


DISCOVERING GOD'S TREASURE: WHO I AM IN CHRIST

Lesson 8

Small Group Lesson Plan | Intermediate (Grades 3-6)



LESSON 8: Strong Against Temptation

<p>Bible Story</p> <p>Jesus Is Tempted <i>Matthew 4:1-11</i></p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Bible• A snack and a nametag for each student• A deck of cards• Fifteen plastic cups• Small Group Prayer Request Sheet• Treasure chest handout, one per student
<p>Bible Verse</p> <p>“[Jesus] understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin.”</p> <p><i>Hebrews 4:15, NLT</i></p>	
<p> Identity Who God Says I Am</p> <p>Jesus can make me strong against temptation.</p>	

Small Group Session 1 15 Minutes

Opening Icebreaker

Distribute name tags and snacks. Choose one of the following icebreaker activities to do together while students eat their snack:

- Ask the students to make a facial expression that would describe how they were feeling in the past week.
- Let students take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the "How Are You Feeling?" emoji chart (from the CKC Games Bag).
- As students are eating their snack, ask, **"What would you consider to be the perfect snack or the perfect meal?"**

Pray Together

[Collect prayer requests from the students.](#)

The small group leader or a child who volunteers may pray for the entire group.

Small Group Game: Simon Says

Instruct students to stand in a row. Explain that the goal of this game is to do what Simon says. The leader will give commands and the students must follow the commands, but only if the leader says "Simon says . . ." For example, if the leader says, "Simon says hop up and down three times," all the players should hop up and down three times. If the leader doesn't start with "Simon says" and a student follows the command, they must sit down. Play continues until one player remains standing.

Introduce today's lesson by saying,

This is just a game, but in real life, we hear lots of voices telling us what to do and what to say. Parents, teachers, friends and classmates all tell us what to do. Some voices might tell us to do something that goes against God's Word. This is called temptation. We're going to learn in today's story that Jesus has God's heart and has the power to resist temptation and obey God's Word.

Small Group Session 2 35 Minutes

Identity Exploration

Have the students try to create a tower using a deck of cards. It's okay if it keeps falling apart. Then have the students create a tower using fifteen plastic cups.

Ask the students, “**Which tower was the strongest?**”

It's hard to stand strong against temptation without Jesus' help. Satan may come and try to tempt us to doubt God's love for us. Doubt about God's love for us can knock us over like a deck of cards and can lead us into temptation! But if we believe in Jesus and belong to him, we are also considered God's dearly loved children in whom God is well-pleased, and we can stand strong in that truth, trusting in God's love for us and obeying his word!



Prayer | Two-way conversation with God.

Explain that while Jesus was fasting from food for 40 days in the wilderness, he was also praying and thinking about Scripture. To be ready to overcome temptations, we need to pray and depend on God's power and his Word to overcome.

Read 1 Corinthians 10:13 together, and ask: *What does God promise here?* (He will not let us be tempted with more than we can bear. He will provide a way out.) *What can we ask for when we pray about overcoming temptation?* (We can ask for strength to bear the temptation when it comes and for a clear way out of the tempting situation.)

Take turns praying. Give thanks to God that Jesus resisted the devil's temptation and that he gives us the power to resist, too. Pray for God's strength to stand firm when we are tempted and for a way out of tempting situations.

Bible Verse Game

Review the Bible verse with a [Bible verse game](#).

“[Jesus] understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin.” *Hebrews 4:15, NLT*

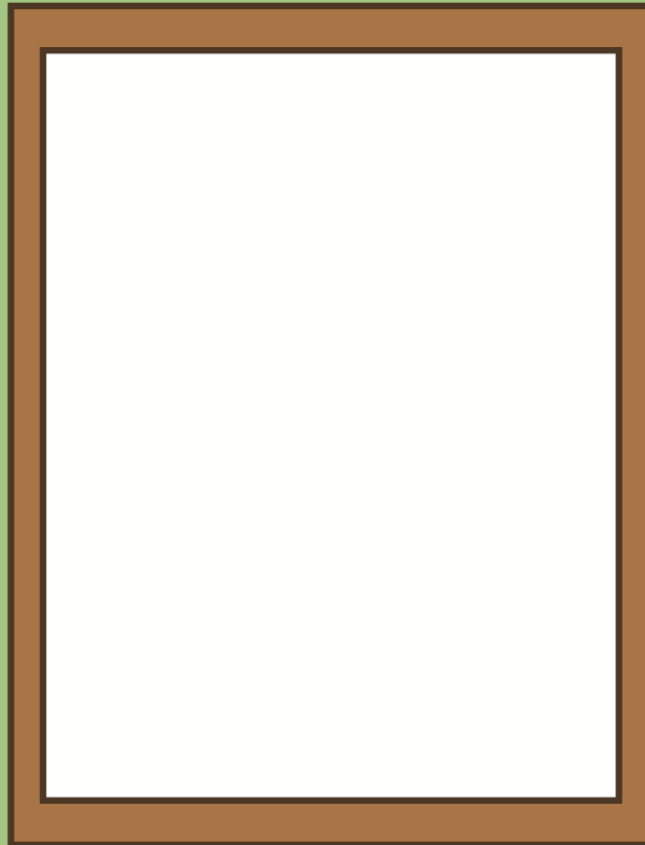
Treasure Chest Handout

Give each student a treasure chest handout and some colored markers or crayons. Invite the students to draw something they discovered about Jesus and something they discovered about themselves inside their treasure chest. Students should also circle the tool that they used in small group to help them discover those truths. As the students are completing the handout, ask students to think about how they can use that tool during the week.

Name:

Story:

**What's in your
treasure chest?**



TOOLBAR



Thanksgiving



Confession



Worship



Prayer



Meditation



Identity



Service



Bible