

Intermediate Bible Class

For Teens Ages 12 Through 14



SPRING | March
2024 | April
May

Intermediate Bible Class⁺

SPRING QUARTER

March , April, May 2024

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JESUS IS GOD

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Dear students,

Welcome to our new *Intermediate Bible Class*⁺! We hope it helps you get excited about learning and applying God's Word!

Here are some of the new features:

- The **Big Idea** highlights the main point of the lesson.
- **Discussion Questions** are within the lesson to help you interact with the topic.
- **What If?** helps you imagine how the Bible lesson might be applied to a hypothetical scenario that could occur in your everyday life.
- The **Big Question** addresses some doubts, fears, or concerns you may have about God, His Word, or life in general.
- **Next Steps** give you ways to be doing what the lesson is teaching throughout the week.
- The **Prayer Point** encourages you to commit to praying for something in the coming week.
- **Christ Focus** shows how every lesson points to Jesus.
- **Talk About It** gives you ideas on things to discuss with trusted adult Christians in your life.

OVERCOMING TEMPTATION WITH THE WORD

Lesson Text: Matthew 4:1-14a

"But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4).

BIG IDEA: God's Word helps us fight temptation to sin.

BIBLE LESSON

It can be hard to know what to do when God wants you to go in the direction of doing right and Satan is trying to pull you into a direction of doing wrong.

What are some things that are tempting to you and your friends?

After Jesus was baptized, He prepared Himself for His earthly ministry. Jesus went out into a dry, rocky area that the Bible called a wilderness. He did not eat for forty days. He went without food so that He could think only about what God had sent Him to do. He prepared Himself to serve people and to die on the cross for our sins.

The Holy Spirit gave Him power in His weakness. He could fast for any length of time, but He was still human. The fast would have made Him weak. He had to focus on time with God.

After Jesus finished fasting, the devil came to Him. He knew Jesus was very hungry. Satan knew Jesus is the Son of God. He called Him that, but he still thought he could get Jesus to sin. He tempted Jesus to turn the stones around them into bread. Imagine how difficult it would be to be so hungry and be able to make food appear. But it would be wrong to do that. It is like having food in front of you but not being allowed to eat it. Jesus stood strong. He did not give in. He told Satan that people do not live on food only. We live by everything that God tells us.

How often do you read God's Word?

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Satan failed to get Jesus to sin. It would have been a piece of cake (bread, actually) for Jesus to have changed rocks into food. Jesus did not follow the devil's suggestion. Satan did not really care about how hungry Jesus was. He tried Jesus to stop trusting God. That is a sin.

Next, Satan took Jesus to Jerusalem. The devil took Jesus to the top of the temple. He told Jesus that God would save Him. He even used the verse that said God would protect Jesus. That was a trick to use a Bible verse to get Jesus to do something wrong.

Jesus told Satan that it is not right to test God. That meant Jesus would not give in to Satan's dare. He did not test Him to see if He could. Jesus won again. He did not give in to Satan's dare.

Has anyone dared you to do something really dangerous? What should your response be?

One more time, Satan tempted Jesus. He took Jesus to a very high mountain. They saw kingdoms in the distance. Satan said that if Jesus worshipped him, He could rule over the kingdoms. Jesus answered that if Jesus worshipped him, He was wrong to worship anyone other than God. After that, Satan left Jesus alone. Jesus had won. He did not give in to Satan's dare, and He used Bible verses to win. He used a powerful weapon to fight Satan.

The words in the Bible are powerful and true. It's very important to memorize as many verses as you can. When you are tempted to do something you should not, God's Word can help you fight it.

WHAT IF?

What if you were at a store with some school friends, and they make a plan to steal something? Your part of their plan is to be the lookout. You are supposed to give a signal or distract anyone coming. They promise to share with you some of what they steal. Would you agree to help because you really like what they are stealing? What would you think about your part of the plan? Is it wrong or is it OK? Would you say no to their plan? What would you say to explain what you think about stealing?

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WHO DO I WANT TO BE LIKE?

Who are you "following"? People follow others on social media because they know them or like them or respect them. Sometimes we may even want to be like those we follow. Many of them live such great lives, or so it seems!

Jesus is the best person to follow or to be like. The way He handled Satan's temptations is heroic. He can help you do the same. We all can be like Him by learning and memorizing Bible verses and then living those verses help us not to sin. Jesus obeyed God. We can obey God by obeying what we read in our Bibles. God's Word can help us to fight the temptation to sin. God has given you the greatest weapon to fight sin. You need to use what you learn from the Bible and not just yourself in tempting situations that bring you to sin.

NEXT STEPS

Find verses that teach you about fighting sin and loving the Lord. Christian adults you know to help you. Print the verses on cards and them in your room. Ask others to join you in memorizing the verses. Lense one another to memorize at least one verse a week.

PRAYER POINT

CHRIST FOCUS

Jesus showed us how to fight temptation. He used God's Word to help Him have victory.

TALK ABOUT IT

Ask a Christian adult you know for tips on Bible memorization.

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UNIT I:

Confirmed by Power over Death



JESUS' CLAIM TO DEITY

Lesson Text: John 8:31-38, 48-56, 58-59

"If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32).



BIG IDEA: Jesus is God, and His truth can set us free from sin.

BIBLE LESSON

If you were a trapped prisoner, wouldn't you want to know how to get free? While talking to and teaching a group of people, Jesus made a very interesting statement. He told His listeners that if they truly followed what He was teaching, they would know the truth, and the truth would set them free.



What do you think the truth sets people free from?

Jesus was talking to Jews; they were the people of Israel. Jesus' earthly ancestors were also Jewish. Some in the crowd had a true desire to learn from Jesus, but others did not. The crowd asked what they needed to be set free from since Abraham was their ancestor. God had made a special agreement with Abraham long ago, and Abraham was very important to the Jewish people.

Jesus' answered by saying they needed to be freed from sin. He said that everyone has sinned, and everyone who sins is a servant to sin. Having Abraham as their ancestor couldn't set them free from their sins. The *truth* is that Jesus is the Son of God, and only He can rescue people from sin.

The people needed to have a spiritual connection to God. The problem is that sin prevents people from a spiritual connection to Him. But Jesus has the power to make a person who is a servant to sin become a child of God. The key to being set free is understanding and believing the truth about who Jesus is.

However, some people in the crowd were unwilling to believe in Jesus so that He could set them free. Many of Jesus' opponents were Israel's religious leaders. Their faith was in themselves and their heritage as descendants of Abraham.