

Unit 9 Lesson 4
Heartprint: Jesus Gives Us Forever Gifts
Memory Verse: John 3:3
May 23, 2021

Large Group video: <https://youtu.be/YhhP5oFH-oM>

Song: God Loves You and Me <https://youtu.be/y1yTuODbyxo>

Activity: Sitting by the campfire

Items Needed:

- Campfire cutout
- Picnic Basket or Plastic food

Instructions: Have something to pass around to the children in the circle (maybe a picnic basket or plastic play food). When the child gets the basket or play food, they can tell everyone about a time they went camping or what they would like to do when camping. You could give them prompts if they can't think of anything they want to do. Examples: swim in the lake, roast s'mores, build a campfire, fish, hike, skip rocks on the lake, build a tent, use a flashlight in the dark, hunt for bugs, etc. Alternative: Have pictures of these things like flash cards and let them choose which 3 or 4 would be their favorite activity camping? If time and supplies allow, have a fake campfire going in the middle of the circle.

Connection Point: Jesus went into the wilderness not to have fun but to be tempted. What do we know about Jesus? Jesus always obeys God! Satan did not win against Jesus. Satan will not win against us if we pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help us obey God.

Craft: I can say yes to God.

Items Needed:

- Crayons/markers/watercolors

Instructions:

Give each child a color sheet and allow them to color or paint.

Connection Point: In our story, we heard how Jesus said no to Satan, and Jesus always obeyed God. Jesus gives us the power to say no to Satan and say yes to God!

Bible Lesson: *Jesus gives us the power to say no to Satan*



Memory Verse: Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth. Unless you are born again, you cannot be in God’s Kingdom.” John 3:3 ICB

This week’s story is taken from Matthew 4:1-11:

Have you ever been camping with your family? It is fun to pitch a tent out in the wilderness, build a fire and eat good food, maybe even swim in the lake!

Today in our story Jesus is led out in the wilderness, but not with his family or the disciples but alone, and without food. At the end of the story we are going to share our stories about camping. If you have ever gone or where you would go if you could go! I would like to go where there is a lake so I could swim during the day and sit by the campfire at night!

The first thing you need to remember about the story today is that Jesus ALWAYS obeyed God. Say that with me. Jesus always obeyed God! During the story if I say, “What do we know about Jesus?” You say, “Jesus always obeyed God!” Let’s try it. What do we know about Jesus? “Jesus always obeyed God!” Perfect!

Do you remember that Jesus spent most of his time with his disciples? Well one day the Holy Spirit led Jesus out to the wilderness, away from his disciples, away from his family and away from the crowds that followed him wherever he went. Jesus did not have hot dogs packed to roast over the fire, He did not have s’mores or even apples or oranges to eat. Do you know what Jesus had with him to eat? Nothing. Nothing at all.

How many days did Jesus have nothing to eat? 40 days and 40 nights! Jesus was alone in the wilderness with nothing.

How long do you think you could go without food? I can’t even go one day without food!

Jesus spent the 40 days and 40 nights fasting. Do you know what fasting is? Fasting is when you do not eat, but instead pray when you are hungry. When we fast, we draw very near God. Jesus was fasting because he knew He was about to be tempted. Do you know what temptation is? It is when you want to do something that is **against** God’s will.

For example, let’s say your mom had a vase and she puts flowers in it. She loved the vase and told you, “Do not run in the house because you could accidentally hit the vase and break it.” One day while your mom is outside talking to the neighbor and you start chasing your little sister around the house. You both are having so much fun. Then a bad thing happens. You run into the table that holds the vase and the vase breaks! A big crack goes right up the middle of the vase. Your mom comes in and says, “WHAT HAPPENED TO MY VASE!”

To obey God, you should tell your mom the truth. But what are you tempted to do? Maybe blame your sister, or say you don’t know what happened? Lying is disobeying God. God tells us not to lie. What do you think you would do? Lie or tell the truth. Temptation is not a sin, but when we choose to lie, that is a sin. You might be tempted to lie, but if you don’t lie then you have done God’s will.

So Jesus is led out to the wilderness, alone and without food. He fasts for 40 days and 40 nights. Then... the bad guy comes... Satan. (Do a scared face) Satan wanted to tempt Jesus into disobeying God. But **what do we know about Jesus? "Jesus always obeyed God!"**

Satan asks Jesus, "If you are the Son of God, turn those stones to bread."

Is Jesus the Son of God? YES! But Jesus has not eaten in 40 days and 40 nights. He is hungry. He is tempted. This would be disobedient to God. What do you think Jesus did? **What do we know about Jesus? "Jesus always obeyed God!"**

Strike one for Satan! Satan has two more tries to trick Jesus into NOT doing what God wants. **But what do we know about Jesus? "Jesus always obeyed God!"**

For Satan's second try he takes Jesus up to a tall building and says, "If you are the son of God, jump and angels will catch you."

Is Jesus the Son of God? YES!

What else do we know about Jesus? "Jesus always obeyed God!" Do you think he is going to jump? No! Jesus tells Satan that we are never to tempt God.

Strike 2 for Satan! One last try. Satan leads Jesus to the top of a tall mountain and says, "See all the cities and people and wealth? It is all yours if you worship me.

What do we know about Jesus? "Jesus always obeyed God!" Jesus told Satan that we are told to worship God alone. STRIKE THREE SATAN, YOU ARE OUT! Then Jesus said, "Get away from me, Satan!" Satan tried 3 times to tempt Jesus into disobeying God. Three times Satan failed. We could have told Satan it would never work because... **What do we know about Jesus? "Jesus always obeyed God!"**

God asks us to obey Him too. We are tempted to not do what He asks, like lying about breaking the vase. And although Jesus was alone when he was tempted, we are not. The Holy Spirit is with us and if we ask, He will give us the courage to obey God. But even though we are not perfect like Jesus, God will forgive us as we try each day to be more like Jesus. **And what do we know about Jesus? "Jesus always obeyed God!"**

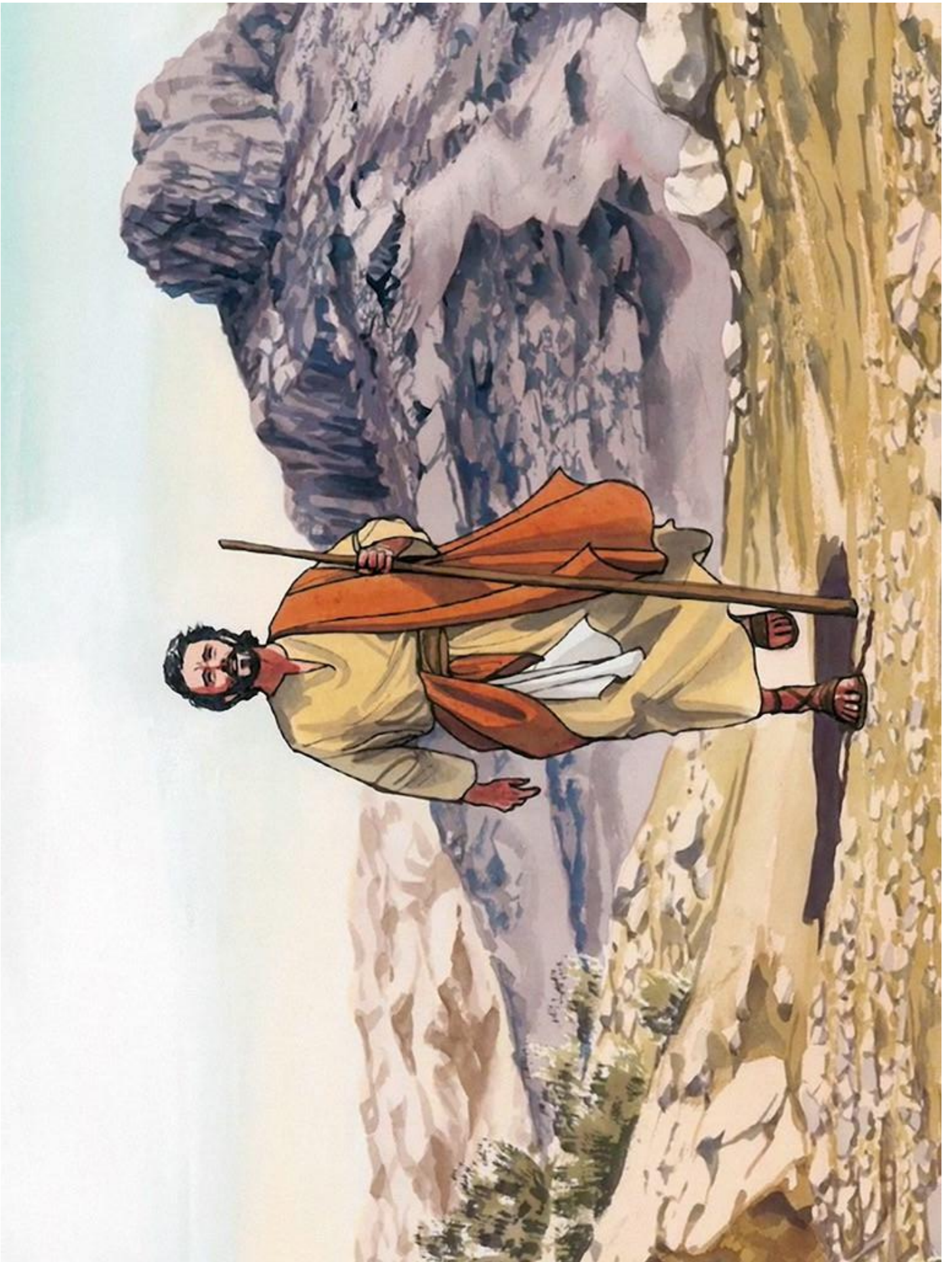
Let's pray:

God, we praise you for sending your perfect Son to die for our sins so that we can have the Holy Spirit to help us be obedient too. Give us the courage to be like Jesus. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Questions:

1. How many days did Jesus fast (not eat food)? (40 days and 40 nights)
2. Who came to tempt Jesus to not obey God? (Satan)
3. What did Satan ask Jesus to turn stones to? (Bread)
4. What does temptation mean? (when we want to do something that is against God's Will)
5. How many times did Satan tempt Jesus? (3)

6. What do we know about Jesus? (Jesus always obeyed God)









Jesus always obeyed God.
I can say no to Satan and yes to God!

