**Lesson 2: Resist!**

**Bible Point:** We can resist temptation

**Key Verse:** “Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7b)

| Pre Activity | 10 min | **Everyone Starting in Room 203**  
First 5/10 Min:  
Welcome children to the classroom as they arrive. **Have each child find their teacher and sit in a circle with their class.**  
--use a ball as a tool to pass around the circle; the person with the ball answers the question and asks the next question. Make it a game  
Ask children one fun thing that they did this past week or weekend.  
Ask what they remember from last week’s lesson.  

**Key Verse:** “Resist the devil, and he will flee from you”  
Work with the kids to create hand motions and actions to help them remember the verse. |
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| Worship | 15 min | **WORSHIP:**  
Worship Leader (WL): Welcome children and state the lesson name and bible point. Open in prayer. Begin worship by getting kids excited! (perhaps some stretches to prepare for dancing!)  

**Worship:**  
1.  
2.  
3.  

When songs are completed, have the kids sit with **their classes and teacher.**  
(teachers joining the kids; preferably sitting near those that are more quick to distract)  

**TITHING:**  
Lesson Leader (LL): We are going to start each Sunday morning with tithing, because of its importance and so that we can share this experience.  
Question: Can anyone explain why we tithe and what it means to tithe? |
| Lesson | 15 - 20 min | In this activity, kids will play a game where they’ll be bombarded with all kinds of temptations.  
Teacher's note: **The younger kids will not be able to write out the temptations like it is said to do in this part of the lesson, either have leaders help them write, or suggest they draw pictures** |
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LL: I’m going to give each of you scraps of paper and pencils. On each scrap of paper, write one temptation that someone your age faces. Maybe you will write “cheating on a test” or “talking back” or “hitting my sister”. Leaders will have to help the younger kids to write down the temptations. Think of as many temptations as you can, and write each one on a separate scrap of paper. Give kids a minute or two to write and be sure to walk around and help them come up with things.

LL: Ok, now I need a brave volunteer. Choose a volunteer to stand next to you. Have the child say the temptation they have written down, have each child say the different temptations they have written down.

LL: Satan is always on the lookout for ways to make us stumble and sin. He bombards us with temptations! Sometimes he tempts us to do something wrong. Other times, he tempts us to think or feel something wrong. Sometimes he appeals to our emotions, like pride or envy.

Ask: Does any one know what pride means? (Pride is when you are overly satisfied with your own things or accomplishments, it’s when you show off what you have or what you have done in order to make yourself look even better)

Ask: Does anyone know what envy means? (Envy is when you are unhappy because you want what someone else has. You are not happy for them and their accomplishments or possessions, but want it for yourself instead)

LL: Maybe you got a better grade at school than your friend and you start to think you are a better person. Or maybe your friend got a new video game and you’re mad because you wanted to get it first. Or maybe you’re tempted to be angry with someone. Write those types of “Feeling” temptations on some more paper scraps. Have the kids share these as well

LL: Whew! These temptations are pretty powerful aren’t they? But guess what? There is still another way that Satan tempts us. This time it is by tempting us to doubt God. Sometimes things happen in our lives that are hard to deal with. During the hard times, it is easy to think that maybe God doesn’t care about us anymore. Satan just loves to use that temptation! Anytime we’re tempted to doubt God’s love for us that is the devil at work! (USE PICTURES AT END OF LESSON TO HELP THEM THINK ABOUT WAYS THEY MIGHT DOUBT GOD. )

On a scrap of paper, write down a word or two to describe a time you doubted God. You won’t have to say it out loud if you don’t want to. For example, you might write ‘when my Mom was sick” or “when my grandpa broke his hip”.


Ask: How can we resist the temptations that are being put in front of us all the time?

LL: You won’t believe it! But I can think of yet another way that Satan tempts us! He uses lots of tricks against us, doesn’t he? This next kind of temptation is about doubt again, but this time it’s about doubting ourselves. You know that kind of thoughts I mean: I’m stupid, I’m ugly, No one likes me, I’ll never be good at anything.

Do you think those thoughts come from God? No way! God loves us! In fact, he loves us soooo much that He sent His only Son to die on the cross for us. He doesn’t want us to think bad things about ourselves. But Satan does.

Ask: How do you feel when those kinds of negative thoughts go through your head? How do you treat others when we are feeling bad about ourselves?

LL: When we are busy feeling bad about ourselves, or prideful, or envious, we are not helping other people! We are not being joyful. We’re not doing the things God has ready for us to do!

Now don’t get me wrong. Sometimes we should feel bad about ourselves. When we sin, the Holy Spirit will prompt us to repent and ask God to forgive us. That’s a good thing!

But God would never tell us we’re too short or too dumb or too goofy-looking! Those thoughts come from the great liar, which is what Satan is sometimes called. On these last paper scraps, write some of the bad thoughts people sometimes think about themselves.

LL: Satan tempts us in lots of ways. But we never have to feel singled out or like we’re the only one he is tempting. Every person who has ever lived on this earth has been tempted! But only one person was tempted and never sinned. And now he handled his temptation can help us handle ours. Let’s look right now at the story of how Satan tempted Jesus, and see how this teaches us that we can resist temptation.

And keep your scraps of paper with temptations; we are going to use them later!

Below is Matthew 4:1-11 from the Message. Read this rendition of the temptation of Jesus to the kids.

1-3 Next Jesus was taken into the wild by the Spirit for the Test. The Devil was ready to give it. Jesus prepared for the Test by fasting forty days and forty nights. That left him, of course, in a state of extreme hunger, which the Devil took advantage of in the first test: "Since you are God’s Son, speak the word that will turn these stones into loaves of bread."

4Jesus answered by quoting Deuteronomy: "It takes more than bread
to stay alive. It takes a steady stream of words from God's mouth."

5-6 For the second test the Devil took him to the Holy City. He sat him on top of the Temple and said, "Since you are God's Son, jump." The Devil goaded him by quoting Psalm 91: "He has placed you in the care of angels. They will catch you so that you won't so much as stub your toe on a stone."

7 Jesus countered with another citation from Deuteronomy: "Don't you dare test the Lord your God."

8-9 For the third test, the Devil took him to the peak of a huge mountain. He gestured expansively, pointing out all the earth's kingdoms, how glorious they all were. Then he said, "They're yours—lock, stock, and barrel. Just go down on your knees and worship me, and they're yours."

10 Jesus' refusal was curt: "Beat it, Satan!" He backed his rebuke with a third quotation from Deuteronomy: "Worship the Lord your God, and only him. Serve him with absolute single-heartedness."

11 The Test was over. The Devil left. And in his place, angels! Angels came and took care of Jesus' needs.

**LL:** Whew, Jesus was tempted by the devil in THREE big ways! Can any of you help me remember the three ways? (Food, Jump, Giving him the whole world)

Satan tempted Jesus in some really big ways! It is interesting to see that Jesus used Scripture every time to resist each temptation! In your small groups you will talk more about Scripture and resisting temptations.

Does anyone remember our key verse for today? Can someone, or a few of you, show us the actions you came up with to remember the memory verse?

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**SMALL GROUPS:**

**K-1st Small Groups:**

**SL:** Satan tempted Jesus in some really really big ways! The first time he tempted Jesus with food. See Jesus was fasting.

- Do you know what fasting is?

And so He was not going to be eating. Can you imagine how hungry
you would be if you hadn’t eaten in 40 days! If food was offered to you when you were starving you would want to take it! But Jesus knew that relying on God and resisting the Devil was more important than food! The second temptation is a little different. Satan suggests to Jesus, who is God, that He could jump off the cliff and He would be fine because God has angels protecting Him. Although Jesus could do anything, He resisted the devil because the devil was merely testing Him.

- What do you think this temptation is all about?

The third temptation is pretty crazy! Satan is offering Jesus all the power and riches in the world, if he would just worship the devil. WE might not think we ever face this temptation. But when we turn away from God and put our energy and thoughts and time into some material thing, it’s like we are worshipping that thing instead of God. And that is what the devil wants.

- Would that have been tempting to you? To get all the riches of this world?

Scripture tells us a few different things about resisting temptations! Read 1 Corinthians 10:13 and Proverbs 3:5-6 and then finish by reading the memory verse and Matthew 26:41a (“watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation”)

SL: Scripture is very clear that when we feel tempted we can pray to the Lord and ask Him to remove the temptation. He will help us resist the temptation! As Matthew 26:41 says if we are careful and pray He will help us not to fall in to temptation. But it is very clear that we need Jesus’ help! Jesus is the ONLY person on earth who never ever gave in to the temptations of the devil! And that same person who has the power to resist the temptation wants to help you resist temptation! He loves and cares for you sooooo much that he wants to help you do the right thing!

Remember those scraps of paper you wrote or drew temptations on earlier? We need those now!

*Hand everyone a big piece of 14x11 paper. Pass out the sheets of paper with the different verses on them (the ones you just read above) Have the kids glue their temptations on to the paper and then cross them out. And then have them cut out the different verses and place them on the paper. The truth of Scripture conquering the temptations. Preferably have them glue the memory verse in the middle.*
2nd-5th Small Groups:

**SL:** Satan tempted Jesus in some really really big ways! The first time he tempted Jesus with food. See Jesus was fasting. Do you know what fasting is? And so He was not going to be eating. Can you imagine how hungry you would be if you hadn't eaten in 40 days! If food was offered to you when you were starving you would want to take it! But Jesus knew that relying on God and resisting the Devil was more important than food!
The second temptation is a little different. Satan suggests to Jesus, who is God, that He could jump off the cliff and He would be fine because God has angels protecting Him. Although Jesus could do anything, He resisted the devil because the devil was merely testing Him.

- What do you think this temptation is all about?
- Why do you think Jesus answered the devil by saying do not test the Lord your God?
- What does it mean to “test God”
The third temptation is pretty crazy! Satan is offering Jesus all the power and riches in the world, if he would just worship the devil. WE might not think we ever face this temptation. But when we turn away from God and put our energy and thoughts and time into some material thing, it’s like we are worshipping that thing instead of God. And that is what the devil wants.

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ALL SMALL GROUPS:
Teacher’s note: ***prep before hand by drawing a cross on butcher paper and hanging it to the wall***

**Prayer:**
Today we learned that we can resist temptation! Today we are going to do prayer requests a little differently! You all thought of lots of different temptations today. Pick one of those temptations that is particularly hard for you and write it down or draw a picture of it.

**Say:** Jesus was human and He faced the same temptations we do. But He is also God, so he was the only person never to give in to temptation and sin. We can ALWAYS look to his example when we’re struggling with temptations.

Explain that the kids should take turns placing the paper temptations on the floor at the base of the cross you drew and put on the wall. Then gather kids in a semicircle near the pile of papers and lead kids in a closing prayer.

Thank Jesus for showing us the way to resist temptation. And ask Him to help each person in your class resist temptation during the following week.
“Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” – James 4:7b

“Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation” – Matthew 26:41a

“No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it” – 1Corinthians 10:13

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.” – Proverbs 3:5-6
Some one you love gets sick.

You get a bad grade on a test you studied really hard for.