

## Let's Talk: Day 330

Today's Reading: Matthew 4 / Family Focus: verses 1-11

Ask each family member what it means to be tempted. A temptation is being enticed to do something, especially something against God. Do any of you have temptations that are hard to resist? Jesus had temptations from Satan, but He conquered each one.

Questions:

1. For how many days did Jesus fast? What does fasting mean?
2. Name the temptations with which the devil tempted Jesus. Which one do you think you would struggle with the most? Why?
3. How did Jesus respond when tempted? How can we learn to do the same thing? Do you have Bible verses memorized to combat your temptations? If not, start today!
4. What did the devil want Jesus to do? Does the devil still want that today? How can you tell?

## Let's Talk: Day 331

Today's Reading: Matthew 5 / Family Focus: verses 43-48

Today's passage illustrates one of the values of Christianity which makes us very unique. God tells us to love our enemies and pray for them. Talk about those people who are bullies or who are mean to you or to others. Then pray for those people with your family.

Questions:

1. What was the old saying that Jesus quoted? Does that seem hard to do? Why or why not?
2. How did Jesus modify the old saying? Does that seem hard to do? Why or why not?
3. Why do you think Jesus instructs us to love our enemies?
4. What can "loving your enemies" look like in your life? Do you think you need to spend time with them?

## Let's Talk: Day 332

Today's Reading: Matthew 6 / Family Focus: verses 25-34

Let each family member discuss a time when they were worried. What did they do? What good did worrying accomplish? Did you know that you can only concentrate on one thing at a time? Today's reading gives us an alternative to worrying; see if you can spot it.

Questions:

1. How does God's creation teach us not to worry?
2. What does our Heavenly Father know?
3. Why shouldn't we worry about tomorrow?
4. What does God say you should focus on instead of worrying (hint: verse 33)? This is a learned behavior. How can we begin to learn it?

## Let's Talk: Day 333

Today's Reading: Matthew 7 / Family Focus: verses 24-27

Many children know the story and even the song of the wise man who built his house upon the rock. Sing it together. If you need help with the tune or words go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkNOcr5iHP4>.

Questions:

1. What happened to the house that was built on the rock when the winds and rain came?
2. What did the foolish man build his house on? What happened when the storm came?
3. The application of this story is often taught incorrectly. What does the Bible say this wise man and foolish man represent?
4. How does obeying Jesus' sayings make you solid and strong while ignoring His sayings makes you a target for a fall when the hard storms of life come?
5. Why were the scribes astonished?

## Let's Talk: Day 334

Today's Reading: Matthew 8 / Family Focus: verses 23-27

Act out this story with your family members or get a tub of water and put a toy boat in it. Feel free to use action figures or dolls to act out the story.

Questions:

1. Where was Jesus when the waves started to increase? Do you think He was really exhausted from the day or was He just not afraid?
2. What did Jesus say to them when the disciples called for Him? Do you think you would have been afraid? Why or why not?
3. What did Jesus say to the wind and sea? Is there anything Jesus can't do? Do we ever have a good reason to be afraid?
4. Do you have a "stormy" life right now where you need to pray and trust God to calm it in His timing? If so, pray for God to show you His perspective on the situation.

## Let's Talk: Day 335

Today's Reading: Deuteronomy 8 / Family Focus: verses 1-5

Today's reading was referenced in Matthew 4 on Day 331. Look at a map in the back of a Bible or online to see the Promised Land that was given to the Israelites. How often do you think of God as your Father? In this Old Testament passage, we see how God wanted to give the Israelites a great gift, but they were too selfish to appreciate it. So He chose to wait until they were ready.

Questions:

1. Parents, share an example of something you wanted to give your kids but had to wait because they wouldn't have appreciated it. What did you do? How did you feel?
2. How many years did the Israelites wander in the wilderness?
3. Israel has a history of forgetting God when "things are good." In what ways did God show the Israelites they needed Him to survive in the wilderness? How do you need your parents to survive? How do you need God?

4. Why did the Israelites have to be in the wilderness? Can you think of any “wilderness” times in your family’s life? What can you look forward to after the wilderness?

### **Let’s Talk: Day 336**

Today’s Reading: Today is the weekly OFF day

Mystery Question for the upcoming week: What is a tree known by?  
Matthew 12

Pray for God to show your family someone who needs to be loved. Then reach out to them. You could invite them to your house or to church; you could bring them cookies or a meal. Work together as a family to figure out how to bless someone.