

National Youth Sunday 2019

Led by Jesus, Not by Temptations (1 Corinthians 10:13)

Children's Story by: Rachel Johnson

Place a bowl of candy in front of the children at the start of the children's story

Good morning! How are you? Today, for Youth Sunday, the theme is "Led by Jesus, Not by Temptations," so we're talk about some temptations. Can you name any temptations? Maybe taking a cookie from the cookie jar right before dinner when mom and dad have said no. Or maybe another temptation is to get angry and yell at your brothers and sisters when they make you mad. Or another temptation is talking about others behind their back. Do you guys have any other temptations that you can think of?

The temptation we are going to talk about today is looking away from God, because we as humans think we know better. However, in the Bible it says God won't let us be tempted with more than we can handle (1 Corinthians 10:13). It is okay to have temptations as long as you don't give in to them. In fact, Jesus was even tempted, but he stood his ground against the devil.

We aren't perfect people - so we will give into temptations sometimes; sometimes we will take a cookie from the cookie jar, knowing we aren't supposed

to. But even when we give into our temptations, God will provide a way out. God will always be there to help us. We can look at an example in the Bible with Peter.

One day, Jesus was walking on water to the boat his disciples were in and Peter sees this and wants to walk on water as well. Jesus tells Peter get out of the boat and walk toward him. Peter begins to walk on the water, but he gets scared and starts to look at all the waves around him and is no longer looking at Jesus. As soon as Peter looks away from Jesus he begins to sink! But Jesus is there to catch him. This sometimes happens to us too, we look away from God and begin to fall, but God will always be there to catch us.

God will never put temptations in our way that he knows we can't overcome. When we do mess up and give into temptations, God is there to catch us and bring us back to him.

Are you ready to go back to your seat? Oh wait, I almost forgot! How many of you noticed this bowl of candy I have sitting here? Were any of you tempted to take a piece? I think we all can add this to our list of temptations. Will you pray with me and then you all can have a piece of candy and go back to your seats?

Dear Jesus, I pray that these children will always look to you. But if they begin to fall away from you, be there to catch them and help them overcome their temptations. AMEN.