

## **#TargetPractice: How can we pass a test?**

First, let's ask the question, **What is a test?**

In school, we are given tests to see if we have learned something well or how much we have learned. Do teachers give you tests to try to make you fail it? A good teacher doesn't. If you do well, then you have apparently learned the material well. If you don't do well, a teacher can know what things you still need to practice and work on.

A doctor may give a test to find out what is causing you to be sick. Have you ever had a flu, strep, or covid test? They aren't always fun, but the results let the doctor know how to treat you to help you feel better.

A test you may have in life can show the condition of your heart: if you believe and follow Jesus or look after only your own desires? These kinds of tests aren't always fun, but if we pass them, it makes us stronger for the next test we face. If we don't pass, then it is an opportunity for us to learn from them and do better next time.

Jesus faced some tests while He lived here on earth. Let's see if He passed the tests and how.

### [The Temptation of Jesus](#)

Jesus knew God's Word so the Tempter couldn't trick Him. He also had His mind set beforehand what was ok and what wasn't. He then stood His ground and wouldn't let Satan confuse Him or trick Him.

Now the things Jesus was tempted with may look like the tests you may face.

What are some things you might be tempted to do?

- Sneaking candy when told you couldn't have it
- Lying to avoid punishment
- Watching inappropriate shows/music/games
- Taking something doesn't belong to you
- Trying dangerous stunts seen on TV
- Bullying or teasing someone to fit in with the crowd
- Cheating on homework or test
- Saying hurtful things when upset
- Throwing tantrums or whining to get what you want
- Hiding feelings instead of talking about them
- Keeping secrets that could hurt you or someone else

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- Read God's word to help know right from wrong.
- Pray for God to help you do the right thing, even when it is hard.

- Set limits for yourself so it is easier when the test comes (I'll only watch 1 show then turn off the TV to do homework)
- Listen to your parents' advice and rules. Parents set guardrails for your age to help you stay safe but also to help avoid making bad choices.