

WEEK 7

2-5 LESSON



Need to Know: *Hold Up the Sword of the Spirit*

Bible Story: *Jesus Is Tested in the Desert (Matthew 4:1-11)*

Supplies: Attached Bible Story Sheet & Bible Story Map, Crayons or colored pencils

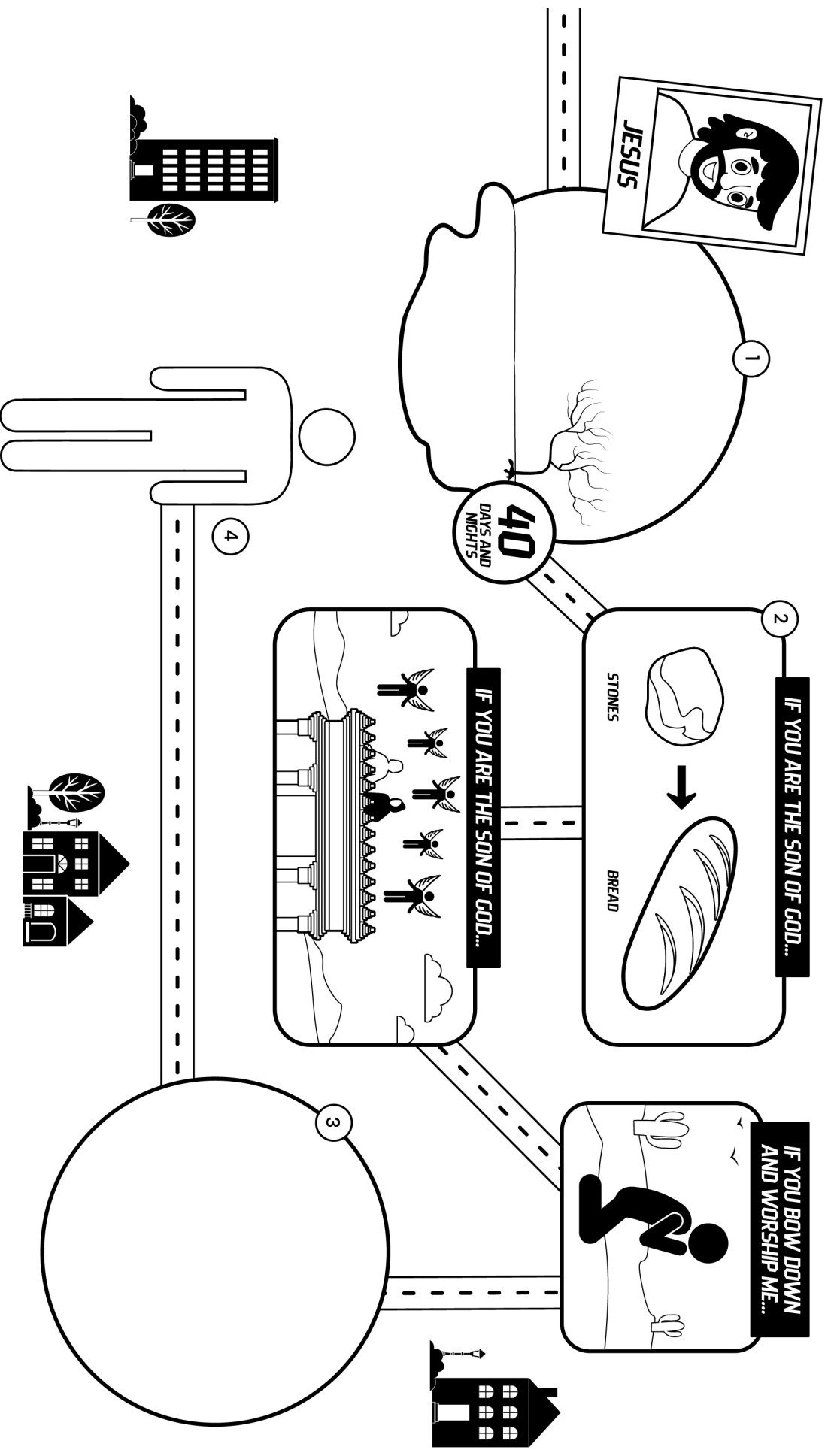
1. SAY: *Jesus used the sword of the Spirit, and while I tell you what He did, you get to make a map of this Bible story.*
2. GIVE each child a **Bible Story Map** and a **coloring utensil**.
3. READ the **Bible Story Sheet** to the group, allowing them to fill in their **Map** as you read. Then, ASK:
 - *How did Jesus stand firm against the devil?* (By telling him truth from God's Word)
 - *Yes! Jesus knew that God's Word was His best weapon against the enemy's lies. Do you know what else God's Word, the Bible, is called?* (The sword of the Spirit) *That's right! God's Word is our greatest weapon against the enemy! It will help us to stand firm against his lies and temptations!*

BIBLE STORY SHEET

Wk 7 - 2-5 - Bible Story Sheet

READ the Bible story below, and ASSIST kids in drawing and coloring as prompted.

- *Does everybody see Jesus on your map? That's where we're going to start! Since the beginning of time, God has been fighting for people to know the truth. There was even a time when Jesus needed to remember what was true to be able to defeat His enemy, the devil.*
- *Now follow your map to stop number one. This is the desert. While I keep telling you the story, I want you to draw some things you may see in the desert, like a cactus, the hot sun, a lizard, or rocks! As kids draw, SAY:*
 - *One day, God's Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert. He was out there for 40 days and 40 nights without anything to eat! How do you think Jesus was feeling out there? (Hungry, hot, tired) You're right! And while Jesus was in the desert, the devil came to Him and tried to tempt Him to do three wrong things.*
- *So follow the road to stop number two on your map. That's where you'll find three pictures of how the devil tempted Jesus.*
 - (Point to the picture with a stone and bread on a child's Map) *First, the devil could tell that Jesus was hungry, so he said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread. What do you think Jesus did? (Allow responses) Jesus wouldn't do it, so draw an X through that picture. Instead of falling for the devil's temptation, Jesus told him a truth from the Bible. Jesus said, "It is not just bread that keeps people alive. Their lives depend on what God says."*
 - (Point to the picture with angels on a child's Map) *Then the devil took Jesus to the roof of the temple and tempted him to jump off since the Bible says God's angels would catch Him. What was the devil trying to use against Jesus? (God's words in the Bible). But Jesus wouldn't do it. You can draw another X over this picture. Instead, Jesus told him something else from the Bible. Jesus said, "The Scriptures also say that you should never test God!"*
 - (Point to the picture of someone praying on a child's Map) *Finally, the devil tried to get Jesus to bow down and worship him. Why do you think Jesus told the devil no to that, too? (Because we're only supposed to worship God) That's right! Go ahead and draw an X through this picture. Jesus had had enough and said, "Get away from me Satan! The Scriptures say to worship the Lord your God and serve Him only."*
- *Now let's travel on to stop three on the map. At this stop, I want you to draw a Bible. As kids draw, SAY:*
 - *The Bible is God's Word, and everything in it is truth! When Jesus used God's Word, He was able to defend Himself when the devil was tempting Him to do wrong things.*
- *Travel on to stop four on your map. Here, I want you to make this person look like you. As kids draw, SAY:*
 - *The devil tempted Jesus in the desert, but can the devil tempt you to do wrong things? (Yes) Yes, he can, and knowing truths from God's Word, the Bible, is our best weapon against that temptation. When we feel like making fun of someone, lying, or doing something that we know is wrong, we can use God's words from the Bible like a sword to defend ourselves and tell the enemy "No." That's why we call the Bible the sword of the Spirit. So on the picture you're drawing of yourself, be sure to draw the sword of the Spirit in your hand. As you do that, repeat after me (motions optional for 4-5):*
 - Hold Up (put one fist in the air)*
 - The Sword of the Spirit (make sword fighting motion)*



Week 7 • Today's Need to Know: Hold Up the Sword of the Spirit

Today's Bible Story: Jesus Is Tested in the Desert (Matthew 4:1-11)

Series Memory Verse: "Put on all of God's armor. Then you can remain strong against the devil's evil plans." Ephesians 6:11 (NIRV)

Name _____