

# ESCAPE THE ROOM

## LESSON SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

Follow the clues and stay away from sin.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that temptation does not come from God.

**BIBLE STORY:**

James 1:13-18, Temptation

**SUMMARY:**

We might want to blame God when we find ourselves being tempted, but we need to understand that temptation to sin does not come from God. If we follow the clues, we will see where temptation truly comes from.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Show us the way to escape from sin.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

# ESCAPE THE ROOM



ESCAPE THE ROOM: FOLLOW THE CLUES

# ESCAPE THE ROOM

## SKIT

### CLUELESS

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

A table with a plate of cookies

A cell phone

#### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

3M, 1F

#### CHARACTERS:

Game Master

David, Jason, and Shauna - Three friends

*A table is set up on stage with a plate of cookies. With the actors off stage, the Announcer speaks.*

GAME MASTER: Greetings. I am the Game Master, and welcome to the Temptation Room! You have been locked in this room with your friends, where you will be faced with a wicked and devious temptation. You have one hour to find the clues that will help you escape the room. Work together. Stay strong. And above all... do not eat the cookies!

*David, Jason, and Shauna enter. Shauna is on her phone.*

SHAUNA: Wow, what a spooky, scary voice he has. Why are we here and not at Mandie's party?

JASON: Because this is fun! It's a bonding experience.

SHAUNA: Why don't I have any signal in here?

DAVID: Will you put down the phone? We need to find the clues and escape this room, or else!

SHAUNA: Or else what?

JASON: Or else we'll fall victim to the temptations of the Game Master.

# SKIT

SHAUNA: You mean the guy with the name tag who locked us in here? Oh wow, I'm so scared.

JASON: Look, David, I see some symbols on the wall here.

DAVID: Looks to me like a tall man... a giant maybe. And what appears to be an owl.

SHAUNA: Looks like some squiggly lines and a stick man to me.

DAVID: Will you use your imagination?

JASON: We have to find the clues.

SHAUNA: I don't need any clues. I know how we got in here. You two guys ponied up fifteen bucks a pop, plus the cost of my ticket, and drug me in here to make me bored.

DAVID: We thought you would enjoy this!

JASON: Yeah, it's kind of James Bond! You like James Bond.

SHAUNA: James Bond is cute. You guys? Ehhh...

DAVID: Jason, you look along that wall. Maybe there's a hidden release or compartment with a key. I'll take this wall.

SHAUNA: And I'll take a cookie.

JASON: What? No!

DAVID: The Game Master said, do not eat the cookies!

SHAUNA: Who, name tag guy? Why would he say that?

JASON: Maybe it's a booby trap. Or maybe that's the temptation we have to avoid!

DAVID: That's right. The brochure said the temptation would be right in front of us.

JASON: And we'd have to look for the clues.

SHAUNA: Oh please, I guarantee you name tag guy forgot 'em in here and he doesn't want us touching his cookies.

# SKIT

*Shauna picks up a cookie and bites it. A siren starts to blare.*

SHAUNA: What did I do?

GAME MASTER: Game over! You lose!

DAVID: Shauna, how could you be so... clueless?

SHAUNA: Sorry. Maybe he'll give us a second chance?

GAME MASTER: There are no second chances in the Escape Room, just as there are no second chances in real life, where recognizing the clues can be the difference between doing what is right and giving in to sin!

JASON: Sin? What's he talking about, sin?

SHAUNA: Haven't got a clue.

DAVID: Tell me about it.

# ESCAPE THE ROOM

## OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

### ITEMS NEEDED:

A jelly or cream filled donut

I brought in a donut this morning. This donut has some sort of filling in it, but I honestly do not remember what kind. What are some things I can do to determine what flavor donut this is without tasting it?

If you want to know the donut's flavor, look for the clues. Is the filling cream? Custard? Jelly? What color is the filling? What does it smell like? If we see a yellow jelly-like substance, we can guess it's probably lemon. If it's red, it could be strawberry or raspberry or cherry. These clue can help us to determine if it's a donut we love - or one we want to run from.

Some people think that when they are tempted, God is testing them, but if we follow the clues, we will see temptation does not come from God. Temptation leads us to sin, and sin leads us away from God. Anything that leads us away from God should be avoided.

God will not lead us into temptation. If we recognize the clues, if we learn to see we are being tempted, God will lead us to obedience. We can turn away from sin and turn toward Heaven.

Don't bite into sin. Learn the signs. Look for the clues. And escape from sin.

# ESCAPE THE ROOM

## LARGE GROUP GAME

### PUT IT TOGETHER

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

A puzzle with 100 pieces

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose four players to participate in this challenge. The kids will have 2 minutes to work together and assemble the puzzle correctly. If they can complete the puzzle before time runs out, they win a prize.

#### VARIATION:

This can be a competitive game between two teams of four. If time is short, cut the number of players to three, the number of puzzle pieces to 50, and the time to one minute.

#### WHAT'S THE POINT?

When you assemble a puzzle, you use the images and shapes to clue you in on how the pieces fit. We need to learn to recognize the clues when we are being tempted so we will not give in.

# ESCAPE THE ROOM

## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

Follow the clues and stay away from sin.

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that temptation does not come from God.

### **BIBLE STORY:**

James 1:13-18, Temptation

### **INTRO:**

For many years people sat and watched as heroes on a big or small screen had to race against the clock and make thrilling escapes from their enemies. From Star Wars to James Bond, from Perry the Platypus to Wonder Woman, adults and kids have always enjoyed sitting back and watching their heroes put the clues together, race the clock, crack the code, and make a daring escape.

As popular as those thrilling movies and TV shows are, it's no wonder that Escape Rooms have become such a popular form of entertainment. It used to be you could only watch people make daring getaways. Now, you can make one on your own. Working together with friends, family, or with total strangers, you have to find the clues, you have to crack the code, you have to beat the clock, and you have to make your escape.

Escape Rooms are a great way to bond with friends and family. You have to work together. You have to combine your strengths and knowledge to solve the riddles of the room. Doesn't matter if you're trying to escape from prison, from a mad scientist, or an evil super-villain. If you don't work together, if you don't stay on task, you will never escape alive.

Escape is the only option for one of the greatest problems we all face every day - temptation. There's no way to beat it. There's no way to send it packing. If you want to avoid sin, you have to get away. You have to run.

In order to escape sin, the first thing we need to understand is where it comes from. Some people think that when they are tempted, God is testing them. They believe that God puts them in no-win situations, and when they mess up, they blame God. James chapter one makes it clear temptation does not come from God. Temptation comes from our own sinful desires.



# LARGE GROUP LESSON

## READ JAMES 1:13-18

### MAIN POINT:

Sin takes us away from God. Sin is what separated mankind from God in the Garden of Eden. Sin is the reason Jesus had to come and die on the cross, taking the punishment for sin upon himself so he could save us.

God cannot tempt us with sin. If we look at the clues, we will see where sin comes from. It's our own sinful nature. We are tempted to lie to make ourselves look better. We are tempted to take something because we are greedy, or envious of someone else. We break the rules to fit in with our friends, to go along with peer pressure. The clues tell us that sin comes from our own selfish desires, not from God.

The good news is we can learn to spot these clues before we sin. We can recognize when we are being tempted. We can feel the pangs of selfishness. We can sense something isn't right. Sin doesn't come from God, it comes from our own desires. If we spot the clues, we can avoid sin and stay right with God.

### DRIVE IT HOME:

It isn't easy to escape from sin. As a matter of fact many times escape is the last thing we want to do. We know we are being tempted to do wrong, but we justify it in our minds. We lie to ourselves to make us believe it's okay to take short cuts, to take what is not ours, or to do something dishonest. We want to go along with the crowd because we don't want our friends to think we aren't cool.

Escape happens when we are able to see the clues and recognize we are being misled by our own selfish desires. When we can step back and see that our motives are wrong, we can make our escape.

God would never tempt us to sin. He wants to save us from sin. He wants to draw us close. It's up to us to make the right choice. We can choose to give in to our selfish desire, or we can choose to follow the path that leads to God. We need to read the clues, stop blaming God, and realize where sin really comes from.

Every choice we make leads us closer to, or further away from God. Don't walk away from sin. Run. Escape. Follow the clues God gives you, and you can make your escape.

### CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,  
Show us the way to escape from sin.  
In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

# ESCAPE THE ROOM

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

### ICEBREAKER:

Have you ever been in an Escape Room? How did it go?

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Have the kids brainstorm and create their own "Escape Room" scenario. Let them explain or act it out to you when they are done.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

**Read James 1:13-18**

Does God tempt people to sin?

Where does temptation come from?

What are some ways you have been tempted this week?

What are some clues we can look for to know when we are being tempted?

What should we do when we recognize temptation?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Open our eyes so we can see when we are tempted and make our escape.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

# ESCAPE THE ROOM

ESCAPE THE ROOM: FOLLOW THE CLUES



# MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

## Escape the Room Lesson 1

### THIS WEEK'S LESSON: FOLLOW THE CLUES



#### IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about today on the drive home:

We might want to blame God when we find ourselves being tempted, but we need to understand that temptation to sin does not come from God. If we follow the clues, we will see where temptation truly comes from. James 1:13-18, Temptation



#### HANGING OUT:

Make today's lesson real:

Watch a mystery movie, or play a game of clue with the kids. Work together to try to solve the mystery in the movie or in the game. Ask your kids what clues tell them that sin comes from our own desires, and ask them what clues can warn us when we are being tempted?



#### AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

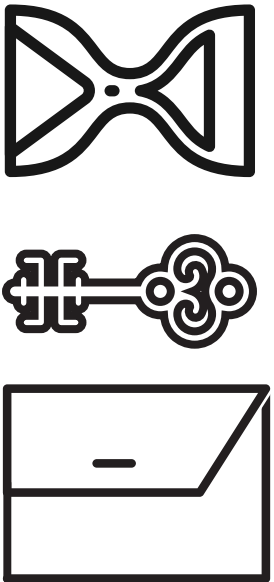
- Does God tempt people to sin? Why or why not?
- Where does temptation come from?
- How can we recognize temptation and escape from it?



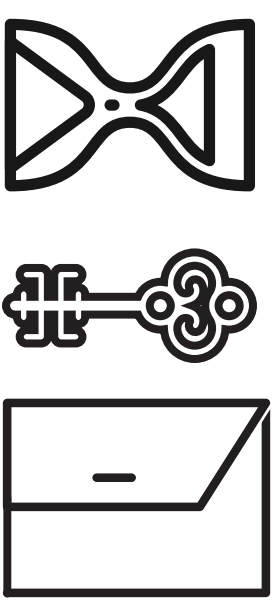
#### PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

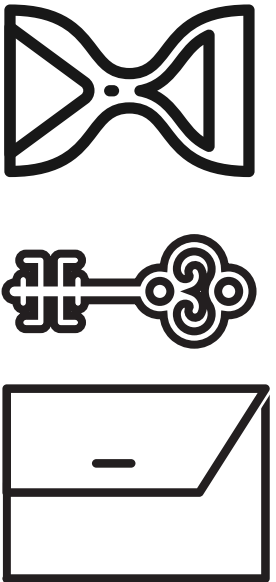
Escaping temptation starts with recognizing the source. God does not tempt us. Temptation begins with our own selfish desires. Ask God to help you and your kids recognize your own selfish motives so you can see the clues and escape from temptation.



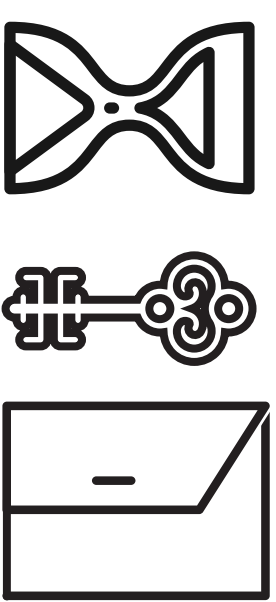
"I have hidden your word in my heart so that I  
won't sin against you."  
- Psalm 119:11 (NIRV)



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## CRAFT ACTIVITY

Give each of the kids a small notebook or note pad, something they can use in each of the coming weeks to write down “clues” and other lessons they learn about temptation. Let the kids decorate the notebooks, write their names in them, and write some notes or draw pictures on the first page to remind themselves of what they learned from today’s message.