

Jesus in the Wilderness: Lesson 1

SuperTruth: Jesus resisted the devil's temptations.

SuperVerse: *Jesus understands every weakness of ours, because He was tempted in every way that we are. But He did not sin!*

Hebrews 4:15 (CEV)

Bible Story: Mark 1:9–13; Matthew 4:1–11; Luke 2:41–52; 4:1–13

LARGE GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Today's Superbook adventure is "Jesus in the Wilderness." We'll meet some parents who thought their son was with them, but He wasn't! Then we'll see what Chris, Joy and Gizmo are doing today.

- Mary and Joseph are looking for their young son, Jesus, on their way home from Jerusalem. Chris is tempted to play a violent video game that his parents have forbidden.
- Superbook takes Chris, Joy and Gizmo to meet Jesus—first when He is a boy, speaking to the elders at the Temple; then when He is a man, resisting Satan's temptations in the wilderness. The children learn how the Word of God can help them stand strong!

SMALL GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Game: Weapons to Win (15 minutes)

Objective: *Play a game to take God's Word and Spirit with you.*

- Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit. And the Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted. This is what our game is based on.

Game Instructions:

- You will play as teams. Each player must travel through the wilderness with God's Spirit and God's Word—carrying the balloons on the plate and cup. Walk as fast as possible, but if you aren't careful, a balloon may fall to the ground. If that happens, you must stop and place it back on the cup or plate and then continue.

Teaching: It Is Written! (15 minutes)

Objective: *Discuss how Jesus defeated Satan's temptations in the wilderness.*

- Experiencing temptation is not sin—but giving in and disobeying God is!
- The Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness so that, as a man, He could experience and resist Satan's temptations—and to provide a way for us to overcome them, too!

Take Home Activity—Discipleship Challenge (5 minutes)

- The challenge is to read and discuss Philippians 4:8. Listen to the Holy Spirit so you can change your thinking to remove impure and harmful thoughts—and replace them with God's thoughts.

SuperVerse: Superbook Correction (5 minutes)

Objective: *Memorize the SuperVerse with a group activity.*

- Nothing is hidden from God; our failures, mistakes, as well as our strengths and weaknesses. He understands them all and continues to love us!
- As children cover their eyes, use the list to change one word of the SuperVerse on the board to alter the meaning of the verse, then have the children look at the board and raise their hands to tell you what word should be fixed. Write in the correct word, then repeat the process.

Prayer: Strength Prayers (5 minutes)

Objective: *Communicate with God.*

- Jesus knows and understands all of our weaknesses. He wants us to share them with Him and ask for His power to overcome them.
- Let's ask the Holy Spirit to speak to our hearts, showing us any weaknesses or temptations that we struggle with. Silently pray and ask Jesus for His power to overcome our weaknesses.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (REFER TO THE LESSON GUIDE FOR DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS)

Action Game: Play a game to pursue godly things and reject temptation. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

Guessing Game: Play a game to reveal and erase weaknesses. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

Coloring Activity: Color a page about Chris. | **Grades 1–3** | 10 min

Bible Activity: Discuss the power of God's Word to fight temptation and sin. | **Grades 4–6** | 15 min

Game Materials Needed:

- Four round balloons
- Permanent marker
- Four 18 oz. wide mouth plastic cups—plus extras
- Four small paper plates (7 inch)—plus extras
- Optional: painters tape or masking tape
- Optional: items to make an obstacle course

Teaching Materials Needed:

- Printed Bible
- Ear Pad Pattern
- Headband Pattern
- Cardstock: 2 per child
- Scissors
- Pencils to share
- Children's scissors
- Chenille 12" craft stems
- Painters tape or masking tape
- Cellophane tape
- Sealable sandwich bags
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

SuperVerse Materials Needed:

- Whiteboard and marker; or chalkboard and chalk
- Eraser
- Bibles or the Superbook Bible App

Prayer Materials Needed:

- Bible or the Superbook Bible App