#### Lesson 4:-

#### Jesus’ Baptism and Temptations

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:

Matthew 3:13-17; 4:1-10, Mark 1:9-13, Luke 3:21-22, 4:1-13; John 1:29-34

MEMORY WORK:

Bible Skills 1-6

John 3:16

The 12 Apostles

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

The devil tried to get Jesus to do wrong, just as he tries to get me to make bad choices. If I learn and remember God’s Word, it will help me to resist the devil, just as Jesus did.

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| **LESSON STARTS HERE** |

INTRODUCTION:

Even though Jesus is the Son of God, He still had to decide if He was going to do what’s right. He gave us a great example of how to depend on God to help us make good choices.

(Teachers may want to divide the lesson into two parts. For example, teach about the baptism on Sunday and the temptations on Wednesday

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. John the Baptizer was the last prophet (special messenger) of God to tell the Jews that the Messiah was coming. He was not a proud man who wanted lots of attention for himself. He was a poor preacher whose life was completely devoted to God. Crowds of people came out into the deserted areas near the Jordan River to hear him preach. Some chose to be baptized to show that they wanted to change and live for God. Others did not like John’s preaching; they did not believe he could be a real prophet of God (John 1:19-27).

**NOTE:** God had been silent, not having sent any prophets for about 400 years.

1. When Jesus was about 30 years old (Luke 3:23) and ready to begin His own work (ministry), He went out to the Jordan River to see John. He told John that He wanted to be baptized, but John didn’t want to baptize Jesus. He knew Jesus was God’s Son and had done nothing for which He needed to repent (2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 4:15 and 7:26). John felt like he should be baptized by Jesus—not the other way around; he knew he was an ordinary man who had made mistakes. But Jesus insisted; it was important that He fulfill (complete) the prophecies that had been written about Him (John 8:29).
2. John went down into the water with Jesus and immersed Him. When Jesus came up out of the water, a dove immediately came to Jesus, and a voice from Heaven said, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” This was a sign particularly for John. He knew that Jesus was the Messiah for which the Jews had been waiting for hundreds of years. Others may have heard this voice from Heaven, but it was John who recognized his work was almost done and Someone greater had finally come.

**NOTE:** Old Testament priests washed themselves to prepare for worship. This cleansing reminded them of the great importance of approaching Almighty God with a clean heart. Before Jesus began His work (as our High Priest), He too chose to be washed (baptized), though not for any personal cleansing.

All three persons of the Godhead were identified at the baptism of Jesus: God the Father spoke from Heaven, God the Son was baptized, and the God the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove.

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL VISUALS (note disclaimers):

##### Betty Lukens’ felt pieces

* A Beka Flash-a-Card Series (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, not the lesson book)
* Free Bible Images – Saved on flash drive. Can be presented on classroom tv. Script included in lesson file.
* See AP’s pinterest page for ideas. [www.pinterest.com/apcurriculum](http://www.pinterest.com/apcurriculum)

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS:

**“OH, BE** **CAREFUL, LITTLE EYES, WHAT YOU SEE”**

Author: Unknown\*

Oh, be careful little eyes what you see. (point to eyes) Oh, be careful little eyes what you see.

For the Father up above, Is looking down in love.

So, be careful little eyes what you see.

Oh, be careful little ears what you hear... Oh, be careful little mouth what you say... Oh, be careful little hands, what you do... Oh, be careful little feet, where you go… Oh, be careful little mind what you think…

**“CHOICES”**

**Author: Unknown\* (Tune: “Yankee Doodle”)**

Everyday and in every way We all make our choices.

We say, “Yes,” or we say, “No,” by using our own voices.

Help us Lord to do what’s right Everyday and every night.

Help us Lord to do what’s right; we want to make good choices

SUNDAY

LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

* Act out story using Bible people and bowl of water
* Sticker scene from orientaltrading.com – Make the scene in the picture of box of the story sheet. Save the students sheets to be laminated and added to their NT binder.
* This is a short lesson, so it would be a good time to do general Bible review such as the flashcards or work on memory work.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

The devil tried to get Jesus to do wrong, just as he tries to get me to make bad choices. If I learn and remember God’s Word, it will help me to resist the devil, just as Jesus did.

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review Sunday’s lesson. (See [Review Questions](http://www.apcurriculum.com/dcirfol/4-24-32RQ.pdf) for example questions.) Using a nativity scene, let the class retell the story of Jesus Birth.
2. After Jesus’ baptism, He was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be **tempted** by the devil (Satan). He was in this lonely, deserted place for 40 days and 40 nights with no food. He became very hungry and physically weak. Then the devil came and tried to get Him to do wrong (to sin). He wanted to convince Jesus to do wrong so that Jesus wouldn’t be perfect and sinless. If Jesus had given in to the devil, He couldn’t have been our Savior! Satan tempted or encouraged Jesus to make bad choices just as he does to us. Satan might lead us to think things like, “God wants you to be happy. So you should have or do anything you want.”

**Tempt:** To try to get someone to do something God says is wrong. This basically involves lying to someone in order to persuade him not to see the bad consequences of his actions—in this life or the hereafter.

1. Jesus was hungry, so the devil first tried to get Him to satisfy His physical needs. “If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.” But Jesus knew it would be wrong to use His power to please the devil. It was more important to obey God than to have bread to eat, Jesus told him. Spiritual matters are more important than physical matters.
2. Then the devil took Jesus to the highest point of the temple and told Him to throw Himself down and be rescued by angels—if He was really the Son of God. But Jesus told him it would be wrong to put God to the test like that. And besides, Jesus did not have to prove anything to Satan!
3. Then the Devil took Jesus to a high mountain and showed Him all the great kingdoms of the world, promising to make Jesus an earthly king if He would just worship the devil. But Jesus told him to go away, reminding him that we are to worship God and only God.
4. Satan tempted Jesus three different times, and each time, Jesus responded with a Scripture. He said, “It is written….”
5. Jesus remembered God’s Word and used it to fight the devil. The devil also used Scripture,

but he used it in wrong ways. We still have to watch out for people today who use the Bible in wrong ways. That means we must study God’s Word at home and come to Bible class and worship service so that we will know when others are telling us things that are not right.

1. Satan left Jesus alone for a while, but Jesus had to face temptation every day just as we do. Like Jesus, we can tell the devil to leave us alone (resist him). When we resist the devil, he will run away from us for a time (James 4:7). Remembering God’s Word will help us to resist the devil.

LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

Crafts/ Coloring sheets should focus on the second part of the lesson – Jesus’ Temptations

* Sticker scene from orientaltrading.com – Make the scene in the picture of box of the story sheet. Refer to the example in the teacher binder to see which stickers are used. Save the students sheets to be laminated and added to their NT binder.

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL VISUALS (note disclaimers):

##### Betty Lukens’ felt pieces

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### Review Questions

### Who was one of the last prophets?

### John the Baptizer

### What does “prophet” mean?

### inspired preacher

### How old was Jesus when the Father was ready for Him to start His ministry?

### 30 years old

### Where did Jesus go when He was preparing to start His ministry?

### Jordan River

### What special messenger was waiting for Jesus by the Jordan River?

### John the Baptizer

### When Jesus came to John, what did Jesus want?

### For John to baptize Him

### Why did John not want to baptize Jesus?

### Because he knew that Jesus was the son of God, and He had done nothing for which he needed to repent

### How did John feel when Jesus came to him to be baptized?

### John felt that he should be baptized by Jesus

### Who from the Godhead was present at Jesus’ baptism?

### God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

### How did the three parts of the Godhead show themselves?

### The Father spoke from Heaven; The Spirit appeared in the form of a dove, and the Son was Jesus

### How long did Jesus go without eating after His baptism?

### 40 days

### How many times did Satan tempt Jesus?

### three

### What was the first thing Satan tried to tempt Jesus with?

### Food

### Additional Notes / Activities Performed & Curriculum Feed Back

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