Jesus Faced Temptation

And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit for forty days in the wilderness, tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing in those days; and when they were ended, he was hungry. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’” And the devil took him up, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory: for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it shall all be yours.” And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.’” And he took him to Jerusalem, and set him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will give his angels charge of you, to guard you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’” And Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘You shall not tempt the Lord your God.’” And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

**QUESTIONS**

1. Do you have a hard time fighting temptation in your life? Explain.

2. Temptation leads us to sin. How does God help us fight the temptations that the devil throws before us?

3. The scripture passage says, “…when the devil finished every temptation, he departed until an opportune time.” What does that mean?

**REFLECTION**

Jesus was tempted just as we are. Jesus resisted temptation and never gave in to Satan’s antics. Jesus is our model for resisting temptation. Know that temptations will always be around, and know that you can resist, any temptation with God’s help. St. Paul tells us in Philippians 4:13 that we “can accomplish all things through Christ, who strengthens us.” If you’re following this book correctly, today should be Friday. Sometimes Fridays can be filled with temptations. Actively turn your back on temptation today. Set some boundaries and don’t be afraid to say, “No.”

**PRAYER**

Be with me, Jesus. In my times of temptation, hold me in Your grace. Give me the strength to turn to You. I cannot avoid sin on my own, Lord. I am weak; but in Your love, I am strong. In the name of Jesus, I rebuke the evil one. Amen.