



## WEEK ONE – OCTOBER 2024 – KINDER/FIRST

**Bible Story:** *Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness | Luke 4:1-13; Matthew 4:1-11*

**Bottom Line:** *Be ready to do the right thing*

**Memory Verse:** *“God’s power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life. – 1 Peter 1:3a (NirV)*

**Virtue:** *Self-Control – Choosing to do what’s best, even when you don’t want to*

**Basic Truth:** *I can trust God no matter what*

**Series Overview:** There are a lot of choices that we need to make in life. Some of those choices can help us grow and shape us positively. Others can pull us in different directions, leaving us struggling to figure out which choice is best. What do we do when we’re confronted with all of these choices? Do we rush ahead? Or do we pause and let God lead us toward the best way to act? Self-control is a fruit of the Spirit. It’s one of the ways we can tell that God is transforming our lives and that we’re growing in our faith. Thankfully, we don’t have to find self-control on our own. When we follow Jesus, God’s Spirit is with us and helps us make the wise choice.

**Bottom Line: Be ready to do the right thing.** There may be moments in our lives when we’re faced with many different choices—both good and bad. The right thing may not always be the easy thing to do. But we can practice doing the right thing by being ready and asking God to help us make the wise choice.

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**9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY**

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**Opening Small Group Activity**

*Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** Music

**What You Do:**

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a fist bump or high five
- Play the upbeat music.
- Instruct the kids to dance along to the music.
  - Invite the kids to dance freestyle, or lead them in the twist, robot, or other moves.
- Let kids know that as they dance, you'll share some statements with them.
  - If they think the statement is true, keep dancing!
  - If they think the statement is false—or not true—freeze!
- As the kids dance, read a statement below (or create your own).
- Remind the kids to freeze if they think the statement is false (not true).
  - Keep interest and energy high by varying the pace you call out the statements.
- Statements:
  - The sky is green.
  - The sky is blue.
  - Dogs and cats have four legs.
  - Dogs say, "Moo!"
  - Turtles can fly.
  - Bees buzz.
  - Cows have six legs.
  - People have ten ears.

- Humans like the same things.
- Zebras have stripes.
- Tigers have rainbow-colored polka dots.
- You smell with your toes.
- You hear with your tongue.
- Monkeys live in the ocean.
- Camels live in the desert.
- God loves you more than you can imagine!

**What You Say:**

“Great job knowing what was true and what wasn’t true! *[Transition]* **In Large Group, we’ll hear about Someone who remembered what was true, even when someone else tried to trick Him. Let’s go find out more!”**

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**9:20 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 | LARGE GROUP**

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**Large Group Overview:** We start the month in Luke 4:1-13. We see how Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and tempted by the devil for 40 days. Jesus was able to face these temptations because He was prepared and understood God’s Word. In this passage, we can see from Jesus’ actions how important it is to be prepared. Then, with God’s help, we’ll be able to face whatever situations come our way.

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**9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 | SMALL GROUP**

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**Cross the Desert**

**[Live for God | Application Activity]**

*Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** “Crossing the Desert” Activity Page, and paper or plastic cups

**What You Do:**

- Instruct the kids to line up shoulder to shoulder at one end of your group area.
  - If you have a large group, instruct the kids to pair up.
  - If possible, space kids at least an arm’s width apart.
- Set a line of six cups in front of each kid (or pair of kids) extending toward the other end of your group area.
  - Space each cup two to three feet apart.
- Explain that you will read a scenario, then ask someone (or a pair of kids) to decide if the scenario was an example of a wise choice or unwise choice.
  - If they think the scenario describes a wise choice, they should call out ‘READY!’
  - If they think the scenario describes an unwise choice, they should call out ‘NOT!’”
- Read a scenario from the “Crossing the Desert” Activity Page.
- Choose one (or two) kids to respond, reminding them to call out “READY” or “NOT.”
  - Each time a kid answers “READY” correctly, instruct them to move forward a certain number of cups of your choosing.
- Each time a kid correctly says, “READY!”, say: “Yes! You’ll **[Bottom Line]** **be ready to do the right thing!** Hop over \_\_\_ (one, two, three) cup(s)!”
- Repeat this process for each scenario—choosing a different kid (or kids) to respond each round.
- Celebrate the first kid to reach their sixth cup as the winner, but continue until all scenarios have been reviewed.

**What You Say:**

*“Jesus had spent His whole life studying God’s Word. He knew God and He knew God’s heart. So He was prepared for the devil’s tricks. Because Jesus knew God and God’s Word, He was ready to make the wise choice. You can be ready to make the wise choice too!*

*“You can spend time discovering who God is and what God says so you can **[Bottom Line] be ready to do the right thing** too. You can read the Bible and memorize verses. Talk with your parents or other trusted adults who love Jesus about what God says. Ask lots of questions. And ask God to help you stay in control. Because the more you know who God is and what God is like, the more you’ll **[Bottom Line] be ready to do the right thing.**”*

**Pray + Dismiss**

**[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]**

*Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application*

**What You Need:** N/A

**What You Do:**

- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids into prayer.

**What You Say:**

*“The thing to remember today is this: **[Bottom Line] be ready to do the right thing**. The BEST way we can **[Bottom Line] be ready to do the right thing** is by knowing who God is and what God is like. How can you understand more about God? (Invite responses, like: read my Bible, listen to Bible stories, pray, memorize verses, talk to my trusted grown-ups, etc.) Yes! These things can help us be ready to live the way God wants us to live! Let’s pray.*

*“Dear God, thank You SO much for giving us YOUR POWER to live the way You want us to. Thank You for giving us Your Word to show us who You are and what You’re like. Thank You for giving us people who love You and who can teach us*

*more about You. Help us listen and learn so we'll **[Bottom Line]** be ready to do the right thing. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."*

*As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to share today's Bottom Line:  
**[Bottom Line]** Be ready to do the right thing.*