



POWERFUL.

Matthew 4:1-11; Psalm 36:5-10

Today's fireside story is a real nail- biter, and it's a true story out of my favorite book, the Bible.

We have met interesting and unbelievable characters out here in the wilderness, but this next one is a bit unexpected. Did you know that even Jesus found himself in the wilderness and faced with some challenging situations?

Jesus was fasting for 40 days and 40 nights. Can you imagine not eating for 40 days and nights? I don't know about you, but when I get hungry, I get angry. Hangry. And not only was Jesus fasting, but he was also being tempted by the devil.

The tempter knew Jesus was hungry, so he tempted Jesus to turn the rocks into food to eat.

Jesus said that we don't live on bread alone but on God's words. Jesus responded with a Bible verse. Jesus responded with the power of God's words.

The devil tempted Jesus to test God and see if God would save him.

He responded with another Bible verse.

The devil tried to tempt Jesus one more time.

Did you catch that?
The devil tried to get Jesus to forget God was the only one to worship. Unbelievable!

Jesus responded with Scripture again because nothing is more powerful than God.
The devil tried every trick in the book to tempt Jesus. By trusting in God's words, Jesus had the power and the strength to withstand those tricks. God's power kept Jesus alive in the wilderness when he had nothing to eat and was tempted.

Because God is powerful, Jesus had the power to overcome the most difficult situations. We can always count on God's power to be with us when we face difficult situations, too.

Camp Believe It? Believe it—it's all true!

When Jesus was being tempted in the wilderness, God helped him. And when we are being tempted or going through a tough time, we can trust in God to help us, too. We can do this because of God's love.

Let's read Psalm 36:5-10

That is amazing! God's love is so big that it reaches to the stars, higher than the mountains and deeper than the sea. Yet, God protects everything created by God. We are not only protected and safe with God, but we are cared for.

When we are in trouble, we can take refuge in God. When we are in need, we can turn to God. God's power is like a river that we can drink from.

God is always there, like a fountain that always has water flowing from it. We should always turn to God because God is powerful.



SCRIPTURE/APPLICATION

- What did the devil use to tempt Jesus first?
 - What did Jesus say?
- How was Jesus tempted a second time
 - What did Jesus say?
- What was the last thing Jesus was tempted to do? What did Jesus say?
- Read Psalm 36:7–8.
 - How do you think this relates to the story of Jesus being tempted in the wilderness?
- What are some stories from the Bible that remind you of God's power?
- When is a time when you have felt powerless?
- What are some temptations kids like you might face today?
 - How can you trust God's power to overcome them?



"Power"

TFH Kids Worship

"My God"

by "My God"

MEMORIZE







CAMPFIRE POWER

On a chilly camp night, being around the campfire is the best. Fire gives both heat and light, so not only are we warm, we can see in the dark. Let's make our own campfires to help us remember that God, who is more powerful than fire, is always there for us, whether we're feeling lonely or being tempted. I believe God is powerful.

Give each kid two popsicle sticks that they can design or color to make them look like logs. Then glue them on black construction paper. Add scraps of orange, red, and yellow tissue paper above the sticks to make a fire. Provide metallic star stickers to create the night sky, and have kids write the Big Idea in metallic marker or white crayon. Scan QR code to see a worked example.



PAPER DESERT

God made the desert and the sky and everything else in the world. God is so powerful! Jesus stayed strong when tempted in the wilderness because he knew the truth: I believe God is powerful. Show kids how to tear construction paper into strips (pro tip: it rips more easily vertically). Help them glue on the different construction paper layers to create a desert and sky. You could also have them draw a silhouette (or stick figure) of Jesus standing in the wilderness once the glue dries. Scan QR code to see a worked example.



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