

THE FIRST FAMILY

Genesis 4



After Adam and Eve left the garden of Eden, they had a son named Cain and another son named Abel. Because sin entered the world through Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel were sinners too.

One day, Cain gave God an offering of some of the produce he grew. Abel gave God some of the firstborn of his flock. God accepted Abel's offering, but He did not accept Cain's offering.

Cain was furious. God said to Cain, "Why are you so mad? Then God warned Cain, "If you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at the door. Sin wants you, but you must rule over it."

Cain said to his brother, "Let's go out to the field." In the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

God said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

But God knew what Cain had done.

"Now you are cursed," God told Cain. "You will work the ground, but nothing will grow for you. Instead, you will wander the earth, never finding rest."

Even though God punished Cain, God was merciful. He put a mark on Cain to warn people not to kill him. Then Cain left the land and went to live in Nod, a land to the east of Eden.

God gave Adam and Eve another son, Seth. Adam and Eve's family grew. Seth grew up and had a family too. Around this time, Adam's descendants in Seth's family began to call on the name of the Lord.

Christ Connection: God had promised that one of Eve's descendants would put an end to sin and death. Cain was not that descendant. He was sinful like his parents, Adam and Eve. As families grew and sin spread, people waited for God to keep His promise. At just the right time, God would send His Son, Jesus, to save sinners.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Cain wasn't the Rescuer God promised would defeat sin and death, but God did keep His promise. Look up the Bible verses below and match them to the correct description.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| A. Genesis 3:15 | 1. A son will be born, and His name will be Jesus because He will save His people from their sins. |
| B. Matthew 1:21 | 2. Through Jesus' death on the cross, He destroyed the devil. |
| C. Galatians 4:4-5 | 3. God promised Eve's offspring would crush the serpent's head. |
| D. Hebrews 2:14 | 4. At just the right time, God sent His Son to redeem those under the law. |

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How did God show Cain mercy?

GOSPEL DISCUSSION

We are all sinful and sin separates us from God. But God is merciful and sent His Son, Jesus, to save us from sin. We have a choice to trust in Jesus and let Him rule our hearts or we have a choice to continue to let sin rule our hearts. When we trust in Jesus, our sin is forgiven and we are brought back to God. Have you trusted in Jesus and asked Him to forgive your sin?



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

» Why must God punish sin?

» God showed Cain mercy even though he sinned. How does God show us mercy?

» Cain let sin rule in his heart. How can we keep sin from ruling our hearts?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God had promised that one of Eve's descendants would put an end to sin and death. Cain was not that descendant. He was sinful like his parents, Adam and Eve. As families grew and sin spread, people waited for God to keep His promise. At just the right time, God would send His Son, Jesus, to save sinners.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Psalm 104:24 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for His mercy through His Son, Jesus Christ.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

☐ Romans 2:6-8

☐ Titus 3:5

☐ Romans 5:6-11

☐ Ephesians 2:4-5

☐ Jeremiah 24:7

☐ Psalm 86:5