

SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

GENESIS 2-3



KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 104:24

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Who is God? God is our Creator and the King of everything.

CHRIST CONNECTION: Adam and Eve sinned when they rejected God's good plan and disobeyed His command. Sin separates people from God, but God didn't leave them without hope. God sent His Son, Jesus, to live as Adam didn't—perfectly sinless. God the Son came to earth as a man to rescue people from sin.

STORY POINT: Sin is disobeying God and His commands.



PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

LEADER Bible Study

Genesis 2–3 recounts sin’s entrance into the world through Adam and Eve’s disobedience. From the earliest pages of the Old Testament, we are introduced to the gravity of sin and mankind’s need for redemption—a redemption promised by God through an offspring of Eve. A Rescuer would come to undo the curse of sin and crush the serpent.

How has God provided for His people since the beginning of time, from before the fall of man until this very moment? What evidence do we see of His kindness and care—especially in light of Christ?

God revealed His glory through Eden, a thriving garden where His people’s needs were lovingly met. His beautiful creation was all theirs for the taking with only one exception: “... you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die” (Genesis 2:17). God’s command was not a means to withhold good. Rather, His command was for their good. That is, by obeying Him, they would actually find life.

When faced with the serpent’s lies, Adam and Eve failed to believe God’s words. They were enticed by the fruit’s appearance, the proposition to be like God, and the allurements of obtaining wisdom. Their eyes had indeed been opened to the knowledge of good and evil; however, because they disobeyed God’s command, they would now experience sin’s consequences and the reality of death.

Despite His people’s disobedience, God sought them in their sin. He provided them with clothing from animal skins to cover their nakedness and shame. However, the sacrifice of this animal was not a once-and-for-all event, but the foreshadowing of a greater death to repair this severed relationship between God and man—Christ’s sacrifice on the cross. God’s merciful promise in Genesis 3:15 provides all people with the opportunity to be freed from the curse of sin and find life in Christ. As Romans 5:19 reminds us, “For just as through one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so also through the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.”

While you ponder today’s truths, take time to meditate on God’s care for His people—from the beauty of creation to the mercy revealed in Jesus’ sacrifice. Consider God’s provision in redeeming His people and drawing close despite their sin. May you teach His truths clearly, your own faith made evident to the boys and girls learning from you today.



PREPARE

THE WEEK PRIOR

Prepare your heart to teach; plan the session



WELCOME

10-15 MINUTES

Greet kids and open the session



LEARN

25-30 MINUTES

Teach kids the story of the gospel



LOVE

15-20 MINUTES

Lead kids to love the God of the gospel



LIVE

15-20 MINUTES

Lead kids to live out the mission of the gospel



PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

GATHER Supplies

Keep a regular supply of the following items available at all times: Bibles, pens or pencils, markers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue or tape, paper.



WELCOME

Activity Page

- ☐ "The Fall" activity page

Session Starter (Option 1)

- ☐ petroleum jelly
- ☐ cotton swab
- ☐ black lights, 1 per group

Session Starter (Option 2)

- ☐ painter's tape



LOVE

Review & Bible Skills

- ☐ Small Group Timeline and Map Set (optional)



LIVE

Activity Choice (Option 2)

- ☐ "Big Story Game" printable, 1 per pair
- ☐ pennies or other game pieces, 1 per kid

Reflection and Prayer

- ☐ Bible Story Coloring Page (optional)



LEARN

Introduce the Session

- ☐ countdown video
- ☐ Story Point Poster

Big Picture Question

- ☐ Big Picture Question Poster

Review the Timeline

- ☐ Giant Timeline

Tell the Bible Story

- ☐ "Sin Entered the World" video
- ☐ Bible Story Picture Poster
- ☐ leaves, 1 per kid (optional)
- ☐ pieces of cloth, 1 per kid (optional)

Questions from Kids

- ☐ "Unit 1, Session 2" Questions from Kids video

Missions Moment

- ☐ "Reese Family Photo" printable
- ☐ globe or world map

Key Passage Activity

- ☐ Key Passage Poster
- ☐ "Countless (Psalm 104:24)" song
- ☐ worship song of your choice (optional)



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

SAY “What are some rules you have in your home or at school? Why do you have these rules? Do you always obey them? Why?”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “The Fall” activity page.

SAY “Today, we will learn how sin entered through world through Adam and Eve’s disobedience. Now, all people have sinned.”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

☐ OPTION 1: WHERE IS IT?

Before the session, use a cotton swab to draw pictures with petroleum jelly on five pieces of white paper. For example, you might draw a heart, a sun, a snake, a tree, etc. Be sure to not saturate the paper with the jelly.

Tape the papers to a wall. Form kids into groups of three or four and give each group a black light. Invite groups to use their black lights to uncover the hidden pictures on the paper. After all groups have found the hidden pictures, invite kids to tell you what pictures they saw.

SAY “At first, the pictures were ‘hidden.’ But when you used your special light, you uncovered them. In today’s Bible story, we will learn how Adam and Eve tried to hide from God because they sinned. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.** But Adam and Eve couldn’t hide from God. God sees and knows everything. God also comes to find sinners because He wants to show them forgiveness. Let’s get ready to learn about a promise God made to save people from sin.”

☐ OPTION 2: FALL SHORT



Before the session, place a piece of painter’s tape on a wall, close to the ceiling. Make sure the tape is high enough so kids will not be able to reach it. Lead kids to line up about 4 feet from the wall. Instruct kids to take a running start and jump to touch the tape. Allow each kid an opportunity to try. Then lead kids to step back about 6 feet from the wall and try again.

SAY “Even when you had a longer running start, no one was able to reach the tape. This reminds me of how we all fall short of God’s perfect measure. When God made the world, He created people to reflect Him. We are made to show others what God is like. Today, we will learn how sin entered the world, and now because of sin, all people fall short of showing others what God is like. We fail to always love Him and obey Him.”





LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

INTRODUCE the Bible Story

1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

SAY “ Welcome, kids! My name is [your name], and today we will be reading another story from God’s Word together. What is another name for God’s Word? [Allow responses.] Yes, the Bible! If you have your Bible, please take it out. [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.]

Today, we will be reading from the first book of the Bible: Genesis. As we read our story, we will learn how sin entered the world. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.** [Display the Story Point Poster.] Even though sin entering the world is terrible news, our story also has good news. We’ll learn how God made a special promise to Adam and Eve. Let’s pray for God’s Word to transform our hearts. [Invite kids to pray with you.] ”

2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

SAY “ Last week, we learned our big picture question: **Who is God?** Does anyone remember the answer? [Allow responses.] **God is our Creator and the King of everything.** Let’s repeat the answer together: **God is our Creator and the King of everything.**

Since God is Creator and the King of everything, He gets to decide what is good, bad, and how the world should work. He is a good God, and everything He commands is good too. When we hear our Bible story today, we will learn how God gave a good command. His Word is true and is to be obeyed because it leads us to life. ”

3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the giant timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

SAY “ Let’s take a moment to review what we learned last week. We started at the beginning of the Bible and learned how God created the whole world. God spoke and everything was made. God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh day. What are some things God made? [Allow responses.] Do you remember who God made that was His special creation? [Allow responses.] Yes, God made people—Adam and Eve. Today, we will learn how Adam and Eve chose to disobey God and not follow His good command. ”



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Genesis 2:8-17; 3:1-24. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “Sin Entered the World.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

“After God made Adam, He placed him in the garden of Eden to work it and watch over it. God commanded him, “You can eat from any tree of the garden, but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die.”

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals God had made. One day, he asked Adam’s wife, Eve, “Did God really say, ‘You can’t eat from any tree in the garden?’”

Eve said, “We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. But God said we must not eat the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden. He said, ‘You must not eat it or touch it, or you will die.’”

“No! You will certainly not die,” the serpent said. “In fact, God knows that when you eat it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Eve saw that the fruit looked good and she wanted to be wise like God, so she took some of the fruit and ate it. She gave some to Adam, who was with her, and he ate it too. As soon as they ate the fruit, their eyes were opened and they knew they were naked. They made clothes for themselves by sewing together fig leaves.

In the evening, Adam and Eve heard God walking in the garden, so they hid. God called out to Adam, “Where are you?”

Adam replied, “I heard You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.” God asked Adam, “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

Adam immediately blamed Eve and said, “She gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

Eve blamed the serpent and said, “He deceived me, and I ate.” God cursed the serpent by making him crawl on his belly. Adam and Eve also had consequences for their disobedience. Life would be hard and painful, all because of sin. The ultimate consequence for humanity’s disobedience to God is death. But God promised that one of the woman’s descendants would destroy the serpent.

God was merciful to Adam and Eve. He made clothes for them out of animal skins before He sent them out of the garden. God put angels and a sword of fire

STORYTELLING TIPS

Provide coverings:

Distribute a leaf and a piece of cloth to each kid. Lead kids to hold up the leaf when you talk about Adam and Eve sewing fig leaves. Then direct kids to hold up the piece of cloth when you talk about God making clothes for them. Remind kids that Jesus gave Himself as a sacrifice so we could be covered in His goodness.

Use emotion: Tell the Bible story by emphasizing the different emotions portrayed such as deceitful, excited, scared, blameful, and hopeful.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

at the entrance of the garden to guard the way to the tree of life.

Christ Connection: Adam and Eve sinned when they rejected God's good plan and disobeyed His command. Sin separates people from God, but God didn't leave them without hope. God sent His Son, Jesus, to live as Adam didn't—perfectly sinless. God the Son came to earth as a man to rescue people from sin. ”

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY “ God showed Adam and Eve His love by placing them in a beautiful garden, giving them important work, and providing everything they needed. God also gave them an important command. What was the command God gave them? **[Allow responses.]** God told them that they must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Eating from this tree would have a terrible consequence: death.

Who tricked Eve by lying about God's words? **[Allow responses.]** The serpent lied to Eve and told her she would not die. The serpent is the father of lies and does not want people to love God like they are created to do. When Adam and Eve ate the fruit, they sinned against God and disobeyed His command. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.** Then they hid from God. Sin leads us to want to hide because we know we have done wrong. But God looked for Adam and Eve and even showed them kindness by making clothes for them.

God gave consequences to Adam and Eve because of their sin. But God also gave a wonderful promise. What was the promise? **[Allow responses.]** Genesis 3:15 tells us that God promised a Rescuer would come to defeat sin. This Rescuer would undo all the bad things caused by sin.

Adam and Eve rejected God's good plan when they sinned by disobeying His command. Sin separates people from God, but God didn't leave them without hope. God sent His Son, Jesus, to live as Adam didn't—perfectly sinless. God the Son came to earth as a man to rescue people from sin. ”

3 GOSPEL DISCUSSION

SAY “ Because Adam and Eve sinned, all people now sin. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.** We all have hearts that want to choose our own way instead of God's way. But God sent His Son, Jesus, to defeat sin and death so we can have new hearts that want to love and follow Him. Have you trusted in Jesus to save you from sin? **[Seek the Holy Spirit's leading as you share the good news of the gospel.]** ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 1, Session 2” questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. Why did God make Adam and Eve? Why did He make a tree they could not eat from?
2. How did God show Adam and Eve mercy? How does He show us mercy?



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

Display a globe or world map. Invite kids to find where they live. Then challenge them to locate the country of Brazil (in South America). Display the “Reese Family Photo” printable.

SAY “Eric and Ramona Reese are missionaries in Brazil. Brazil is the largest country in South America. I’m going to say some statements about Brazil. If you think the statement is true, stand up. If you think it is false, sit down.”

Read the following statements, pausing after each for kids to respond before revealing the answer. End the missions moment in prayer for the people of Brazil.

- Brazil is the fifth largest nation in the world. (true)
- The official language of Brazil is Spanish. (false, Portuguese)
- More than 208 million people live in Brazil. (true)
- Brazil borders the Pacific Ocean. (false, Atlantic Ocean)
- Eric and Ramona Reese have served in Brazil more than 20 years. (true)

6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Psalm 104:24 together.

SAY “God created a very good world with people as His special creation. Our key passage reminds us that God is all wise. When He made the world, and even the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, He was wise and right to do so.”

Invite kids to repeat the key passage after you while pretending to grow into a tall tree. Lead kids to sit and roll into a ball. While still sitting, direct kids to extend their legs to make the tree roots. Next, lead kids to shoot up an arm, then another arm for the branches. Finally, direct kids to slowly stand up while reaching their arms upward until they are fully standing.

Lead kids to sing “Countless (Psalm 104:24).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

SAY “Dear Father in heaven, we praise You for being a good Creator who gives good commands. Forgive us of our sin and help us trust in Jesus who saves us from sin and helps us live for You. Amen.”





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God by Applying the Story

1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles and display the Old Testament Israel Map. Guide kids to open their Bibles to Genesis 3. Explain that the Bible has big story lines: Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration. Tell kids that it has always been God's plan for people to live with Him and how He made a way for sin to be forgiven through Jesus.

Consider pointing out the location of the Tigris River on the Old Testament Israel Map. Choose a volunteer to read aloud Genesis 3:15,21 or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verses aloud.

SAY “ **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.** Adam and Eve sinned because they didn't obey God's command. All people sin because we all disobey God. But God made a promise to send a Rescuer to save people from their sin. Jesus came to earth and never sinned. He died on the cross so that all who trust in Him would have their sin washed away and would be forgiven. Through Jesus, we can obey God and His commands. ”

2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

SAY “ What is sin? How did Adam and Eve sin? ”

Tell kids that **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.** Discuss how every person sins because like Adam and Eve, we choose to do what we think is best and disobey what God says is best. Remind kids that Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command and chose to what they thought was right. Tell kids that sin causes brokenness in the world and in our relationships with others, including God.

SAY “ Why do you think our sin makes us want to hide from God like Adam and Eve? ”

Answers will vary. Discuss how Adam and Eve hid because they were afraid. Tell kids that when we recognize we are sinners, a natural response is fear of a holy God. Explain that our sin reveals our guilt and that it deserves to be punished. Remind kids that through faith in Jesus, we are no longer guilty of sin and are brought back to God.

SAY “ What can we do when we sin? ”

Tell kids that when we sin, we don't need to hide like Adam and Eve or blame others for our sin. Help kids understand that we can come to God and ask Him to forgive our sins. Explain how Jesus came to save us from sin by dying on the cross. Share how anyone can trust in Jesus, freely confess their sin to God, and be forgiven of sin.

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE the Mission

1 ACTIVITY CHOICE (10 minutes)

☐ OPTION 1: TRUE OR FALSE?



Provide each kid with a piece of paper and a marker. Instruct kids to write True on one side and False on the other. Lead kids to listen to the statements you say and determine if they are true or false. Direct kids to hold up either True or False. Consider using the following examples:

- God said Adam and Eve could eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. (false)
- The serpent said Adam and Eve would not die if they disobeyed God's command. (true)
- Eve obeyed God's command and did not eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. (false)
- Adam blamed Eve for his sin. (true)
- God's commands are good. (true)

SAY “ SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD AND HIS COMMANDS. But God promised a Rescuer, Jesus, would come to save people from their sin. Jesus did come! Everyone who trusts in Jesus is forgiven of all their sin! ”

☐ OPTION 2: BIG STORY GAME

Form kids into pairs and provide each pair with a “Big Story Game” printable and a dice. Provide each kid with a game piece such as a penny. Direct kids to follow the directions of the game to make it through each of the big storylines found in the Bible: Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration. Tell kids that whoever reaches the end of the game first wins! (Tip: Laminate the gameboard to use as a review game at later dates.)

SAY “ This game took us through some of the big stories of the Bible. The Bible is one big story that tells us how God made a way for us to be saved through Jesus. We need to be saved because all people sin. The good news God gives us in His Word is that we can be saved by faith in Jesus. He is the Rescuer God promised Adam and Eve would come! ”

2 REFLECTION AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each kid. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

Be sure to send the sheets home with the kids along with the activity pages so parents can continue to discuss the Bible story with their kids. If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page. Pray for your group.