



JANUARY THEME

THE BIG QUIZ

Show What You Know

BIBLE STORY

Luke 4:1-13 (Matthew 4:1-11)

I'm Still Standing | Jesus is Tempted
Spark Story Bible, pg. 248-251
Tempted

BOTTOM LINE

Discovering what's in the Bible can help you make the wise choice

MEMORY VERSE

"The Lord gives wisdom. Knowledge and understanding come from his mouth"
Proverbs 2:6, NIRV

LIFE APP

Knowledge | Learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice...and with God's help, I can!

FOR LEADERS ONLY

GOD VIEW: the connection between **KNOWLEDGE** and God's character, as shown through God's big story.

Key Question: How do you know what's wise? We make decisions every day. Some of those decision are simple, others not so much. We pray that as they look at how Jesus made wise choices, families will be inspired to dig into God's Word and do the same.

After Jesus' baptism, we head to **Luke 4:1-13** and see that Jesus is in the wilderness. In this story, Jesus was tested. Satan twisted what Jesus knew about God and God's Word. But Jesus knew better and leveraged God's truth to fight and win over evil. Each time Satan twisted what Jesus knew to be true, Jesus countered with Scripture.

Bottom Line: Discovering what's in the Bible can help you make the wise choice. We always say, if you have a big question about what to do, the first place you should look is the Bible. We pray that families will come to understand the importance of the Bible in their life. When they don't know what choice to make, they can turn to God's Word or someone who knows God's Word to help them with whatever choices they're facing.

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

Before kids arrive, **PRAY** for each group member by name. Ask God to give kids curiosity about what's in the Bible and that, as they read and interact with it, they will grow in their faith. Pray for guidance to be able to help the kids in your group understand scripture and how it applies to their lives. Pray that what kids learn through the Bible will help them make wise choices.

•• EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

Made to Connect | An activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Say: "What does it mean to be tempted? How would you define it? (Pause for ideas such as: When you want to do something you shouldn't; when someone tries to get you to do something you shouldn't do). That's right. So...would it be tempting for you to...

- eat all the cookies in the cookie jar? —eat an ice cream cone filled with broccoli?
- do things just to bug your sibling? —skip recess to clean up your classroom?
- play video games all day? —do push-ups all day?
- watch a TV show you know you shouldn't watch?
- disobey your mom or dad to do something your friend wants you to do?



•• SPELLING BEE

Made to Play | An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: Copy paper, pens

What You Do:

- Divide your group into three teams. Give each team a piece of paper and a pen.
- Randomly assign 10 consonants and 2 vowels to each team. Have them write their letters on the top of their paper.
- Let teams work together to form as many words as they can with the letters they were given. They should write the words they form on their paper.
- Call "TIME!" after three minutes.
- Let teams tally up the number of words they found.

What You Say: "You guys are spelling champs! Great job. Tell me, what did you have to know in order to spell these words? What knowledge helped you prepare for this activity? (*Pause.*) Yes, at one point you had to learn to recognize the letters and the sounds they make. Then you began to put those letters together to be able to read words and eventually sentences. Those things prepared you to be the spelling champs you are today! There is a place we can go to prepare us for making wise choices each day. **[Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we will learn/we learned where we can go to find out how to make the wise choice.**"

[Sunday Leaders: Lead your group to Fellowship Hall for Children's Ministry worship. Wednesday Leaders: Continue with the study.]

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

•• BIBLE STORY QUIZ [Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Made to Play | An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: "Bible Story Quiz Categories" activity pages, "Bible Story Quiz Questions" activity page, Bible, pens

What You Do:

- Divide your group into three teams. Set out the Bible where everyone can share it.
- Write point values in each square of the "Bible Story Quiz Categories" activity pages as follows:
top left: 200 points top right: 400 points bottom left: 600 points bottom right: 800 points.
- Set the three "Bible Story Quiz Categories" activity pages on your small group table, so that all teams can see them.
- Select a team to go first and pick a category and point value.
- Read the corresponding question from the "Bible Story Quiz Questions" activity page.
- If the team needs help, they may look in the Bible for the answer.
- Teams can select any category and any point value on the board. As squares are chosen, "X" them out so everyone knows what questions are left.
- Continue until all questions have been asked and answered.
- Keep track of points and declare a winner at the end.

What You Say: "That was fun! You did a great job working together as a team to look up the verses and answer the questions. One of my favorite things about this event in Jesus' life on earth is how he responded to the enemy. What did he use? (*Let kids respond.*) Yes, Scripture! Each time the devil tempted him with something, Jesus answered with truth straight from Scripture. Jesus knew the scriptures, so he could resist the devil and wisely choose to remain faithful to God. The same is true for us. When we grow in knowledge



in what the Bible says, we'll be ready when it's time to make a wise choice. Because **[Bottom Line] discovering what's in the Bible can help you make the wise choice.**"

[Make It Personal] *(Tell your group about something you've learned from the Bible that has helped you make the wise choice in your own life. How did applying what you'd learned from God's Word help you make a choice that honored God?)*

●● **WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS** [Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Imagine | An activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

What You Need: Bible, "What the Bible Says" cards

What You Do:

- Divide the group into four teams and give each team a "What the Bible Says" card.
- Instruct teams to read their scripture passage and discuss their scenario:
 - What does the Bible say about what we should do when we're tempted in this type of situation?
 - What would you do in that situation?
 - Have you ever been in a similar situation? What did you do?
- Ask for a volunteer to look up and read 1 Corinthians 10:13. Ask the group the following questions:
 - What does this verse say about the things you're tempted by? *(None of the temptations we face are new or are temptations that no one else has ever faced before)*
 - What does this verse remind us about God? *(That God is faithful and will help us face any temptation)*
 - How does this verse describe what God will do when we're tempted? *(God will help us and give us a way out)*

What You Say: "We've all faced situations where we were tempted to make an unwise choice and lie or steal or disobey or say something unkind. But the Bible helps us see how those choices can hurt our relationships with others. As you grow in your knowledge and understanding of what the Bible says about how to live, and as you trust God more and more, you'll grow closer to God.

"But remember, even if you do give in to that temptation and you do say something unkind or lie or disobey, God is ALWAYS ready to forgive us. That's in the Bible, too! God has given us the Bible to show us the best way to live. Remember, **[Bottom Line] discovering what's in the Bible can help you make the wise choice.**"

●● **LOOKING FOR KNOWLEDGE BOOKMARKS** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Create | An activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: "Memory Verse Bookmarks," Bible, pens, markers

What You Do:

- Give each kid a bookmark.
- Encourage them to look up Proverbs 2:6 and fill in the missing words *(or fill in the words from memory, if they have it memorized)*.
- Instruct kids to decorate their bookmarks with markers.

What You Say: "These bookmarks can go in your Bibles or a chapter book as a reminder that all knowledge comes from God. We can make wise decisions and discover the best way to live—God's way—when we read our Bibles. Wisdom and knowledge come from whom? *(Pause.)* Yes! Those things come from God. The Bible is God's Word to us. Remember, **[Bottom Line] discovering what's in the Bible can help you make the wise choice.**"

