

Matthew 4:12-25: Preteen Devotions

Day 1: Facing Temptation with Jesus

Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11

Devotional Thought:

Middle school can be tough! Friends, schoolwork, and activities bring all sorts of challenges, including temptations. Jesus faced temptation, too. He understood and applied God's Word and relied on the Holy Spirit to stand strong. You can do the same! Remember that Jesus is with you, helping you overcome challenges every day.



Reflection Questions:

- 1. What are some temptations you face at school or home?
- 2. How can remembering Jesus' victory over temptation help you?

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, help me stand strong against temptations. Fill me with Your Spirit and guide me with Your Word. Amen.



Day 2: Being a Light in your World

Scripture: Matthew 4:12-25

Devotional Thought:

Jesus didn't go to the most popular places first; He went to Galilee where everyday people lived. Just like Jesus, you can make a big difference right where you are, at school or home. Look for ways to help others and be kind, showing God's love in your actions; and when they ask you why you're doing this for them, you can tell them that you're doing this because Jesus has done so much more for you.



Reflection Questions:

- 1. How can you help or be kind to someone at school or at home this week?
- 2. Why is it important to serve others, even if no one else sees it?

Prayer:

Jesus, help me to see the needs of people around me and to serve them with love, just like You did. Amen.



Day 3: Counting the Cost of Following Jesus

Scripture: Mark 1:16-20

Devotional Thought:

When Jesus called His disciples, they left their fishing nets and followed Him right away. Following Jesus sometimes means making tough choices that others might not understand. Saying no to something wrong or choosing what's right even when it's hard is part of following Him. The disciples who Jesus called from their fishing boats had previously met with Jesus one year earlier. The disciples were ready to lay down their nets, because they had been thinking about the Words of Jesus for a year before Jesus called them.



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Reflection Questions:

- 1. What hard choices might you face because you follow Jesus?
- 2. How can remembering Jesus's call to His disciples help you make these choices?

Prayer:

Lord, help me to choose what is right, even when it's difficult. Give me the courage to follow You always. Amen.



Day 4: Living Out God's Word

Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Devotional Thought:

God's Word is like a guide for life. It's important to not only read it but to live it out in what you do each day. Whether it's treating others kindly, being honest, or making good decisions, let the Bible guide you.

Reflection Questions:

- 1. How can you use what you learn from the Bible in your daily life?
- 2. Why is it important to live out God's teachings, not just read them?



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Prayer:

Holy Spirit, help me understand and follow Your Word every day. Let my actions reflect Your teachings. Amen.

Day 5: Embracing Everyone Like Jesus

Scripture: Matthew 4:23-25

Devotional Thought:

Jesus reached out to people from all walks of life—those who were sick, hurt, and even those who others didn't like. You can follow His example by being kind to everyone, especially those who are different from you or who need a friend.



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Reflection Questions:

- 1. How can you be a friend to someone who feels left out or different?
- 2. Why is it important to love and include everyone, like Jesus did?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, help me to be kind and loving to everyone. Show me how to include others and share Your love with them. Amen.



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Summary

As preteens navigating middle school, remember to follow Jesus's example in facing temptation, serving others, making tough choices, living out God's Word, and embracing everyone around you. By doing these things, you will grow in your faith and become a shining light for God in your community.