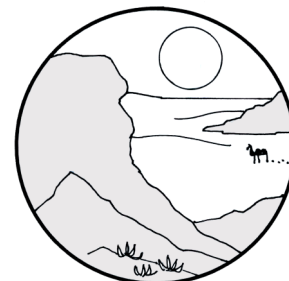


Lesson #1-19***Temptation in the Wilderness***

Matthew 4:1-17

**Key Verse:**

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness.

Matthew 4:1

The Point:

God's promises help us face temptation.

Advent Theme (December 25—January 20)

God's Promise of Jesus

What Would You Do?*Brainstorm ideas to resist temptation.**You will need:*

- † Activity Sheet
- † Scissors
- † Basket or bowl
- † White board or mural paper
- † Markers

Preparation:

1. Print and cut apart the temptations on the activity sheet. Place them in the basket or bowl.

Instructions:

1. **A temptation is something that we want to do, but shouldn't. It can be hard to resist. Let's talk about some common temptations that we each might face, and work together to come up with ways that we can resist those temptations. These**

ideas we can put in our "toolbox" to use when we are in these difficult situations.

2. Invite students to take turns drawing a situation from the basket or bowl and reading it out loud. Brainstorm ways that students can resist that temptation and write the ideas on the whiteboard or mural paper.
3. **These are great ideas for resisting temptation. Choose one or two that you think would work best for you, and try to remember them for when you are in one of these situations. Then, when you are tempted, you will be able to turn to these solutions and resist the temptation.**
4. **The other thing you can do to help you resist temptation is to turn to your friends at church, your family, and to God. Talking with people and praying to God are great ways to refocus your mind and help you to do what is right.**

What Would You Do?

Brainstorm ideas to resist temptation.

1. I AM TEMPTED TO LIE TO MY PARENTS OR FAMILY
2. I AM TEMPTED TO STEAL SOMETHING
3. I AM TEMPTED TO CHEAT ON A TEST OR AT A GAME
4. I AM TEMPTED TO STAY QUIET IF SOMEONE IS BLAMED FOR MY MISTAKE
5. I AM TEMPTED TO IGNORE SOMEONE WHO IS IN TROUBLE
6. I AM TEMPTED TO BULLY SOMEONE
7. I AM TEMPTED TO GOSSIP ABOUT SOMEONE
8. I AM TEMPTED TO MAKE FUN OF OTHER PEOPLE
9. I AM TEMPTED TO JUDGE OR CRITICIZE OTHERS FOR THEIR MISTAKES