



## 1ST GRADE WISDOM: LEARNING FROM JESUS' TEMPTATIONS IN THE DESERT

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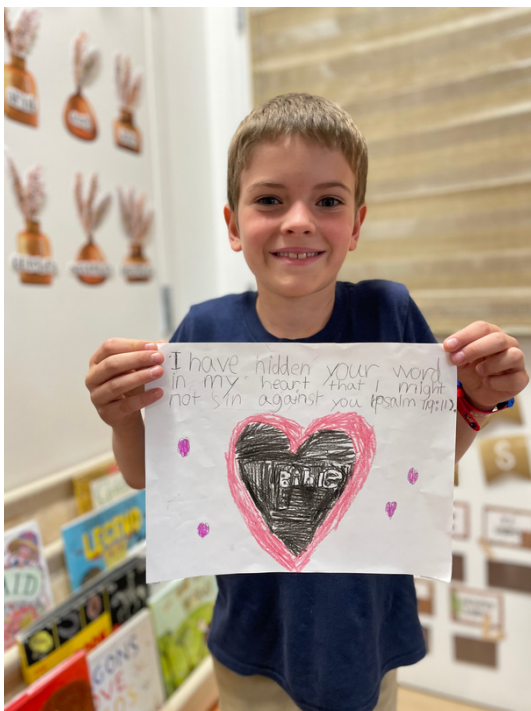
It's been an exciting week of learning and thinking during our Bible lessons in 1st grade! Throughout the week, 1st grade focused on an incredible story from the Bible about Jesus' time in the desert. We learned that before Jesus started His ministry, He went to the desert to pray and prepare for how He would bring God's love to all people. While He was there, Satan showed up and tempted Him three times. But each time, Jesus stayed strong and used God's word to resist temptation.

During our lessons, we talked about how just like Jesus, we face temptation every single day—to disobey, not tell the truth or treat others unkindly. We learned what temptation is and discussed whether or not temptation in and of itself is a bad thing. One of the 1st grade students, Olive, said, “Temptation is something you want to do, say or think that you know you shouldn't. It's not a bad thing because we still have a choice—we can choose to listen or not, to do the right thing or wrong thing.”

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We then talked about the choices we have when tempted and asked ourselves, why does God give us choices? Luca S. shared his thoughts with the class: "When we're tempted, we have a choice to do the right thing or the wrong thing and we should think about the better choice before we do it. God gives us choices so we can have freedom to decide things for ourselves!"

We looked at Jesus' example and brainstormed what helps us when we're tempted and how. During our discussion, Kenzie shared, "The Holy Spirit and the Bible can help us when we're tempted! The Holy Spirit and the Bible help us by telling us what we should and should not do when we're tempted."



By the end of the week, the students deepened their thinking by making connections between Bible lessons and our memory verse—Psalm 119:11, "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against You." The class discussed their thoughts on what it means to hide God's word in our hearts and why it's important. Liana said, "Hiding God's word in our hearts means to read and memorize the Bible, just like we do at school! It's important so we know what God says right away when we're tempted to do the wrong thing."

As we wrap up our Bible focus this week, it has been a joy seeing our 1st grade students thinking, learning and growing in their understanding of God's word. We've loved their desire to ask questions, make connections and ultimately learn why we memorize scripture and how we can look at Jesus' example for how we should live our lives!

