



Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Series: Lookin' for a Leader  
Fall Year 3, Lesson 16

# Lead Us Not into Temptation

**Primary Scripture:** Genesis 39, Joseph flees from the temptation of Potiphar's wife.

**Key Verse:** Matthew 6:13, (NIV) "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

## **How does this address a need in our kids' lives?**

Kids, like adults, are tempted. They need to understand the spiritual nature of such temptations that are often presented as so desirable. According to James 4:7, we need to resist the devil and he will flee from us. Jesus gives us the power to do that.

## **How does Jesus fill this need?**

**Jesus for us:** Jesus lived a perfect life in our place when he gave up his life for us on the cross.

**Jesus in us:** Jesus promises to be with us wherever we go and in whatever temptations we face.

**Jesus through us:** We witness for Jesus when we live our lives with integrity.

## Stamp of Excellence:

*Remind the kids what excellent worship looks like. We are in God's presence to honor him. Put on your best manners. This might include wearing your name tag, participating eagerly at all times, listening when the leader is talking, raising your hand to speak, not distracting others, playing the learning game with cooperation, singing enthusiastically, and praying reverently. Offer rewards or positive reinforcement to those who worship with excellence.*



## Worship

### Invocation:

*Let kids bring forward the worship symbols, such as the cross, candles, Bible, and offering plate. Invite God's presence and call by name Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

### Attention Grabber:

*Capture the children's attention and help them focus on the worship theme for the day.*

*Supplies needed: devil puppet, cookie on a napkin or plate*

#### *Option 1:*

Using a devil puppet, give some possible temptations that Satan might use on the kids during this worship service. Examples might be "don't listen," "think about something else," "goof around with your friend," and "don't sing."

Let the kids continue to give suggestions of common temptations that keep us from effective worship.

Then ask the Lord's presence that he would keep us from falling into those temptations and, instead, think about him and show him our love in worship.

#### *Option 2:*

Invite a boy forward to demonstrate the process of temptation. Place the cookie in full view on a table or counter. Then ask the volunteer:

**What is your name?**

Let him answer. Make sure he likes and is not allergic to the cookie you are using. Then say:

**Well, for the next few minutes, we are changing your name to Tommy Tempted. Tommy Tempted has promised his little sister that he wouldn't eat her cookie. She was saving it for her dessert after dinner.**

**Tommy sees it sitting on the counter. Tommy knows that it is her cookie and that he should not eat it. What are some of the thoughts that go through Tommy Tempted's mind?**

Don't wait for kids to answer. Go immediately to the progression of thoughts below and help Tommy tempted act out each thought as you narrate:

- **"It wouldn't hurt just to look at it for a while."**
- **"I better look at it up closer."**
- **"It wouldn't hurt to touch it."**
- **"It wouldn't hurt to smell it."**
- **"It wouldn't hurt to just take a little crumb off of it."**
- **"It wouldn't hurt to take a bite."**

Have Tommy Tempted ravenously consume the cookie. Thank Tommy and have him return to his seat. Then continue with:

**We get tempted one step at a time. The Bible tells us in James 4:7-8, "Resist the devil and he will run away from you. Come close to God and he will come close to you."**

**Today, let's learn what it means when we pray in the Lord's Prayer, "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one."**

## **Songs of Worship:**

*Choose two or three songs. Briefly introduce songs so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God!*

Your choice of music.

## **The Power of the Cross:**

*Jesus has given his life for us that we might have forgiveness and power to live for him.*

Ask kids to name specific sins that are especially tempting for their age. Invite them to join in confession for their sins. Then say:

**God loves it when we confess and let go of our sins. The blood of Jesus on the cross overcame them. Through his death, Jesus forgives us when we confess our sin! Let's declare our victory over temptation. Repeat after me...**

**Through the blood of Jesus, // I am set free! // Through Jesus, I have the power // to resist temptation. // Since I am forgiven, // I have the power // to turn away from temptation.**

## **Song of Response:**

*Choose a song to help the children turn to Jesus. Or you may want help them celebrate what God has done by singing a song of praise.*

## **Offering:**

*Teach the importance of giving and talk about the mission activities they are supporting.*

**Let's not be tempted to think of anything as more important than God. Sometimes it is easy to believe that money is more important than God. That is why we give our offerings back to God. This is a way of saying, "God, you are number one to me. I trust you more than I trust money."**

Have kids come forward and place their offerings in the basket.



# The Word

## Learning Game:

*Some churches dismiss children from the adult service at this time to join Kids Church. The learning game provides a fun kinesthetic activity to help kids connect with each other. The learning point will help reinforce the theme of the day.*

### “Rock, Paper, Scissors”

In advance, make three parallel masking tape lines about 10 feet apart on the floor of a room large enough for kids to run. *(Or play outside, marking lines with chalk.)* Show the kids the rock, paper and scissors hand signs and explain which signs beat which:

Rock (fist) beats scissors (two fingers).

Scissors (two fingers) cuts paper (flat hand).

Paper (flat hand) covers rock (fist).



Divide the kids into two groups and explain how the game works. Each team will huddle together and decide which hand sign they will use for the first round of play. The teams then line up facing each other at the middle line. All together they pound their fist on their other hand three times and the fourth time make the hand sign. One team will win and the other loses the round unless they both decided on the same sign. Then they must start again.

Whichever team loses has to turn and run to their finish line while the winning team chases after them. If a losing player gets caught before they get to their end line, they have to join the other team for the next round.

*Option:* To save time, pick one child representative for each round to play against another child on the opposing team. Both teams line up facing each other, but only the two throw the hand sign. The other children have to watch carefully to see if they are the chasers or the runners. Let kids take turns throwing the hand signs.

Continue playing for several rounds and then conclude with the learning point.

**It is important in this game to know when it is time to flee or turn around and run. When we are tempted, we need to turn around and run from temptation. We need to resist the devil and, when we do that, he cannot catch us. He is actually the one who flees.**

## **Bible Reading:**

*Help children pay attention by giving them a word or concept to listen for as you read. Consider letting a child read who could do so with excellence.*

*Supplies needed: video, Animated Stories from the Bible: Joseph In Egypt from Nest Entertainment (30-minutes)*

The video from Genesis 39 shows Joseph sold into slavery, resisting temptation from Potiphar's wife, and being rewarded with imprisonment. But God is faithful and will exalt Joseph again.

## **Application:**

*Supplies needed: fishing pole and line with four different candy bars taped or tied to the line. Each candy bar has one of the directions attached to it (see appendix).*

Ask for three volunteers to come forward. Show them the fishing pole with the candy bars attached and explain that if he/she is willing to do what the directions say, that person will receive the candy bar. The directions are included below and should be done in this order.

- **Get down on all fours and moo like a cow.**
- **Sing "Happy Birthday" to the candy bar.**
- **Hop on one leg while turning around and saying "Cuckoo!"**

After these three have been accomplished, ask the kids which action they think was the most silly.

**Why would people do silly things? People do silly things because there is some type of bait or some kind of reward for their actions. So it is with temptation. We are tempted when it seems to us that there will be a great reward. We do these things even when we know they are wrong and will eventually make us look silly or stupid.**

Next, offer one last temptation attached to the last candy bar.

**Who would tell a joke that makes fun of the way someone looks?**

Do not accept any offers. Ask kids if they have ever been around someone telling such a joke.

**Why do you think people tell jokes that make fun of others? It is wrong and we can be tempted to do it because there is a reward. What is that reward?** *(Sometimes making fun of others makes us feel better about ourselves. Sometimes we like the attention of telling jokes on others.)*

**To be able to resist temptation is to know that the reward is not worth doing the wrong thing. The power to say “no” to temptation comes from knowing Jesus as our Savior. He gives us forgiveness. Because we are forgiven and we love him, we want to obey him. When we do give into temptation, Satan cannot hold us because we always go to Jesus, ask for his forgiveness, and are freed from our guilt.**



## **Witness and Tell:**

*Give children opportunities to share how God is working in their lives. It is best to use a microphone to ask children interview questions around the theme for the day.*

If time permits, children might share experiences of overcoming a temptation or receiving forgiveness after giving into a temptation.

## **Prayer:**

*Let the kids pray out loud. If you are using a microphone, invite children to form a prayer line and speak their thanksgivings or requests. If you have portable microphones, you can roam the audience. Kids can also go to prayer stations set up for specific types of prayer.*

**Options:** (select one from the options below)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Prayer Line Option:** Kids line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone to speak their prayers briefly.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Prayer Chairs:** Adults or children with special prayer needs are invited to sit in the chairs. Kids gather around them, lay hands on their shoulders or knees and take turns praying.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and turns it toward kids who are raising their hands to pray. The kids speak their prayers into the microphone.

**Lord's Prayer:** Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire prayer along with you.

## **Blessing:**

*Speak a blessing prayer over the children. Personalize this to your setting. Use a special scripture verse or blessing around the theme of the day.*

## **Song of Sending:**

*Choose one song. Briefly introduce song so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God.*

# Supplies:

## *Attention Grabber:*

- devil puppet
- cookie on a napkin or plate

## *Bible Reading:*

- video, Animated Stories from the Bible: *Joseph In Egypt*, distributed by Nest Entertainment. Show the story of Joseph and Potiphar's wife.

## *Application:*

- pole with yarn at the end (This will be used as your pretend fishing pole and line. At the end of the line you should tape or tie four different candy bars. Directions (from appendix page) should be attached to each candy bar.)

**Safety and Security:** Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.

# **Appendix**

**Get down on all fours and moo like a cow.**

**Sing “Happy Birthday” to the candy bar.**

**Hop on one leg while turning around and saying  
“Cuckoo!”**

**Who would tell a joke that makes fun of the way  
someone looks?**