

3

JESUS FOLLOWS GOD'S WILL



- Explore how Jesus followed God's will in difficult situations.
- Examine how Jesus showed *Faithfulness* and *Patience*.

A. During this VBS, we will be looking at examples of how Jesus led a Spirit-filled life. He showed us in what He said and what He did that His life was full of the fruit of the Spirit. This lesson will explore Jesus' faithfulness as He followed God's will and His patience as He followed God's timing. Make a copy of the *Scripture* reproducible from the Visual Aid Package for each student. Text is taken from Matthew 3:13—4:11; John 2:1-11.

- B. Review the Bible story by asking the following questions:
- **Why did Jesus go to see John?** He needed John to baptize Him.
 - **Since Jesus had not sinned, why did He need to be baptized?** Jesus knew it was part of God's plan for Him to be baptized. He didn't need to be baptized, but He did so to set an example for us. He was being faithful to follow God's will.
 - **What happened as Jesus rose from the water?** The heavens opened, the Spirit of God descended like a dove, and came to rest on Jesus. God said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."
 - **What happened after Jesus received the Spirit?** The Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted.
 - **What does it mean to fast?** Someone who is fasting will not eat for a certain amount of time.
 - **How long did Jesus fast?** forty days and forty nights.
 - **How do you think you would feel if you didn't eat for forty days?** Hungry! Weak, tired, irritable, dizzy, disoriented, sick, etc.
 - **Matthew 4:2 says Jesus was hungry. What was the first way Satan tempted Him?** To turn stone into bread. He tried to use Jesus' physical weakness against Him.
 - **What was the second way Satan tempted Jesus?** He tried to persuade Jesus to use His power by jumping off the top of the temple to display the power He had over the angels.
 - **What was the third way Satan tempted Jesus?** He told Jesus he would allow Jesus to rule over all the kingdoms of the world if Jesus would bow down and worship Satan.
 - **Did Jesus give in to any of Satan's temptations?** No.
 - **What did Jesus use to answer Satan after each temptation?** "It is written...." Jesus answered Satan each time by quoting God's Word.

- **Not long after His temptation, Jesus was invited to a wedding. What happened while He was there?** The host family ran out of wine, which would have been terribly embarrassing and upsetting.
- **What did Jesus' mother say to Jesus? Why do you think she said this?** "They have no wine." She knew Jesus could perform a miracle and help them.
- **How did Jesus reply?** "My hour has not yet come." He was respectful to His mother, but He also knew that it was not God's will that He perform a public miracle at this time. He was patiently waiting on God's timing.
- **How did Jesus respond?** He performed the miracle, but He did so privately, discreetly, staying faithful to both His heavenly Father and His earthly mother. Sometimes, it can be hard to follow God's will and the will of those who have authority over us in our daily lives.

