



# Sin is a Trap!

By Deborah Wassenberg

## Introduction:

The Bible teaches that the devil sets traps for people—not with cheese but with lies, temptations, and clever tricks. Children discover that the devil never once fooled Jesus, and that God sent Jesus to set trapped people free!

## Bible Lesson: The Fall/The Temptation of Jesus

Bible References: Genesis 3:1-24; Matthew 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-14

## Visuals You Will Need:

1. Trap with a caught animal
2. Bait (like cheese)
3. Person caught in a trap
4. Eve and the serpent
5. Adam and Eve eat the fruit
6. Hiding from God
7. Adam and Eve banished
8. People caught in a trap
9. Jesus tempted: turn stones to bread
10. Jesus tempted: angels rescue
11. Jesus tempted: kingdoms if you bow
12. Child in a trap
13. Jesus
14. Child set free

## Words:

1. Have you ever seen a trap?  
A trap is designed to catch and keep animals.  
It can be a device, an enclosure, or even a hole.  
A trap allows the animal to come in, but will not let it out.
2. Being caught in a trap is scary!  
No matter how hard the animal tries to get out, there is no escape.  
So, what makes an animal go inside a trap?  
They are lured in with bait.  
The temptation of food placed in the trap overcomes their wariness...  
And snap!  
They're caught.

3. Did you know the Bible tells us the devil sets traps for people?  
The devil wants to lure people into a trap and never let them escape.  
He uses bait, too.  
The bait the devil uses is lies, temptations, and tricks.
4. Let's look at the first trap the devil set to catch humans.  
The serpent, who was craftier than any other creature, approached Eve in the garden.  
He questioned what God had said about the tree in the middle of the garden.  
Eve explained that God had told them not to eat the fruit, or they would die.  
The serpent insisted they wouldn't die and claimed the fruit would make them wise like God.
5. Eve looked at the fruit—beautiful, delicious, and desirable for gaining wisdom—and chose to eat it.  
She then gave some to Adam, who also ate.  
Immediately, they realised they were naked and felt ashamed, so they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.
6. When they heard God walking in the garden, they hid.  
God called to Adam, who admitted he was afraid because he was naked.  
God asked if they had eaten from the forbidden tree.  
Adam blamed Eve; Eve blamed the serpent.
7. God then pronounced consequences:  
The serpent would be cursed and crawl on its belly.  
There would be ongoing conflict between the serpent and humanity.  
Eve would experience pain in childbirth and struggle in her relationship with her husband.  
Adam would face hard labour as the ground was now cursed with thorns and thistles.
8. The devil tricked Eve.  
She took the bait.  
The human race was trapped in sin.  
Until Jesus came to set everyone free!  
Satan set traps for Jesus but Jesus did not take the bait.
9. Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.  
After fasting for forty days and forty nights, He was hungry.  
The tempter came to Him and said, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.'  
Jesus answered, 'It is written: "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."'

10. Then the devil took Him to Jerusalem and set Him on the highest point of the temple.  
 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down.  
 For it is written: "He will command His angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."  
 Jesus answered him, 'It is also written: "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."'
11. The devil took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour.  
 'All this I will give you,' he said, 'if you will bow down and worship me.'  
 Jesus said to him, 'Away from me, Satan! For it is written:  
 "Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only."  
 Then the devil left Jesus, and angels came and attended Him.  
 Jesus used Scripture to stand strong and resist Satan.
12. Satan sets traps for you, too.  
 He tells lies: "No one will know."  
 He tempts us: "Just try it once."  
 He uses fear: "You're not good enough anyway, so just give in."  
 He also uses anger, jealousy, pride, and unforgiveness.
13. But Jesus came to break every trap!  
 He forgives. (*1 John 1:9*)  
 He rescues. (*2 Timothy 4:18*)  
 He gives us the strength to say no to Satan (*James 4:7*)  
 He replaces lies with truth. (*John 8:32; John 14:6*)
14. The only way to stay free is by staying close to Jesus.
- Reading the Bible
  - Praying
  - Making Godly choices
  - Choosing good friends
  - Asking Jesus for help and strength
  - Putting on the armour of God (*Ephesians 6:10-18*)

## Ministry to the Children:

Jesus went into the synagogue in Nazareth and stood to read. He was given the scroll of Isaiah, opened and read from it. (*Isaiah 61:1-2*).

"The Spirit of the LORD *is* upon Me,  
 Because He has anointed Me  
 To preach the gospel to *the* poor;  
 He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted,  
 To proclaim liberty to *the* captives  
 And recovery of sight to *the* blind,  
**To set at liberty those who are oppressed;**  
 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."

Jesus came to undo all the damage that sin does. Sin makes you poor, deceives you, it breaks your heart and blinds your eyes. Your sin traps you and keeps you captive.

Then He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him.  
And He said to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

Jesus was telling everyone, 'Isaiah wrote this about Me'. When Adam and Eve chose to sin against God in the Garden of Eden, they catapulted the entire human race into sin. Since that time, every human being has been trapped by sin. God still comes looking for you! But you can't come near Him with sin, so He sent Jesus to pay for your sin by dying on the Cross. Jesus is your only way of escape! You must repent from your sin, believe in Jesus, surrender your life to Him and ask Him to forgive you. Then you will be free!

**Pray:** 'Jesus, thank You that You came to set me free. Help me see the devil's traps and choose Your truth instead. Break every chain of evil in my heart and help me walk in Your freedom and Your love every day. Amen.'

### Memory Verse: John 8:36 (NASB 1995)

So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

#### You will need:

- Balloons OR paper cups OR soft toys (your choice)
- Small strips of paper with each word of John 8:36 written separately
- A basket or box labelled "FREE IN JESUS"
- Optional: string, masking tape, or chairs to create a "prison zone"

#### What to do:

- Prepare the "Trapped Words"  
Place each word of the verse inside:  
A balloon (kids pop to release the word), OR  
A paper cup turned upside down, OR  
A soft toy wrapped lightly in yarn or tape  
Scatter them around the room inside a taped-off area called "The Prison Zone."
- The Mission  
Tell the children:  
"These words are trapped! But Jesus sets us free. Your job is to rescue the words and bring them to the 'FREE IN JESUS' basket."  
On "Go!" children run into the zone, retrieve one item at a time, and "set it free" by:  
Popping the balloon  
Lifting the cup

Unwrapping the yarn  
They bring the word to the basket.

- **Build the Verse**  
Once all words are rescued, the group works together to arrange them in the correct order.  
Say the verse aloud together several times.

## Game: Escape the Snare!

Create a simple obstacle course with 'traps'.

### You will need:

- Cones (temptation)
- Ropes on the ground (lies)
- Chairs (anger)
- A tunnel (fear)
- Jesus cards (Bible Verses)

### What to do:

The children must get through without touching the traps. Halfway through, they can pick up a "Jesus card" (a laminated Bible verse). Once they have the card, they can walk straight through the traps without penalty.

### Point:

We can't escape traps on our own. But with Jesus, we walk in freedom.

## Craft: Freedom Kite

### You will need:

- 1 sheet of A4 paper (coloured or white)
- Tape (masking tape or clear tape)
- 1 wooden skewer or thin straw
- String or wool (about 1–2 metres)
- Scissors
- Felt pens/stickers for decorating
- Optional: ribbon or crepe paper for the tail

### What to do:

#### 1. **Fold the Paper**

Lay the A4 sheet **landscape**.

Fold it **in half** lengthwise (like a long hotdog bun).

Open it back up — the crease is your centre line.

## 2. Fold the Corners

On the short side of the paper, fold **each top corner** in toward the centre crease.

Stop folding when the corners meet the crease but don't overlap. It should look like a simple paper airplane front.

## 3. Tape the Corners Down

Tape the folded corners so they stay flat.

This creates the kite's "nose."

## 4. Add the Support Stick

Flip the paper over.

Tape the skewer or straw **straight down the centre crease**.

This gives the kite strength and helps it fly.

## 5. Punch or Poke a Hole

About **2–3 cm** from the nose of the kite, poke a small hole through the paper (next to the skewer).

Tie your string through this hole and knot it securely.

## 6. Add a Tail (Optional but Fun!)

Tape a strip of ribbon or crepe paper to the bottom of the kite.

Kids can add little bows or shapes along the tail.

## 7. Decorate

Let the children decorate with:

"Free Indeed – John 8:36"

