



Leader Guide

Ages 3–6

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SESSION 1

GROW IN FAITH

Jesus Trusts God in the Wilderness—Luke 4:1-13

Temptation is a universal experience, affecting even Jesus. The story of Jesus in the wilderness highlights both his humanity and his resilience. It shows that Jesus, sent by God to fully experience life as we do, faced temptation head-on and responded with wisdom drawn from Scripture. His replies, quoting Deuteronomy, remind us of the importance of grounding ourselves in faith. In this story, Jesus isn't just quoting Scripture for the sake of it; he's using it as a tool for understanding and resistance. In the face of today's challenges and temptations, it's not enough to simply quote Scripture. We need to internalize it, study it, and build a strong spiritual foundation so that we can respond wisely when life is hard. When Jesus was tempted, he didn't just say words; he really understood what they meant and used them to guide his actions. We can also teach this practice to our kids. It's not just about memorizing Bible verses. Rather, we should learn to understand their meaning and use that meaning as a daily guide.

- Explore emotions.
- Learn about right and wrong.
- Look at Bibles.

SESSION OUTLINE

COME TOGETHER

Prepare to Learn
Faith Focus—Jesus Shows Us How to Trust
Encouragement Cube (Craft)

FAITH CONNECTIONS

Read the Story
Big Faith Video
Faith Response

FUN WITH FAITH

Sand Play (Storytelling)
Choices Charades (Game)

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Big Faith Idea—Faith in Jesus

COME TOGETHER

Prepare to Learn

Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack, Activity Sheets, Activity Stickers

Prepare Ahead: Set up your area with the supplies and activity pages needed for today's session. Display the Unit 1 Bible Verse Poster (Class Pack—pp. 10 & 15), Unit 1 Faith Focus Poster (Class Pack—pp. 2 & 23), and Unit 1 Faith Response Poster (Class Pack—pp. 11 & 14) to use later in the session.

- As children arrive, invite them to join you in a circle.
- Give each child a copy of the "Spring Sticker Page" (Activity Sheets—p. 31) and their own set of Activity Stickers. Have children place the desert sticker on the Session 1 space.

SAY: This month we will hear stories about how we can trust God.

ASK: What does it mean to trust someone?

Faith Focus—Jesus Shows Us How to Trust

Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack, crayons

Prepare Ahead: Display the Unit 1 Faith Focus Poster (Class Pack—pp. 2 & 23). Photocopy "Jesus in the Wilderness" (Leader Guide—p. 12) for each child.

- Give each child a copy of "Jesus in the Wilderness."

SAY: Today we are learning about how Jesus trusted God when he was in the wilderness.

ASK: Have you ever been in the wilderness? What was it like?

SAY: In our Bible story today, Jesus goes into the desert. He trusts God to take care of him—and God does!

- Give children time to color the page.

Encouragement Cube

Supplies: Activity Sheets, scissors, tape

Prepare Ahead: Tear out "Encouragement Cube" (Session 1 Activity Sheet) for each child.

SAY: Sometimes we need help making wise and healthy choices. We can trust that God will help us when we need it.

ASK: Who helps you make good choices? How do they help you?

- Give each child an activity sheet.
- Help each child cut out the cube and fold along the dotted lines. Help each child tape the cube closed.
- Model for the children how they can toss the cube and read the different sides of the cube for encouragement.

SAY: God is with us all the time, even when life is challenging, scary, or lonely. We can try to trust each day that God loves us.

FAITH CONNECTIONS

Read the Story

Supplies: CEB Bible storybook

- Invite the children to join you in a circle.
- Read the story of Jesus in the wilderness (Luke 4:1-13) from your favorite CEB Bible storybook.

SAY: When Jesus was in the wilderness, he felt hungry and tired. But he knew that God would provide for him and help him.

ASK: How do you think Jesus felt when he did not give in to temptation?

Big Faith Video

Supplies: Big Faith DVD, TV, DVD player or streaming device

- Watch the Session 1 video on the Big Faith DVD or via your Amplify Media subscription.
- Share the questions on the screen with the children. You may also choose to add your own questions. Give children time to share their responses and ideas.

ASK: What was your favorite part of the video?

Faith Response

Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack, sticky notes, pencils

Prepare Ahead: Display the Unit 1 Faith Response Poster (Class Pack—pp. 11 & 14) and Unit 1 Bible Verse Poster (Class Pack—pp. 10 & 15) if you haven't already.

- Invite children to wonder about the images on the posters.
- Encourage children to say the Bible verse with you.

SAY: God loves us all the time. We can trust God to help us.

ASK: What does it feel like to know God loves you and you can trust God?

SAY: Even when Jesus was feeling challenged in the desert, he trusted in God. God helped Jesus make it through the wilderness.

- Lay the Faith Response Poster on the floor or a table and invite the children to gather around it.

ASK: What do you think is in the wilderness?

- Give each child a sticky note. Encourage each child to draw a response on the sticky note.
- As they share their answers, invite children to place their sticky notes on the poster.

FUN WITH FAITH

Sand Play

Supplies: sandbox or large tray, sand, wooden or plastic figures

Prepare Ahead: Put sand in a box or a tray that you can use in your class space.

SAY: The story of Jesus in the desert reminds us that Jesus trusted in God, so we can too.

ASK: How did Jesus trust God? How did God help Jesus?

- Invite the children to help you retell the Bible story as you move figures in the sand.

SAY: Jesus was tempted with food when he was hungry and power when he felt lonely.

ASK: What did Jesus do when he felt hungry or lonely in the wilderness?

(He trusted God.)

Choices Charades

ASK: When you must make a choice, how do you decide what choice to make?

SAY: Sometimes we make choices that are easy. But sometimes we need to make a choice that is challenging. We can ask for help when we need to make a challenging choice.

- Have the children stand side-by-side in a line facing you.
- Give the children a situation to act out in which they must make a choice.
Examples: to share/not share a toy with a sibling; to clean/not clean their room; to help/not help an elder; to apologize/not apologize to a friend when the friend's feelings are hurt; to listen/not listen when a teacher is talking.

- Ask the children to show you a bad or unhealthy decision. Then ask them to show you a good or healthy decision.
- After you lead the children by giving them situations to act out, invite children to share some situations in which they must make decisions.

ASK: How did you feel when I asked you to act out the bad decisions? How did you feel when you acted out the good decisions?

SAY: God helps us make good choices, just like God helped Jesus when he was in the wilderness.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Big Faith Idea—Faith in Jesus

Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack

Prepare Ahead: Display the Spring Big Faith Idea Poster (Class Pack—pp. 4 & 21). Photocopy the Unit 1 Family Faith Letter (Leader Guide—pp. 91–92) for each child.

- Show children the Big Faith Idea Poster.

SAY: When we must make a difficult choice, we can be like Jesus. Jesus trusted God and God helped Jesus make good choices when he was in the desert.

ASK: How do you know what is a good choice to make?

SAY: Sometimes we need help remembering to trust God. We can remind each other that we can trust in God.

ASK: How can you help others make good decisions?

- Have children form pairs and talk about how they can help each other make good choices.

PRAY: Let's pray together. Repeat after me: "Dear God, thank you for helping Jesus when he was in the wilderness. Thank you for being there to help us when we need you too. Help us trust you always. Amen."

- Send the Family Faith Letter and activity home with each child. Also send home any activities or items made during today's session.

REPRODUCIBLE SESSION 1 Jesus in the Wilderness

Color the page to show Jesus in the wilderness where he spent forty days.



Art: Tatevik Avakyan/Illustration Online LLC



All Ages Class Pack



Faith in Jesus

MARCH

Soar

Jesus Shows Us
How to Trust

APRIL

Resurrection

Jesus Gives Us New Life

MAY

Good News

Jesus Is the Good News

Spring 2026

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**Unit 1**

Faith Focus Poster 2 and 23

Units 1–3

Attendance Chart 3 and 22

Units 1–3

Big Faith Idea Poster 4 and 21

Unit 3

Faith Focus Poster 5 and 20

Unit 2

Faith Focus Poster 6 and 19

Unit 3

Faith Response Poster 7 and 18

Unit 2

Faith Response Poster 8 and 17

Unit 3

Bible Verse Poster 9 and 16

Unit 1

Bible Verse Poster 10 and 15

Unit 1

Faith Response Poster 11 and 14

Unit 2

Bible Verse Poster 12 and 13

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Attendance Chart

Name	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31
March														
April														
May														

Faith in Jesus

What does faith in Jesus help you do?





Don't be afraid; just keep trusting.

Mark 5:36



Big Faith All Ages DVD Spring 2026

Each week, your children will engage with Bible stories through interactive animation and meaningful life application, presented through creative themes that help make faith a part of their everyday lives. This DVD includes thirteen interactive videos with beautiful art and animation.

The videos will help the children grow their faith in new and imaginative ways. This DVD also includes trivia videos. These videos invite children to remember what they have learned in a fun and engaging way each session.

Unit 1: Soar

Unit 2: Resurrection

Unit 3: Good News



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Cokesbury Kids

big faith

All Ages DVD



Spring 2026

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