



**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:** "You know when you know you're not supposed to do something, but you're having a really hard time not thinking about doing it? Like maybe when you know you shouldn't eat a cookie before dinner, but you really, really want one? Or when you know you should be putting your toys away but instead you really, really want to play with them? That's called being tempted. Have either of those things ever happened to you? (*pause for responses*) What are some other ways you've been tempted? Do any of these sound familiar?..."

—When I'm supposed to be getting ready to leave but I'd rather play with my toys.

—When I'm asked to get to bed but I'd rather read another book.

—When it's time for bed but I keep coming out of my room to ask for stuff.



•• **TRUE OR FALSE?**

*Made to Move | An activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

- Read a statement below (*or create your own*).
- Invite kids to clap their hands if the statement is true and stomp their feet if the statement is false.
- Keep interest high by varying your pace and maintaining high energy.
- You can also add fun by feigning disbelief when the kids declare some statements false. The kids will love it! (“Turtles can’t fly? Are you sure? Hmm. Do they drive cars?” “Tigers don’t have rainbow polka dots? Oh, they must have blue polka dots! No? Green polka dots? When did tigers stop having rainbow polka dots?? I had no idea!”)
- Statements...
 

—The sky is purple.	—Turtles can fly.	—Tigers have rainbow polka dots.
—The sky is green.	—Bees buzz.	—You see with your ears.
—The sky is blue.	—Cows have six legs.	—You hear with your ears.
—Oranges are orange.	—Insects have six legs.	—You see with your eyes.
—Q is the first letter of the alphabet.	—People have three eyes.	—You smell with your toes.
—A is the first letter of the alphabet.	—People have 10 ears.	—You smell with your nose.
—Dogs and cats have four legs.	—People have one mouth.	—Knowing God is the most important thing.
—Fish can walk.	—Zebras have stripes.	—If you want to know God, start with Jesus.

**What You Say:** “Good listening! How did you know what was true and what was false? (*Pause.*) [Transition] **Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we are going to hear/we heard about someone who tried to trick a person into believing things that weren’t true.**

*[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.

•• **WHO SAID?** [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:** “Who Said?” cards, Spark Story Bible, ball pit ball

**What You Do:**

- Read “Tempted” (p. 248-251) in the Spark Story Bible.
- Review the following key points...
  - God’s Spirit led Jesus into the desert for 40 days.
  - While Jesus was in the desert, the devil tempted him. But each time, Jesus answered with a verse from the Bible.
  - When the devil saw that he couldn’t tempt Jesus, he gave up and left.
  - God sent angels to take care of Jesus and give him everything he needed.
  - Because Jesus had spent his whole life discovering what God said, he was ready when he needed to make a wise choice.
- Lead kids in a variation of Hot Potato...
  - Guide kids to pass the ball pit ball around the circle.
  - When you say “stop!,” ask the child holding the ball to pick one of the “Who Said?” cards.



—Read the chosen card to the group and lead them to identify who said it: Jesus or the devil. If Jesus said it, kids should jump up and say, “Jesus!” If the devil said it, kids give a thumbs-down.

—Play until each child has a turn to pick a card. *(If you run out of cards, shuffle them up and do it again.)*

**What You Say:** “Today we’re learning that **[Bottom Line] discovering what’s in the Bible can help you make the wise choice.** Just like in our story: because Jesus knew what was in the Bible, he was able to make the wise choice. He used Bible verses to tell the devil what was true.

“That’s one reason why we have a Memory Verse each month. So we can plant God’s words in our heart and they will help us make good choices and give us direction when we don’t know what to do. What might be some other ways for us to learn MORE of what’s in the Bible? *(Ask moms, dads, grandmas and grandpas to read the Bible with us; We can practice this month’s memory verse; We can do our GodTime devotions with our families at bedtime)* Great ideas! **[Make It Personal]** *(Tell kids one way you’ll make a point to discover more of what’s in the Bible.)*

“So remember: **[Bottom Line] discovering what’s in the Bible can help you make the wise choice.**”

●● **HOPSCOTCH!** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

**Made to Move | An activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body**

**What You Need:** “Verse Outlines” activity page, crayons, “Memory Verse” activity pages

**What You Do:**

- Hand out a “Verse Outlines” activity page to each kiddo and put the crayons at the center of the table so they can share them.
- As they trace the letters, read this month’s Memory Verse to your group a couple times so they begin to memorize it...  
“The Lord gives wisdom. Knowledge and understanding come from his mouth” Proverbs 2:6, NIRV
- Once they are done, if they need to get up and move, you can arrange the “Memory Verse” activity pages on the floor in the shape of an exclamation mark *(a straight line with a space between “mouth” and the verse reference page)*, reading the words as you go.
- Guide kids to line up near the top of the exclamation mark.
- Lead them to take turns hopping beside the papers, hopscotch-style:  
—The first child hops on one foot to the first paper, help the group say the word, and then the child hops along the remaining papers by straddling them with both feet.  
—The second child hops on one foot to the first paper, help the group say the word, hops on the same foot to the second paper, help the group say the second word, and then hops through the remaining plates by straddling them with both feet.
- Kids continue until the twelfth time through *(some kids will go more than once)*, when the whole verse is said.
- Repeat as many times as you’d like, focusing in on helping your group learn the verse.

**What You Say:** “It’s exciting to learn what the Bible has to say! That’s why our hopscotch papers were laid out in the shape of an exclamation point! God wants to help us make the wise choice. The Bible is God’s Word, and it tells us how God wants us to live. So, when you discover what the Bible says, you’ll be ready when you need to make the wise choice! We say it this way: **[Bottom Line] discovering what’s in the Bible can help you make the wise choice.**”

“What are some ways that you can discover what’s in the Bible? *(Help them come up with ideas such as: listening to Bible stories/ reading them at bedtime; singing Bible songs; memorizing Bible verses.)* Great ideas! And guess what? You’ve just memorized another Bible verse this month! Let’s say it again together... *(Help kids say Proverbs 2:6.)* So, remember: **[Bottom Line] discovering what’s in the Bible can help you make the wise choice.**”

●● **WISE CHOICES** [Live for God | Application Activity]

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

