Lesson 1: Jesus Is the Son of God & the Son of Man

Overview:

Key Focus: Jesus understands us.

Bible Story: Jesus's Baptism and Temptation

Scriptures: Luke 3:21–22, 23, 38; 4:1–13; Deuteronomy 8:3, 6:13, 16; Psalm 91:11

Memory Verse: Hebrews 4:15 (NKJV) For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Prep:

Materials Needed:

- Balloon
- A ball

Engage:

Call out a variety of topics for the children to identify with and stand if they have experienced that topic. Invite a couple of volunteers to talk about their experiences and have the children nod if they felt the same in their experiences.

Topics: parents tell you they will have another baby, pick out a puppy, fly on an airplane, win a prize at a contest, being in a scary storm, being water baptized

As people shared their experiences, some of you could relate to how they felt. When you go through some events in life, it feels good to talk with someone who has experienced what you have gone through or you might go through in the future. Today's Bible lesson will show us someone we can turn to because He has experienced what we are going through.

Memory Verse Activity:
Display the verse. Depending on your group, you may want to break up this verse and learn it over more than one week.

A high priest goes between God and us, and Jesus does that. Sympathize means "to understand." This verse shows that Jesus is part of God, but came to the earth and was tempted like us. What does the verse say is the difference between us being tempted and Jesus' temptation? (Jesus didn't sin.)

As the group reads the verse together with you, do a variety of different movements each time, such as feet together for one word and then feet apart for the next word, whisper, clap each word, touch knees then straighten up with each word, and stretch up with one word and stretch down to toes for the next word.

Memory Verse: Hebrews 4:15 (NKJV) For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Bible Story:

Today, we are going to talk about a question that many people ask. Maybe you have thought about this also. We know that God is in heaven and perfect. How can a perfect God in heaven understand me and my life? Nod your head if you have wondered about this question. Pause for head nods. **Whenever we have questions about God, the only place to find the right answer is in the Bible. Let's see what God's Word says about God understanding us.**

Genesis tells us that God created everything, and all three parts of God were creating everything. What are the three parts of God? (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit) **What happened in the Garden of Eden that ended people being in a close relationship with God?** (Adam and Eve sinned.) **God the Son offered to come to the earth as a human so that He could pay the price for everyone's sins. Matthew 1 tells us that Jesus' human mother was Mary and that's why the Bible gives Jesus another name—Son of Man. It is really hard for adults to understand that Jesus was God but also a man. We don't have to understand everything about it—we can believe it because God said it!**

Let's learn about Jesus' life on the earth. Read Luke 3:21–22. **What special event happened?** (Jesus was baptized, and God said He was pleased with His Son.) Allow time for a couple of children to share about their water baptisms. **Jesus was at the Jordan River along with other people being baptized. He didn't look different than other people even though He was God's Son. Sometimes we imagine Jesus shining or with a halo above His head, but the Bible tells us there was nothing special about His looks.**

The next few verses in Luke explain Jesus' genealogy or His family tree. Read Luke 3:23 and 38. **How old was Jesus when He was baptized?** (30 years old) Let children who were baptized hold up their fingers to show how old they were when they got baptized. **Luke tells us that people assumed Jesus' father was Joseph. Who does the genealogy tell us is really Jesus' Father?** (God)

Immediately after Jesus had His amazing baptism with the Holy Spirit coming down as a dove and God's voice affirming Jesus was His Son, something happened. Let's find out what. Read Luke 4:1–3. **Notice that Luke made sure we understand that Jesus went into the wilderness after He was filled with the Holy Spirit. How many days was Jesus in the wilderness?** (40) **What happened there?** (Satan tempted Him, and He ate nothing.) **Think about how hungry you are if you miss a snack or a meal. Forty days is a long time to go without food, and He was hungry. How did Satan use Jesus' hunger to tempt Him?** (He said, "If you are the Son of God, tell the stone to become bread.") **If you were hungry, that would be a huge temptation, but was Jesus on the earth to turn stones into bread?** (No, He came to pay for everyone's sins.) **What word trick did Satan try to use on Jesus?** (He said "if you are" and we know that Jesus is the Son of God.)

Jesus didn't fall for Satan's word trick because Jesus was filled up with the Holy Spirit and knew that He was the Son of God. Jesus does something super powerful that we need to remember to do when we are tempted. Read Luke 4:4. **In Jesus' time and culture, bread was eaten every day, so bread was important. What did Jesus say was more important than bread?** (the word of God) **Jesus actually quoted a verse that Moses wrote when the Israelites spent 40 years in the wilderness.** Read Deuteronomy 8:3. **Jesus knew what the scriptures said. You can see that it is important to learn your memory verses each week because they can help you fight against temptations and Satan's word tricks.**

Read Luke 4:5–7. **Satan tempted Jesus by offering Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. Jesus helped create all of those things. Before Adam and Eve sinned, God gave them power over everything He created. When Adam and Eve sinned, they gave up their power over everything to Satan. Jesus came to the earth with the job of paying for sin and winning over death so the power Satan got from Adam and Eve would be returned to Him. Satan offered Jesus a shortcut so He didn't have to die on the cross. What did Satan want Jesus to do?** (worship him) Read Luke 4:8. **I'm so glad that Jesus knew His job and knew to answer Satan with God's Word, "You shall fear the LORD your God and serve Him …" from Deuteronomy 6:13.**

Read Luke 4:9–11. **What word trick did Satan use again?** (He said, "If you are the Son of God.") **You can see how important it was that Jesus knew who He was and what He was sent to the earth to do. Satan was tricky and used verses to try to tempt Jesus. What did Satan want Jesus to do?** (He wanted Jesus to throw Himself down from the top of the temple and have the angels save Him.) **Was calling on angels for help part of Jesus' assignment from God**? (No.) **Satan actually quoted Psalm 91:11 "For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways."** Read Luke 4:12–13. **Jesus chose not to follow Satan's idea. We**

want to be smart like Jesus and not follow any of the ideas Satan gives to us. Instead, Jesus chose to answer Satan with another verse, "You shall not tempt the LORD your God …" from Deuteronomy 6:16. Do you think Satan liked hearing God's Word? (No.) **Satan still tries to trick people, but we can be smart and focus on what God's Word says. Remember, Satan is tricky and doesn't play fair. He didn't tempt Jesus at His baptism when God and the Holy Spirit were there. Satan waited until Jesus was hungry and then began to tempt Him. What happened when Satan realized that Jesus wouldn't sin and do what Satan wanted?** (Satan left.)

Every day Satan tries to get people to listen to him and do what he tempts them to do. He even picks on kids and tries to get them to disobey. Just because Satan gives you a thought to do something wrong, do you have to do it? (No.) **When have you been tempted?** Allow time for responses. **Jesus knows what you are going through when Satan tries to get you to do wrong. Aren't you glad that Jesus understands what it is like when Satan tempts you?** Let children respond.

Bible Story Questions:

- **How did Jesus' water baptism show that He was the Son of God?** (God's voice told everyone that this was His Son and He was pleased in Jesus. The Holy Spirit came down in the form of a dove.)
- **What happened after the baptism?** (Jesus went to the wilderness for 40 days and was tempted by Satan.)
- **Why do you think Satan waited until Jesus was hungry to tempt Him?** (Possible answer: Satan waits until he thought Jesus was weak and would give in to the temptation.)
- **How many times did Satan tempt Jesus?** (3)
- **Why do you think Satan stopped on the third try**? (Possible answers: He could see that Jesus wouldn't be tempted; he was tired of hearing Jesus quote verses to him; he could see that Jesus knew He was God's Son and wouldn't be tricked.)
- **What strategy did Jesus use against Satan's temptations?** (Jesus quoted the scriptures.)
- **How can Jesus help you this week when Satan tempts you?** (Possible answers: I can quote verses; I can pray and ask Jesus to give me strength to say "no" to the temptation; I can praise God and that makes the devil go away.)

Bible Story Activities:

Games:

- Gather the children in a large circle. Read the following scenarios about tempting situations. Play music while kids think of what they would do as they hit the balloon

around the group. When you stop the music, the person holding the balloon gives an explanation of what they would do in that situation. Repeat the same one to give other children an opportunity to respond or continue with more scenarios.

Scenario #1 - Your parents told you to finish your homework before watching TV. Your math isn't done yet, but it is time for your favorite show to start. What will you do?
Scenario #2 - Your teacher is looking at her computer and you can see the answers on your neighbor's paper. What will you do?
Scenario #3 - Your friend invited you over but you forgot to ask your mom for permission to go. Your friend's mom asks if your mother gave you permission. What will you do?
Scenario #4 - At the store, you saw money fall out of a person's coat pocket. What will you do?
Scenario #5 - Your brother made you really mad and stormed out of the kitchen. You see that he left his favorite snack on the table. What will you do?

- Ideas for Working with Younger Kids:
  Have the children sit on the floor in a large circle. Roll a ball to a child and have that child say with you, "Jesus understands me." Then, have all the children say to that child, "Jesus understands ___ (name of the child)." Let that child roll the ball back to you and continue the process.

- Ideas for Working with Older Kids:
  Lead a Bible Sword Drill. Have the group hold up their Bibles. When you give the reference, everyone recites it back to you, and when you give the signal, they try to be the first to find the verse. When they find the verse, they stand up and start reading it.
  - *These references show that Jesus was called the Son of God and the Son of Man:* Mark 2:28, Mark 3:11, Luke 9:22, John 1:29, Luke 19:10, Acts 9:20, Matthew 20:28, 2 Corinthians 1:19, John 3:14 and Galatians 3:26.

Worksheet:
Have the children work together in small groups with a helper and at least one Bible. Read through the list of temptations. Then, help the children take turns looking up the verses and deciding which temptation the verse answers.

When the groups finish matching, have them fill in the blanks with vowels to make the words found in James 4:7. They can look up James 4:7 to check their answers. On the back of their papers, have them draw or write about a time they were tempted and Jesus helped them. If children can't think of a personal experience, have them draw or write about Jesus' experience in the wilderness.

Affirmation/Declaration:
God came to the earth as a man.
Jesus was tempted like I am.
Jesus understands me!
I won't be tricked because I know Jesus is with me!

Make Connections:

Biblical Worldview Connection:
Today's social media promotes some people to almost "godlike" status. People need to understand that they are not God, and they need Jesus to be their Savior. Help the children recognize that sharing what they learn about God with their friends, neighbors, classmates, and family might be the only way those people will hear the truth about God, Jesus, and salvation.

Missions Connections:
Muslims believe that Jesus was a special teacher sent from God, but not the Son of God. Explain that people must believe that Jesus is the Son of God and has power and authority, unlike any son of man. Pray that missionaries will have opportunities to share the truth about Jesus. Remind the children that when they accept Jesus as their Savior, they have the job of telling others about Him. Encourage them to be missionaries in their neighborhoods and schools.

Family Connection:
This week encourage each family member to share ways Satan tempted them and how they resisted the temptation. By sharing strategies and praying for each other, you can help build a habit of saying "no" when tempted. Celebrate in some way each day that someone in your family didn't give in to a temptation.

Prayer Points:
In small groups, pray over each child to resist the devil and not give in to the temptation. Also, pray that each child talks to Jesus and gets His strength to say "no" to Satan.

Remind the children that when they disobey and sin, they should talk to Jesus because He died to take away their sins. Be sensitive to children who might want to pray for salvation and arrange to pray with them.

Name _____

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Jesus was tempted by Satan. Jesus answered by quoting Bible verses.
Look up each verse and match it to the correct temptation.

Bible Verses:	Temptations
Exodus 20:3 •	• gossiping about someone at school
Exodus 20:7 •	• taking something that isn't yours
Exodus 20:15 •	• lying
Exodus 20:16 •	• swearing
Proverbs 12:22 •	• pigging out on candy
Proverbs 15:1 •	• angrily yelling at your sister
1 Corinthians 6:19 •	• spending all of your free time playing video games

Write the missing vowel on each blank.

When you're tempted, do what James 4:7b says:

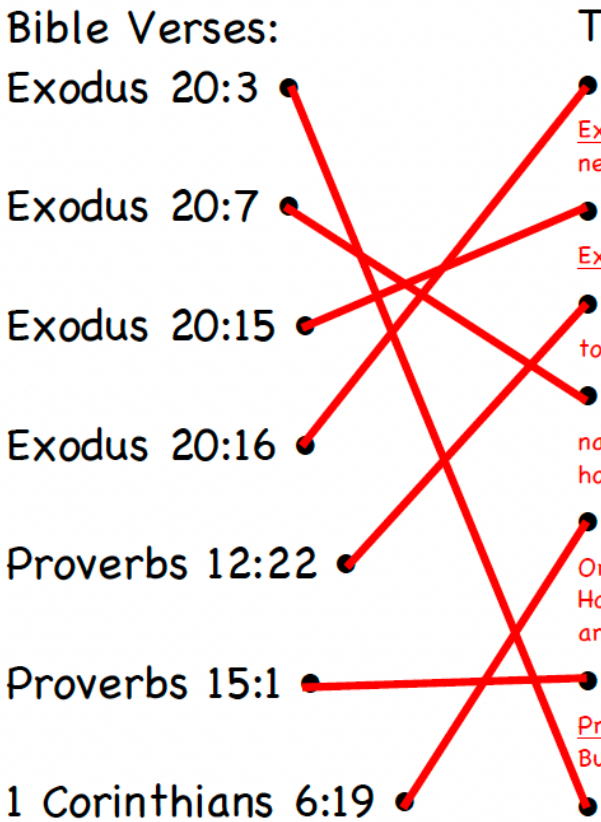
"...R_s_st th_ d_v_l _nd h_ w_ll fl__ fr_m y__."

BONUS: *On the back of this page, draw a picture or write about a time when you were tempted and Jesus helped you.*

ANSWERS

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Jesus was tempted by Satan. Jesus answered by quoting Bible verses.
Look up each verse and match it to the correct temptation.



Write the missing vowel on each blank.

When you're tempted, do what James 4:7b says:

"...Resist the devil and he will flee from you."

BONUS: *On the back of this page, draw a picture or write about a time when you were tempted and Jesus helped you.*

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