Preschool–Grade 5

Temptation of Jesus Craft

Jesus answers, "It is written" · Matthew 4:1–11 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



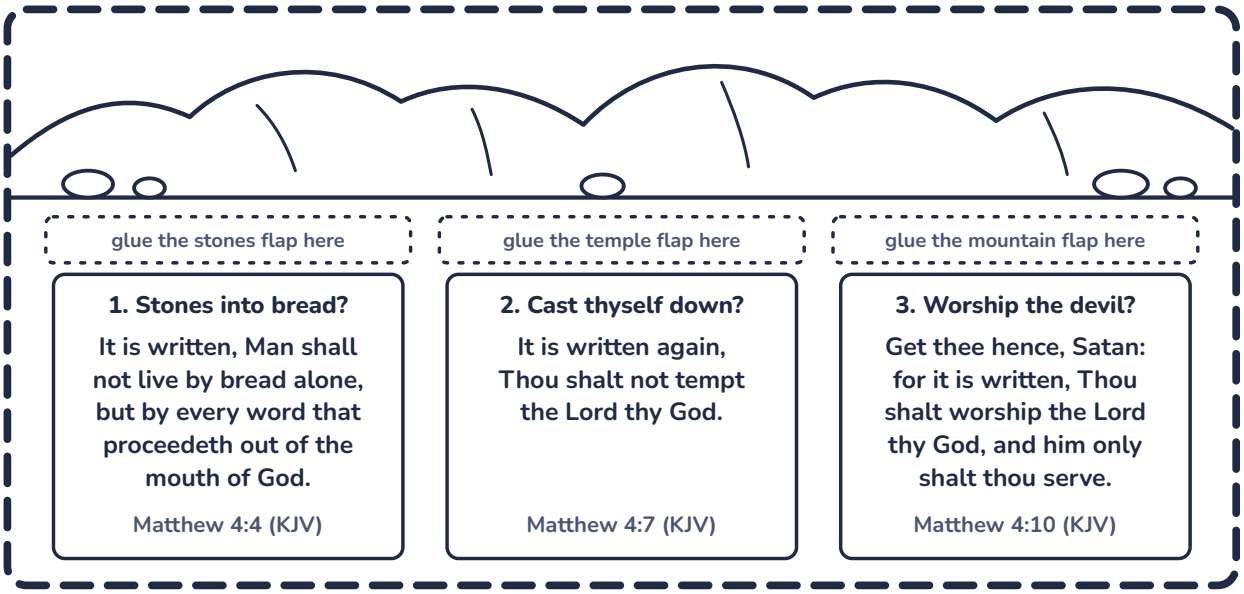
Harder

Both levels are a wilderness card with rocky hills and stones. Three lift-up flaps show the three temptations: stones (Matthew 4:3), the temple (4:5) and an exceeding high mountain (4:8). Under each flap is what Jesus answered, "It is written" (4:4, 4:7, 4:10). Medium (left): the card and the three flaps. Harder (right): the same, with a pink paper heart hanging below the card and three little scrolls in its red pocket, for "Thy word have I hid in mine heart" (Psalm 119:11).

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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



glue the stones flap here

glue the temple flap here

glue the mountain flap here

1. Stones into bread?

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 (KJV)

2. Cast thyself down?

It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

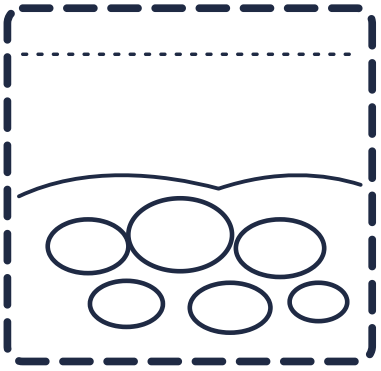
Matthew 4:7 (KJV)

3. Worship the devil?

Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Matthew 4:10 (KJV)

card: sky light blue · hills brown · ground tan · little stones gray



stones flap: stones gray, ground tan, sky light blue



temple flap: temple yellow, sky light blue



mountain flap: mountain brown, houses gray, sky light blue

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Psalm 119:11 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the card

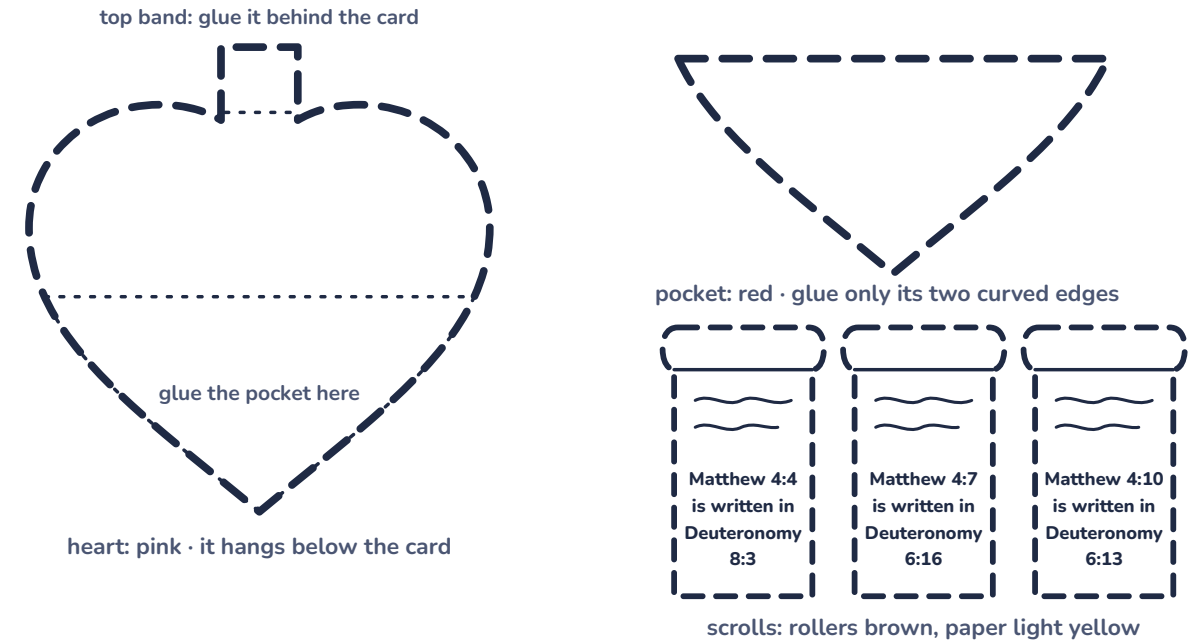
Color each piece the way its label says. Cut out the card, the three flaps and the verse strip. Glue only the top band of each flap on its dotted band, so the flap lifts up to show what Jesus answered.

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Name: _____ ✂ Harder level

The heart pocket (harder level)

Cut on the dashed lines.



For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.
Hebrews 4:15 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the card, under Psalm 119:11

How to make the heart pocket

1. Make the card and its three flaps from page 2 first (steps on page 4).
2. Color the heart pink, the pocket red, and the scrolls' rollers brown and their paper light yellow. Cut out the heart, the pocket, the three scrolls and the verse strip.
3. Put glue only on the two curved edges of the pocket and press it on the dotted shape on the heart. Leave the straight top edge open.
4. Turn the card over. Glue the heart's top band behind the middle of the card's bottom edge, so the heart hangs below the card.
5. Look up each scroll's Deuteronomy verse in your Bible and read it. Then slide the three scrolls into the pocket: God's Word hidden in the heart (Psalm 119:11). Glue the Hebrews 4:15 strip on the back of the card.

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/temptation-of-jesus-craft
Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), light blue, brown, tan, gray and yellow crayons or markers, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child, and pink and red crayons.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out all the pieces and glue the three flaps on each card (top band only), so the flaps are ready to lift.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's pieces and glue the flaps on the card. Kids color the card and the flaps. Glue the verse strip on the back for them. Then they lift each flap while you read Jesus' answer, and they shout, "It is written!"
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut out the pieces, glue on the three flaps and lift them to read Jesus' answers. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the card like the medium level. Then make the heart pocket from page 3, hang it below the card, look up the three Deuteronomy verses and slide the scrolls into the pocket. This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the card:** the sky light blue, the hills brown, the ground tan and the little stones gray.
2. **Color the flaps:** stones flap: the stones gray, the ground tan and the sky light blue. Temple flap: the temple yellow and the sky light blue. Mountain flap: the mountain brown, the little houses gray and the sky light blue.
3. **Cut:** cut out the card, the three flaps and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
4. **Glue the flaps:** turn a flap over and put glue only on its top band, above the dotted line. Press it on the matching dotted band on the card: stones on the left, temple in the middle, mountain on the right.
5. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the card.
6. **Tell the story:** Jesus fasted forty days and forty nights in the wilderness (Matthew 4:2). Lift the stones flap and read what Jesus answered (4:3–4). Lift the temple flap (4:5–7), then the mountain flap (4:8–10). Each time Jesus said, "It is written." Turn the card over and read the verse together.

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Questions to ask while kids work

- Point to the hills. Where did the Spirit lead Jesus, and how long did He fast? *(Into the wilderness, forty days and forty nights, Matthew 4:1–2)*
- Lift the stones flap. What did the tempter want Jesus to do with the stones? *(Command that they be made bread, 4:3)* What did Jesus answer? *("Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God," 4:4)*
- Lift the temple flap. Where did the devil set Jesus? *(On a pinnacle of the temple, in the holy city, 4:5)* What did Jesus answer? *("Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God," 4:7)*
- Lift the mountain flap. What did the devil show Jesus? *(All the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them, 4:8)* What did Jesus answer? *("Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve," 4:10)*
- What did Jesus say every time? *("It is written")* Who came to Jesus when the devil left? *(Angels came and ministered unto Him, 4:11)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** the **wilderness** is a dry, empty land; to **fast** is to go without food; to be **tempted** is to be pulled toward doing wrong; a **pinnacle** is a high point on top of a building; **cast thyself down** means jump down; to **tempt the Lord** means to put God to the test; **Get thee hence** means go away; **ministered** means served and cared for; **thy word** means God's Word; **hid in mine heart** means learned it and kept it inside; **infirmities** means weaknesses.
- **What the Bible says:** Matthew tells of stones (4:3), a pinnacle of the temple (4:5) and an exceeding high mountain (4:8), but it doesn't describe how they looked. The flap pictures and the colors are just a simple choice. The houses on the mountain flap stand for "all the kingdoms of the world" (4:8).
- **Jesus' answers come from Deuteronomy:** Matthew 4:4 is from Deuteronomy 8:3, 4:7 from Deuteronomy 6:16, and 4:10 points to Deuteronomy 6:13. The harder level's scrolls send kids to look them up.
- **No one is drawn on the template:** the flaps show places and things only. Jesus, the devil and the angels are not pictured; keep the focus on Jesus' words, "It is written."
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything, glue the flaps on ahead of time, and use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child lift each flap and say "It is written!"
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free temptation of Jesus lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/temptation-of-jesus.

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