

This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **BEFORE** your children attend church. Because God's plan is for **parents to be the primary spiritual nurturers** of their children's faith, *we want YOU to be the one to introduce* this part of The Big God Story to them.

For additional support in spiritual parenting and to learn more about creating transforming environments in your home, be sure to pick up **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource** from your church or download at [HomeFrontMag.com](http://HomeFrontMag.com). You can also access the HomeFront app for your iPhone, iPad, or Android device.



3.5

## GOD IS WITH US

### Part of The Big God Story

Matthew 3:13-17; 4:1-17; Mark 1:9-15; Luke 3:21-23; 4:1-14; John 1:29—36

After John baptized Jesus, the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness. Jesus fasted and prayed for 40 days. God the Father was with Jesus the entire time.

### JUST FOR FUN

Count to 40 around the dinner table. Explain to your children that God used the number 40 in many significant ways throughout The Big God Story. Tell them you're going to read about a time when God used the number 40 to mark a new season in Jesus' life. Read **Mark 1:9-15**. Remind your children that God's Spirit sent His Son, Jesus, into the wilderness for 40 days. Then ask, "Who took care of Jesus while He was there?" God did. God the Father was with Jesus, and He is always with us.

## Did You Know?

- Throughout Scripture, God often used periods of 40 days as a time of trial that led to renewal and change.
- Immediately following His baptism, Satan tempted Jesus for 40 days.
- Despite the temptation, God the Father was always with Jesus—just as He is with us through periods of trial and temptation in our lives.

## Remember Verse

This is what the LORD says— your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go."

ISAIAH 48:17

## Blessing

For more information about blessing your child, see the Blessing section in **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource**.

**A blessing to pray over your child:**  
(Child's name), may God go ahead of you, stay behind you, and walk beside you this week.

## Teachable Moments

- How do we know God was with His Son, Jesus, when John the Baptist baptized Him?
- Do you think Jesus was scared when He was in the wilderness?
- How can we know God is with us, even though we can't see Him?