you stay on track and finish on time. You may need to shorten or drop sections as necessary.





Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the key passages listed above along with this background.

Last week we discussed Jesus's perfect obedience while on earth. His obedience in every aspect of the Law fulfilled all righteousness (Matthew 3:15), which is what God demands from all of us—perfect righteousness. This is unattainable for sinful man. But God's plan always included Jesus living a perfect, sinless life. His righteous life and substitutionary death would provide a way for us to receive His righteousness, giving us redemption from our sins and hope of eternal life with God.

In order to apply His righteousness to man, Jesus—who was fully God and fully man—had to identify with man in every way except sin. The Bible states that Jesus came in the “likeness of sinful flesh” (Romans 8:3). This means that He came, not in pre-fall Adamic flesh, but in post-fall flesh. He came with all of the weaknesses of a post-fall body, just like the stuff that you and I are made of, yet without sin.

Our lesson today reveals two very different ways Jesus—as God—identified with man during His life on earth. These events both occurred at the very beginning of His public ministry.

The first event is Jesus's baptism by John. John was baptizing and preaching a message of repentance (Matthew 3:2). The people from Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan were coming to John, confessing their sins, and being baptized (Matthew 3:5–6).

John was the fulfillment of the Scriptures that spoke of one crying in the wilderness to prepare the way of the Lord (Matthew 3:3; Isaiah 40:3). And John's baptism was one of confession and repentance of sins in preparation for the Messiah. So why would Jesus want to be baptized by John? When Jesus, the sinless one, came to be baptized, it is no wonder that John attempted to prevent Him. John knew it was he who should be baptized by Jesus (Matthew 3:14).

However, Jesus had come to purchase righteousness for mankind. He would bring righteousness and redemption by living a perfect life and bearing our sins. In order to do this, He had to identify with man and his sin. And Scripture confirms this when it tells us that the perfect one, who knew no sin, became sin for us “that we might become the righteousness of God in Him” (2 Corinthians 5:21). The prophet Isaiah revealed this, too, when he said that the Messiah would die, be numbered with the transgressors, and bear the sin of many

as He made intercession for sinners (Isaiah 53:12). Jesus's baptism by John represented His willingness to be identified with the people He came to save, and not only with the people, but with their sin—the sin He would soon bear Himself on the Cross.

The second event occurred immediately after the baptism. Fresh from a “victory” with an endorsement by His Father—“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased”—Jesus was led into the wilderness by the Spirit where He was tempted by the devil (Matthew 4:1). Again, we see Him identifying with those He came to save. Jesus was fully man, and as such He was tempted in the same way man is. And because of this, we are assured that this sinless God-man—our Redeemer—is one who can empathize with our weaknesses because He was tempted in all points, yet without sin (Hebrews 4:15).

The first specific temptation recorded for us came after Jesus had fasted from food for 40 days. The tempter suggested Jesus command the stones to become bread. And Jesus answered, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God’” (Matthew 4:4). The ploy was to get Jesus to doubt His Father's provision and to meet a legitimate need Himself. In essence He replied, I am a man, and I cannot marginalize myself from my brethren. He had us in mind already at His first temptation.

Then the devil tested Jesus again. This time he quoted from Psalm 91:11–12 as he took Jesus to a high pinnacle on the Temple and suggested if Jesus were really God, He could jump off and God would send His angels to protect Him (Matthew 4:5–6). Again, Jesus responded with the Word of God, “It is written again, ‘You shall not tempt the Lord your God’” (Matthew 4:7). In essence, Satan said, “Show the crowd how much faith you have in your Father,” and Jesus replied, “No, I do not test God. It is my Father in heaven who tests me.”

The third test came on a high mountain where the devil promised Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if He would bow down and worship him. Jesus again stood firm on the Word of God, saying, “it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve’” (Matthew 4:8–10). Jesus's response came from Deuteronomy 6 where Moses showed Israel the Promised Land and warned them not to become satiated with the land of Canaan without God. The land itself would become a curse if God was forgotten. Likewise, Jesus said to Satan that all the kingdoms of the world would become a curse without His Father.

Jesus's response to these temptations gives us a model of how to successfully overcome temptations by God's grace. Jesus responded to the devil by relying on God and His Word.

We must learn to respond in the same way. By saturating our hearts and minds with the truth, we will recognize temptations and lies that come at us in attempts to cause us to sin. We must have a firm grasp on the offensive weapon God has armed us with—the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God (Ephesians 6:17). This will give us the strength and power we need to turn from temptations as we encounter them.

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

Temptation has been a problem throughout the history of mankind. In fact, giving into temptation is what brought sin into the world. Satan, in the form of the serpent, tempted Eve to disobey God and His clear command not to eat the fruit. Eve was deceived and succumbed to the temptation. Since the Fall, when Adam and Eve sinned, all of humanity has faced temptation and given in to that temptation at some point. Cain was tempted to kill his brother—he failed (Genesis 4:8). Noah was tempted to drunkenness—he failed (Genesis 9:21). Abraham was tempted to lie about Sarah being his wife—he failed (Genesis 20:2). David was tempted to adultery and murder—he failed (2 Samuel 11:4, 15). Peter was tempted to deny Jesus—he failed (Mark 14:71). You have been tempted to sin and failed.

But there was one person who did not fail—Jesus Christ. Not only did He not fail, but also He triumphed over temptation by the power of the Holy Spirit. Many aspects of the life of Jesus demonstrate His humanity. He was born, He grew in wisdom and stature (Luke 2:40), He learned obedience (Hebrews 5:8), and He was even baptized in the same manner as sinful man (Matthew 3:13–17). He can empathize with our weakness because He was tempted just as we are (Hebrews 4:14–16). Jesus identified Himself with every person who has ever walked the earth.

That common experience of temptation is described by Paul in 1 Corinthians 10:13. Rather than calling Christians to accept that they are bound to sin, God's Word offers hope to overcome the temptations that we find in the world and in our own flesh (James 1:13–15). What power do you, as a believer, have to escape these temptations? The power of the Holy Spirit! This power comes in two forms. First, since the

coming of the Spirit at Pentecost, all believers have the Holy Spirit living in them. The Spirit enables believers to obey the commands of God and escape temptation, looking to the pleasures of Christ above the fleeting pleasures of sin. Second, it was the Holy Spirit who moved the holy men of God to deliver the Scriptures to us (2 Peter 1:19–21). It is from these Spirit-given words that we know the will of God and His commands to us. When temptations come, we can fight them with the words of God we have hidden in our hearts, that we might not sin against Him (Psalm 119:11).

Jesus was able to use the words of Scripture to fend off the temptations of Satan. He had the words of truth from Scripture ready. We should follow His example. But how can we use God's Word when temptation comes upon us if we do not have it stored in our minds? Memorizing Scripture, meditating on Scripture, sitting under sound teaching, and personal study are all important aspects of living a godly life and being prepared to face temptations. As we seek to live a life of holiness and face persecution for our beliefs, we can even identify with Christ in His suffering. In many cases our opportunities to practice apologetics will come in the face of persecution and temptations. Peter calls each Christian to be prepared to suffer for righteousness' sake, telling those who ask of the hope we have in Christ (1 Peter 3:14–17). Let us all strive to be prepared so that when we draw the sword of the Spirit the words of God will be used skillfully in our hands under the divine guidance and power of the Holy Spirit.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Perfect, sinless Savior, you can empathize with my weaknesses because you were tempted in all points. Thank you for showing me how to overcome temptation! I love your Word. It is living and active, never stale or out-of-date. It gives me direction and wisdom. It is my tutor and comforts me in times of hardship and loss. But your Word is also my weapon—the sword of the Spirit. Your Word gives me power to overcome temptation. Please move in the hearts of my students to see the wonder of your Word. Help them to love it and learn to rely on it to fight the daily temptations they face.



COME ON IN

As students arrive . . .

- They will review the memory verse by completing the Memory Verse Review Sheet. If time allows, they will recite the verse to a friend or to the class.

This time at the beginning of class should be used to review the memory verse. We have provided an activity sheet on the Resource DVD-ROM for you to use. You may have other ideas and ways to encourage your students to memorize the verse.



REVIEW

Using the Lesson Theme Posters provided with each lesson, quickly review the previous lesson(s) with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Theme Posters. Reflect briefly on the passages you read, bringing the objectives and themes back into focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Jesus's Baptism and Temptation Class Notes

MATERIALS

- Jesus's Baptism and Temptation Class Notes for each student
- Jesus's Baptism and Temptation Class Notes Answer Key
- Pencils or pens

INSTRUCTIONS

Print the class notes for each student. Pass them out at the beginning of class. Have students fill in the blanks as you study the lesson.

We will be completing these class notes as we study the Bible passages. Do not work ahead. We will complete them together during class.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

As we complete the class notes today, we will see that even though Jesus was God and perfectly sinless, He was also fully human and did things so He could identify with us and with the sin that we have in our hearts.



Studying God's Word

READ THE WORD

- ? Refer to the Lesson 10 Lesson Theme Poster. So we have been talking about Jesus. Whose will did Jesus come to earth to do? *God the Father's.*

Yes. The Bible tells us that Jesus did not come from heaven to do His own will but the will of God who sent Him. Our memory verse reminds us of that.

Philippians 2:8

► Use the New Testament History Poster included with your teacher kit as you teach the lesson. Emphasize that Jesus ministered only 3 years and He lived only about 35 years. Yet His life changed the world forever and brought eternal life to all who believe.

? Can someone say the memory verse or read it from the poster for the class? *Philippians 2:8. Choose a student to read the verse.*

? How did Jesus come to earth? *In appearance as a man.*

? And how did Jesus live His life? *He humbled Himself and became obedient.*

? What did Jesus's perfect obedience lead to? *Death on the Cross.*

? So did Jesus ever sin? *No!*

No, He didn't. Jesus was perfect and without sin. Yet He died a terrible death on the Cross.

? Since the Creation, how many people have lived perfect lives without ever sinning or disobeying? *Only one. Jesus!*

Right! Just Jesus. We can never be perfect! We are sinners against a holy God. But God says in order to be saved, we must be perfect. We must be righteous.

? Refer to Lesson 10 Lesson Theme Poster. How can we be righteous even though we sin so much? We talked about it last week. It has to do with Jesus and what He did while on earth. We called it the "great exchange." *Allow discussion.*

Jesus lived a perfect life; He came to do the will of His Father. He made the "great exchange" for all who would ever come to Him in repentance and faith, for all who would trust Him to be their Savior and their Lord. You see, when Christ died on the Cross He took the punishment for sin. The Bible says He "became sin." He did that so that all who would believe in Him could gain His righteousness. He took the sin on Himself and then took the punishment for the sin. At the same time, Jesus's righteousness—His perfect life—was applied to sinners. Jesus's righteousness makes sinners blameless in God's eyes. But remember, this exchange is only for people who believe and trust in Jesus!

Jesus became a man, and He experienced the things men experience, yet He never sinned. Jesus did things that showed us He was fully man, yet He lived in perfect obedience to God. Jesus was fully man and fully God. This is a very important thing to remember about Jesus.

? Will someone read #1 on your class notes? How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Fully, man. Complete #1 now.*

Today we will talk about some things Jesus did that showed us He was a man yet still obeyed God perfectly. These events happened when Jesus was about 30 years old. They help us see how Jesus was able to identify with sinners—even though He never sinned.

Jesus was beginning to teach. He was starting His ministry that would eventually end in death—death on the Cross.

Refer to Year 2, Quarter 4, Lesson 12 Lesson Theme Poster. OK. Remember that Malachi was the last Old Testament prophet. And he told the people that a messenger would come and prepare the way for the Lord.

- ? Who was that man who prepared the way for the Lord? *John the Baptist.*
John the Baptist prepared the way for the Lord.

We are going to read more about John the Baptist today. Turn in your Bibles to Matthew 3:1–2. *Choose a student to read the verses.*

Matthew 3:1–2

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

- ? Who are these verses about? *Matthew 3:1. John the Baptist.*
- ? What was John the Baptist doing, and where was he? *Matthew 3:1. He was preaching in the wilderness.*
- ? What was he saying to the people? *Matthew 3:2. Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*
- ? What do you think that means? *Allow discussion.*

John was telling the people to repent, to turn away from their sins, to change their lives. John knew that the Messiah was coming and was already there. He was preparing the people for Him.

Now let's read Matthew 3:5–6. This will tell us what John the Baptist was doing when the people came to him. *Choose students to read the verses.*

- ? John was in the wilderness. Who was coming to him? *Matthew 3:5. People from Jerusalem, Judea, and around the Jordan River.*

People were coming from different places to hear John speak. But there was something else.

- ? What was John doing with the people who came to listen to him? *Matthew 3:6. He was baptizing them.*
- ? John was baptizing them. What were the people confessing as they were baptized? *Matthew 3:6. Their sins.*

John was at the Jordan River. People from all around the area came to see him. They were confessing their sins and being baptized.

- ? Will someone read #2 on your class notes? How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Sins, baptized.*

John was preparing the way for the Lord to come! This baptism was a sign that the people knew they were sinners. They wanted to be children of God. They wanted to be prepared for the Lord. That is who John the Baptist was preparing the way for—the Lord!

And something amazing was about to happen. Let's jump down to read Matthew 3:13–17. *Choose students to read the verses.*

- ? Who came to John at the river? *Matthew 3:13. Jesus.*

Matthew 3:5–6

Matthew 3:13–17

- ? Why did Jesus come to him? *Matthew 3:13. To be baptized.*
- ? What did John do and say when he saw Jesus? *Matthew 3:14. John tried to stop Jesus. John wanted to be baptized by Jesus!*

John knew who Jesus was—the Lamb of God, the Messiah! John knew Jesus was the sinless one sent from God! Baptism was about confessing sins! John did not want to baptize Jesus. He knew Jesus had never sinned! But Jesus wanted to be baptized.

- ? Why was it important for Jesus to be baptized? Look at Matthew 3:15. *Matthew 3:15. To fulfill all righteousness.*

Jesus said He must be baptized to fulfill all righteousness. Jesus was obeying His Father. And He was identifying with people and their sin by being baptized. The people were being baptized, and Jesus was baptized as well.

However, Jesus never sinned. He was perfectly righteous. But He knew that when He died He would be taking on the sin of all who would ever believe in Him. And when He took their sin, they would get His perfect righteousness. Remember the “great exchange?” *Refer to Lesson 10 Lesson Theme Poster.*

- ? Will someone read #3 on your class notes? How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Jesus, all. Complete #3 on the class notes.*

Discover the Truth

Refer to Lesson 10 Lesson Theme Poster. We need Jesus’s perfect righteousness because we are sinners. We are born in sin. God hates sin and unrighteousness. God cannot look at sin, and He must punish ALL sin! Only Jesus lived a perfect, sinless, righteous life. When Jesus died for sinners, He took God’s punishment for sin. Jesus’s perfect righteousness was given to every sinner who would repent of his sins, believe in Him, and accept His salvation.

In order to make the “great exchange” Jesus had to identify with man and with man’s sin. That is why Jesus insisted that John baptize Him. Through baptism, Jesus was identifying with man’s sinfulness, although He had never sinned.

- ? Will someone read #4 on your class notes please? What is the answer? *Assign a reader. People. Complete #4 on the class notes.*



READ THE WORD

Matthew 4:1-2

Something else happened to Jesus that showed in a very real way that He was fully man. Turn to Matthew 4:1–2. Let’s read those verses. *Choose students to read the verses.*

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

- ? Who are these verses about? *Matthew 4:1. Jesus.*
- ? Where was Jesus led? *Matthew 4:1. To the wilderness.*
- ? What happened to Him in the wilderness? *Matthew 4:1. He was tempted by the devil.*
- ? Will someone read #5 on your class notes. What is the answer? *Assign a reader. Tempted.* Complete #5 on the class notes.

Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil! Jesus was tempted three times by the devil—the tempter. We are going to read about these three temptations.

Someone read Matthew 4:3–4. This is the first temptation. *Choose a student to read the verses.*

Matthew 4:3–4

- ? Who is the tempter? *Matthew 4:3. The devil. Satan.*
- ? Jesus had been fasting without food for forty days. He was hungry! And this is when the devil—the tempter—came to Him. What did the tempter tell Jesus to do? *Matthew 4:3. Turn the stones into bread.*
- ? Jesus was hungry. This must have been very tempting! But how did Jesus answer? *Matthew 4:4. He said, "It is written man shall not live by bread alone."*
- ? And what did Jesus say man should also live by? *Matthew 4:4. Every word that comes from God.*

This was Jesus's answer. Jesus told the tempter, "It is written." He was talking about God's Word. Jesus used God's Word to overcome the temptation to sin against God.

- ? Will someone read #6 on your class notes? How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Bread, Word.* Complete #6 on your class notes.

Let's move on to the second temptation. Someone read Matthew 4:5–7. *Choose a student to read the verses.*

Matthew 4:5–7

- ? Now where did the devil take Jesus? *Matthew 4:5. Up into the holy city.*
- ? The holy city was Jerusalem. Where were they in the city? *Matthew 4:5. On the pinnacle of the Temple.*

The pinnacle would be the highest point of the Temple. They were up very high, and there was probably a very long drop to the ground. They were looking down on the city.

- ? What did the devil tell Jesus to do in Matthew 4:6? *Matthew 4:6. Throw yourself down off this Temple.*

The devil was tempting Jesus's faith in God. You see, the Scriptures say that God's angels will take care of His people. And the devil was telling

Jesus to “test” God by jumping off and seeing if God would save Him. The devil wanted Jesus to “prove” that what He believed was true about God!

? But what did Jesus tell the devil? *Matthew 4:7. It is written again! You shall not tempt the Lord your God.*

? Will someone read #7 for the class? What is the answer? *Assign a reader. God.*
Complete #7 on the class notes.

Again, Jesus used God’s Word to overcome the devil’s temptations. Jesus told the tempter, “It is written.” Jesus knew what was written. The Word says you shall not tempt the Lord your God!

Matthew 4:8–11

Now let’s read about the third temptation. It’s found in Matthew 4:8–11.
Choose students to read the verses.

? Where did the devil take Jesus this time? *Matthew 4:8. To a very high mountain.*

? What did the devil show Jesus? *Matthew 4:8. All the kingdoms of the world and their glory!*

? What did the devil promise Jesus? *Matthew 4:9. All the kingdoms could be His if He would bow down and worship the devil.*

? How did Jesus answer the devil? *Matthew 4:10. He told the devil to get away!*

? And then what did Jesus say? *Matthew 4:10. “It is written, You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only shall you serve.”*

Again, Jesus knew God’s Word! And Jesus used God’s Word when He was tempted.

? Will someone read #8 on your class notes? What did Jesus say? *Assign a reader. Only.* Complete #8 on your class notes.

? And will someone read #9 on your class notes? Jesus used God’s Word to overcome whose temptations? *Assign a reader. Devil’s.* Complete #9 on your class notes.

Discover the Truth

Do you see? Jesus used God’s Word to overcome the devil’s temptations. Jesus told the tempter all three times, “It is written.” And then He used a part of Scripture. Those verses kept Jesus focused on God and His Word and not on the temptation that was before Him. Jesus knew God’s Word and trusted it to help Him while He was being tempted.

? Someone read #10. How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Written.*
Complete #10 on your class notes.

? And what about #11? Will someone read that? How will you answer it?
Assign a reader. Wilderness. Complete #11 on your class notes.

God used these temptations of Jesus so that Jesus would identify with people and their sin. We are tempted every day to sin against God. And Jesus was tempted, too. The difference between Jesus and us is that Jesus was able to stop the temptations completely—He did not sin! We, on the

other hand, sin every day. That is why we need Jesus. That is why Jesus had to come as a man, so He could take the punishment for sinners who believe in Him, and He could give his perfect righteousness to all believers.



Scripture Scrutiny

MATERIALS

- Scripture Scrutiny Teacher Guide and Questions
- Scripture Scrutiny Category Title Cards
- Scripture Scrutiny Point Cards
- Poster putty or tape

INSTRUCTIONS

Refer to the Lesson Theme Poster. We are going to divide into teams to play a game. This game will be a fun review of what we've talked about today. Use the Lesson Theme Poster and your class notes to help you answer

the game questions. Divide the class into teams according to the size of the class. Play the game according to the Scripture Scrutiny Teacher Guide.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

Good going! Many of those questions reminded us of Jesus's baptism and the temptations He had in the desert. Jesus was fully God and fully man. Those two events showed us that Jesus could identify with man in every way.



Applying God's Word

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

Refer to the Lesson Theme Poster. The people were coming to John the Baptist, confessing their sins, and being baptized. And then Jesus came . . . the perfect Lamb of God . . . to be baptized as well. John the Baptist knew who Jesus was. John's response to Jesus was, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"

But Jesus had to be baptized to fulfill all righteousness. He came to take the punishment for sinful man. His baptism by John showed that Jesus was willing (even as God) to be identified with the sinful people He came to save.

Then there were the temptations of Christ in the wilderness. Jesus was tempted like we are, yet He did not sin. And Jesus set an example for us to use when we are tempted each day to disobey.

Jesus used God's Word to overcome the devil's temptations. Jesus told the tempter all three times, "It is written." He used the Scriptures He knew and trusted—God's Word—to send the tempter away.

This account of Jesus in the wilderness shows us that Jesus does understand our struggles each day as we try to be obedient to His Word. Those verses kept Jesus focused on God and His Word and not on the temptation that was before Him. Jesus knew God's Word and trusted it to help Him while He was being tempted.

We can learn from this example of Jesus. We can trust God's Word to help us to overcome the temptations we face. But we need to know His Word before it can help us. That is the challenge!

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

The Bible says we are all sinners. We are all tempted every day. And when we give into temptation we sin.

Sometimes it seems so difficult to stop sinning. And we can ALL do a better job of resisting temptation! In today's lesson, Jesus set the example of how we can resist temptation.

? What did Jesus do when tempted? What did He depend on? What did He trust to help Him? *The Word of God.*

Yes! He used the Word of God. And that is how we can battle against the sin in our lives. We must fight sin with God's Word.

We'll never overcome sin perfectly like Jesus did, but we can use the power of God's Word to do better and better. The more you learn God's Word, the better you become at spotting the sin in your life. Then when you are faced with the temptation to sin, the Holy Spirit will help you battle against the temptation using God's Word!

We need to know God's Word well in order to overcome the temptation to sin. And that means being serious about learning and memorizing Scripture.

Let's start today by agreeing to memorize our memory verse, **Philippians 2:8**. We have two more weeks before we get a new verse. We can do it!



► Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the students to practice the memory verse this week.



MEMORY VERSE

Philippians 2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.



GROUP PRAYER TIME

- Praise God for His perfect and sovereign plan to send Jesus as God in the flesh.
- Thank God for Jesus's perfect example of how we can overcome temptation—using the Word of God.
- Ask God to move our hearts to want to learn His Word and to memorize it.