

# RESISTING TEMPTATION

## SCRIPTURE:

*But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death. (James 1:14-15)*

## MATERIALS LIST:

- (1) Fishing Hook
- (1) Fishing Lure or bait

## MAIN MESSAGE:

When temptation lures us away, and we give in, Satan wins, and sin destroys our soul.

## SONG: "Father God"

## LESSON:

Have you ever been stuck with a fishing hook? Wow, they really hurt! Fishing hooks are designed to not only hold bait, but mainly to hold the fish that bite them. However, fishing hooks generally do not catch anything unless the bait is on the hook. Also, the bait must be tempting to the fish. Some fish like shiny lures, some like slow-moving worms and some like a foul-smelling glob of mess. Most fish are so tempted by the bait (even if they have never seen any object like that before) that they will aggressively bite it, not knowing there is a hook. Once that fish "hits" the bait, a good fisherman will "set" the hook in order to assure the capture of the fish.

Now, Satan is just as cunning and sneaky with his bait and hook. It's called lust. Lust is strong desire. Everyone has desire within them that, if not controlled, will get them into bad trouble. When my son casts his line into the pond, sometimes there is a big, juicy earthworm on the hook. Fish are very tempted by worms. The temptation is not wrong. But when they see it, some fish (like perch or sunfish) will play with the worm at first. They might just be tasting it. After they taste it, they are carried away by their desires (or lust) and then they bite. Now, you know what happens next. My boy will set the hook and reel in the fish. Then, if we're hungry, death comes to the fish.

Satan works the same way. James says, "One is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust." Satan might use friends, food, Internet, money or relationships to entice or tempt you. If you give in, your "lust has conceived" and it "gives birth to sin." And we all know that sin brings: death (Romans 6:23).

Please be aware of Satan! He is trying hard to tempt everyone in your family. Satan is out for your soul! He is seeking to destroy you like a lion after his prey (1 Peter 5:8). Resist temptation and resist Satan, and then you can live a guilt-free, joyful life in Christ!

**PRAYER:** Please give us strength and courage to resist the devil and our own desires that lead to sin.