

# **The Temptation of Jesus**

(Matthew 4: 1 – 11)

**Verse to memorize** : (Matthew 4: 7)

***“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.”***

## **The Story:**

After Jesus was baptized, He went into the desert to fast and pray to God. He remained there, for forty days and forty nights. At the end, Jesus was very hungry. It was then that the devil came to Him in the desert, to tempt Him.

**The devil:** If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.

**Jesus:** It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took Jesus to the roof of the temple in the holy city.

**The devil:** If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over You,' and also, 'In their hands they shall bear You up, lest You dash Your foot against a stone.'

**Jesus:** It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the Lord, your God.'

Again, the devil took Jesus up on a very high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

**The devil:** All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.

**Jesus:** Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'

So, the devil gave up and left Him, and the angels came and served Him.

## **What do we learn :**

§ Satan tries to trick us by different ways:

- ✓ he makes use of our needs (he knew that Jesus was hungry)
- ✓ he tries to make us tempt the Lord
- ✓ he tries to give us the impression that if we leave God and follow him, we will enjoy life better ( I will give you all these things if you worship me!)
- ✓ as children, he tricks us by trying to make us lazy (I am too tired to pray today!), careless (It is boring. What's the point .....!), imitate others thinking it is OK (What's wrong with this word? every one says it)

§ Take care: he failed with Jesus, but unfortunately, he succeeded with many others!!

§ And you, what will you do? Will you let him win, or will you beat him? I am sure you do not want to let him trick you. But how?

§ It is simple. What did Jesus do? He prayed, fasted and answered “it is written.....”

§ Do the same: pray, fast and read the bible.

§ One nice meaning of fasting is that I want to show Jesus that “I care to share”. I know that He loves me and He gave me a lot of good things, so I want to do something to share and please Him.

