

Week 2 2nd 3rd 9:45

"Jesus in the wilderness" Mark 1:9-15

Summary: Jesus lived a life free from sin, but He was still tempted by Satan. He spent time in the wilderness for prayerful contemplation and preparation, knowing that His life would be spent serving and ultimately dying for our sake. Because Jesus went through temptation and overcame it, He is able to sympathize with our struggles and help in times of trouble, and to help us prepare for life's challenges.

Memory Verse: He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." Mark 16:15

Passage to study: Mark 1:9-15

Welcome Question

Have you ever been on an adventure outdoors? What kinds of things did you need to be prepared?

- 1. Write the welcome question on the board and give students journals, label, and pens to answer the question in their journals.
- 2. Discuss the students answers and explain to them that we are going to read about how Jesus spent some time outdoors.

Memory Verse Activity

Supplies: Black marker or pencil; note cards; white board, dry erase marker; hat or bucket

Instructions:

• Before the lesson, use a black marker to print each of the following statements on a separate note card:

o Shout the verse; Twirl in a circle while saying the verse; Say the verse while blinking your eyes; Say the verse while dancing; Pat your head and rub your stomach while saying the verse; Sing the verse in an opera voice; Say the verse in a deep voice; Say the verse in a baby voice.

- Fold the cards and place them into a hat.
- During the lesson, review the memory verse once or twice. Then take turns passing the hat around. Allow the kids to choose one card at a time.
- Each child will do as the card says. Play until every kid has had a turn.

Small Group Discussion

Give every child a Bible and read Mark 1:9-15 as a class. Make sure to go over details and answer any questions the kids may have about the passage.

- Who Baptized Jesus?
- Who spoke right after Jesus was baptized? What was said?
- Where did Jesus go immediately after He was baptized?
- What did Jesus take with Him as he went into the desert?
- What happened to Jesus when He was in the desert?

Prayer Time

Take some time to share prayer requests. Then lead the kids in prayer.

Dear God,
Thank you for sending Jesus to live a perfect life
Thank you that He can help us when we are tempted
Help us to prepare our hearts and minds
So that we can serve you and do your will
Thank you for your love
We love you, God!
In Jesus's name, Amen!

Game

Supplies: 10 straws per team of 3 kids; scissors; 2 blindfolds per team of 3 kids Instructions:

- Before the lesson, make three sets of ten straws with each straw in a set cut to a different length. If you have a very large group, consider making more sets.
- During the lesson, form teams of three kids. Help two kids on each team blindfold themselves. Distribute a set of ten straws to the two blindfolded kids on each team.
- When you say "go," the teams will race to arrange the straws from shortest to longest. Only the blindfolded kids may touch the straws. The kid on each team who is not blindfolded will offer guidance.
- If time allows, rearrange teams and blindfold new kids to play again.

LEADER: Was it difficult to complete this challenge while blindfolded? You were at a disadvantage since you couldn't see what you were doing. In our lesson today we've talked about how Jesus calls His followers to be the light of the world. This means we are invited to share the truth of God with the people around us, helping them understand and believe that God loves them and wants to bring them into His kingdom. In our game, one person was able to see and give directions. As Christians, we can guide those who don't yet know Jesus to discover the joy and peace that comes from knowing Him.

Coloring sheet

Distribute the coloring sheet for the kids to complete or take home if out of time.