

Children and families talk for Sunday 26th February 2023

Hello everyone!

Thanks for joining me today to look at another bible passage together. In today's reading we go back to before Jesus started his work, just after he was baptised by John, and we find Jesus being led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. Today's reading comes from Matthew 4 verses 1 to 11.

The Temptation of Jesus

4 Then the Spirit led Jesus into the desert to be tempted by the devil. **2** Jesus ate nothing for 40 days and nights. After this, he was very hungry. **3** The devil came to Jesus to tempt him. The devil said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these rocks to become bread."

4 Jesus answered, "It is written in the Scriptures, 'A person does not live only by eating bread. But a person lives by everything the Lord says.'"

5 Then the devil led Jesus to the holy city of Jerusalem. He put Jesus on a very high place of the Temple. **6** The devil said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off. It is written in the Scriptures,

'He has put his angels in charge of you.

They will catch you with their hands.

And you will not hit your foot on a rock.'" *Psalm 91:11-12*

7 Jesus answered him, "It also says in the Scriptures, 'Do not test the Lord your God.'"

8 Then the devil led Jesus to the top of a very high mountain. He showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and all the great things that are in those kingdoms. **9** The devil said, "If you will bow down and worship me, I will give you all these things."

10 Jesus said to the devil, "Go away from me, Satan! It is written in the Scriptures, 'You must worship the Lord your God. Serve only him!'"

11 So the devil left Jesus. And then some angels came to Jesus and helped him.

Let's talk about our bible reading:

S: Hi Scorch, you ok?

Sc: Yeah

S: Well, I've got a pressie for you, its right here.

Sc: ooo, exciting, is it my birthday then.

S: No, its not until tomorrow, so you'll have to wait until then to open it, ok?

Sc: what?

S: Well, I know its tempting, but I want you to wait until it's your birthday before you open it so you don't spoil the surprise.

Sc: huh.

S: Well, it's not as bad as what Jesus went through in todays reading is it.

Sc: Huh

S: You know, he was in the desert for 40 days and nights and then the devil tempts him to turn stones into bread.

Sc: So why didn't he?

S: because Jesus was in the desert to fast, which means go without food, He wanted to show that he wouldn't give in to the devil, despite being hungry.

Sc: Perhaps I could just have a peep at the pressie?

S: NO, I want you to wait until tomorrow.

Sc: huh

S: Jesus was also tempted twice more, but he didn't give in. Jesus wanted to prove that he was ready for everything that would happen to him from then on.

Sc: But Jesus is God's Son, so it was probably easier for him to be good.

S: Well, Yes and No. Although Jesus is God's Son, he came down to earth as a normal human, and had all the same qualities as we do, so Jesus was just as able to be tempted as we are.

Sc: huh. I guess I could wait, but I hope its worth waiting for!

S: Well, you'll have to wait and see.

Sc: Well, I suppose so.

S: When Jesus was being tempted, he used the words of God from the bible to help him. That's why its good to read our bibles so that we can be ready if we are ever tempted.

Sc: Yeah, but its not easy being good all the time is it.

S: I guess I am being a bit mean, giving you a present and not letting you open it yet, so as you've been so good, I guess you can open it now.

Sc: Nah, its alright I'm going to wait until tomorrow now, cos it will be a lovely surprise!

S: Ok.

Let's talk to God now:

Lord Jesus,

When we are tempted to do wrong, help us to remember that you were tempted too, and you resisted. Help us to do the right thing. Amen.

And let's say the grace together:

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,

The love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

Be with us all, now and forever more,

Amen.

Here is the children's activity page from Roots: [activity-sheet-26-february-2023.pdf](https://www.rootsontheweb.com/activity-sheet-26-february-2023.pdf)
([rootsontheweb.com](https://www.rootsontheweb.com))