

# Jesus' Preparation for Ministry

**Lesson 5a — Jesus in the Temple**

**Lesson 5b — The Baptism of Jesus**

**Lesson 5c — The Temptation of Jesus**

**Lesson 5d — Jesus Chooses His Disciples**

## OVERVIEW

The second unit of this series is a chronological approach to the events of Jesus' life from His boyhood days to the start of His public ministry and the calling of His disciples.

The boyhood of Jesus should be approached from the standpoint that His deity did not render the process of learning unnecessary. Christ grew physically and advanced in knowledge and in the wisdom which enabled Him to make proper use of what He knew.

At His baptism, Jesus received divine confirmation of the mission opening out before Him and also the anointing of the Holy Spirit for the fulfillment of it.

Following His example of water baptism, Jesus provided for His followers an example of resisting tempta-

tion. Resisting the effort of Satan to cause Him to rely upon special consideration as the Son of God, He withstood the evil one by using the weapon available to every believer — the Holy Scriptures.

When equipped by baptism and seasoned by the ordeal of temptation, Jesus was ready for His life's work. No word of teaching and no work of power is attributed to Him prior to these events, but immediately afterward He began moving to undertake the work the Father had given Him to do.

The overall theme of these four lessons is that Jesus set an example by preparing Himself for the work that He was called to do. Just so, there is something each one of us must do in preparation for the call God has placed upon our lives.

## GAMES FOR REVIEW

Divide a large cardboard into three horizontal rows by attaching strips of paper to form pockets. Write questions on index cards assigning points for each, going from easy to difficult. Place a card in each pocket (see Patterns). Divide class into two teams. Each student should get a chance to pick a card, alternating teams. If one team can't answer, the other team gets a chance. Keep score. The team with the most points wins. Have a small prize with each card — candy, bookmark, balloon, etc. The students who answer the questions get the prizes.

## CONTEST IDEAS

Who can memorize the Apostles' names by the last Sunday of the month? Put their names on a special board on a paper fish (see Patterns).

Give the children a chance to prepare for ministry just

as Jesus did. Have them memorize some verses that are simple enough to learn, and that will hopefully have a lasting impact on their lives.

## BULLETIN BOARDS

(See Patterns for all of the following ideas.)

Arrange on your board a silhouette of a boy or girl praying, a Bible, dove, and two children talking together (witnessing). Above them put large cut-out words or stencil of FOLLOWING JESUS.

Use picture of an open Bible with large cut-out letters, LORD, TEACH US, above the Bible. These could be cut from construction paper of various colors to appear as stained glass or mosaic. This pattern could also be run off as an in-class activity.

Arrange two fishermen on a board with a net between. Make enough fish for each child to have one for each

