

SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

GENESIS 2-3



CHRIST CONNECTION: Adam and Eve did not follow God's good plan. They sinned by disobeying God's command. Sin separates people from God, but God had a plan all along. Jesus came to earth as a man to live a sinless life, die on the cross, and rose again to rescue people from sin.

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

KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 104:24

STORY POINT: Sin is disobeying God.



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 preschoolers and open the session



LEARN

25-30 MINUTES

Teach preschoolers the story of the gospel



LOVE

15-20 MINUTES

Lead preschoolers to love the God of the gospel



LIVE

15-20 MINUTES

Lead preschoolers to live 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, Allergy Alert, construction paper, copy paper, washable markers, crayons, blunt-tipped scissors, glue sticks, glue, tape, blocks, baby dolls, play dough, world map, snacks, paper cups, napkins.



WELCOME

Welcome

- ☐ "How Countless (Psalm 104:24)" song

Activity Page

- ☐ "Color the Fruit" activity page, 1 per child

Stop and go

- ☐ red and green construction paper, 1 piece of each

Transition

- ☐ countdown video (optional)



LOVE

Snack and talk

- ☐ hand sanitizer (optional)
- ☐ Bible Story Picture Poster
- ☐ Big Picture Question Poster

Match fruit pieces

- ☐ various types of fruit: banana, kiwi, apple, orange, strawberries
- ☐ plates
- ☐ knife (teacher use only)



LEARN

Learn about the Bible

- ☐ bookmark
- ☐ Giant Timeline or Small Group Timeline

Tell the Bible story

- ☐ Bible Story Picture Poster
- ☐ "Sin Entered the World" video (optional)
- ☐ storytelling tips props (optional)

Practice the key passage

- ☐ Key Passage Marker
- ☐ Key Passage Poster
- ☐ "How Countless (Psalm 104:24)" song
- ☐ index cards

Learn the Big Picture Question

- ☐ Big Picture Question Poster

Missions moment

- ☐ "Reese Family Photo" printable



LIVE

Build bridges

- ☐ cups
- ☐ craft sticks

Make a leaf print

- ☐ plastic tablecloth
- ☐ leaves (not dead)
- ☐ rolling pin
- ☐ wet wipes

Look at books

- ☐ books about trees and reptiles
- ☐ throw pillows (optional)
- ☐ blankets (optional)

Transition

- ☐ coloring page, 1 per child
- ☐ "How Countless (Psalm 104:24)" song
- ☐ Big Picture Cards for Families



WELCOME Preschoolers

Post an allergy alert, if needed. Set out supplies to engage preschoolers as they arrive. Play music as you welcome preschoolers. Greet children by name at eye level. Follow your church's security procedures.

1 ACTIVITY PAGE

Lead preschoolers to complete "Color the Fruit" on the activity page.

SAY 🗨️ What did you just color on your paper? [Allow responses.] That's right, you colored fruit. Do you see the fruit on the tree? In today's Bible story, God told Adam and Eve that they could eat fruit from any tree in the garden, just not this one. What do you think Adam and Eve chose to do? 🗨️

2 SESSION STARTER

Use one or both of the following options to engage curiosity about today's Bible story.

MAKE A CHOICE



Play a game where you offer children two choices. Instruct children to stand up for one choice and sit down for the other. Choices could include playing outside or inside, riding a bike or riding in a wagon, eating pancakes or waffles, watching TV or reading a book.

SAY 🗨️ You had a lot of choices to make, but for the most part choosing was easy. In today's Bible story, we will hear about when Adam and Eve made a choice to sin by disobeying God's command. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD.** 🗨️

STOP AND GO

Gather one piece of red and green construction paper. Line the children up on the opposite side of the room from you. Tell preschoolers when you hold up the green paper they will walk toward you, but when you hold up the red paper they must stop. Continue holding up the different papers until the preschoolers make it across the room. Play again and choose a child to hold up the different papers.

SAY 🗨️ In our game, green meant go and red meant what? (stop) Today we will learn that Adam and Eve did not follow God's plan, but that did not stop God. God had a good plan the whole time! Jesus came to earth as a man to live a sinless life, die on the cross, and rise again to rescue people from sin. 🗨️

3 TRANSITION TO LEARN

Gain preschoolers' attention by showing the countdown video, turning the lights off and on, or clapping a simple rhythm for children to copy. Invite preschoolers to pretend to eat as they transition to Learn.

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





LEARN the Bible Story

1 INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Tell an age-appropriate story about a time you obeyed. Ask the preschoolers what disobedience would have looked like if your story had gone differently.

SAY “Every day we have a choice to obey or disobey. Who are some people that you can choose to obey or disobey? Adam and Eve had the same choice, but they chose to disobey. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD.** Let’s listen about a time when Adam and Eve chose to disobey God and what happened.”

2 LEARN ABOUT THE BIBLE

Place a bookmark at Genesis 2 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

SAY “This is the Bible. All the words in the Bible are true because this is God’s Word. Today our Bible story is from the first book of the Bible: Genesis.”

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline or small group timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

3 TELL THE BIBLE STORY

Tell the following Bible story using the provided storytelling tips or show the video. Use the bold version of the Bible story for younger preschoolers.

SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

“When God made the first man, Adam, He placed him in a beautiful garden to work and take care of it. God said, “Eat from any tree in the garden, but do not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you do, you will die.”

Now the snake was the sneakiest of all the wild animals God had made. One day, the snake said to Eve, “Did God really say not to eat from any tree in the garden?”

Eve said, “No, we can eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. God said not to eat from the tree in the middle of the garden. He said, ‘Do not eat it or touch it, or you will die.’”

The snake said, “No! You will not die! If you eat it, you will be wise like God.”

Eve looked at the fruit. It did look yummy and she wanted to be like God, so Eve ate the fruit. She gave some to Adam, and he ate it too. When they ate the fruit, they suddenly realized they were naked. They used fig leaves to make clothes.

That evening, Adam and Eve heard God walking in the garden. They tried to hide. God called to Adam, “Where are you?”

Adam said, “I was afraid, so I hid.”

“Did you eat from the tree that I told you not to eat from?” God asked.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

Adam said, “Eve gave me some fruit, and I ate it.”

Eve said, “The snake tricked me.”

Adam and Eve had sinned, or disobeyed God. Because of their sin, bad things would happen. Life would be hard. But God promised that someone would come from Eve’s family to get rid of the evil snake.

God was kind to Adam and Eve. He gave them clothes from animal skins. Then He sent them out of the garden. ”

STORYTELLING TIPS

Use different voices:

Use different voice inflection and tone for the different people and the snake speaking in the story.

Listen closely: Tell preschoolers to listen for the word “eat” or “ate.” Each time it is said, hold your fingers up beside your mouth and pretend to eat.

4 CHRIST CONNECTION

SAY “ Adam and Eve did not follow God’s good plan. They sinned by disobeying God’s command. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD.** Sin separates people from God, but God had a plan all along. Jesus came to earth as a man to live a sinless life, die on the cross, and rose again to rescue people from sin. ”

5 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY “ God created a beautiful for garden for Adam and Eve to live in and take care of. He had one rule. What was it? (Do not eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil.) A sneaky snake came to Eve and told her that what God said was not true and that she should eat it. Now Adam and Eve had a choice to make. What did they choose to do? (They ate the fruit.) What happened after they ate the fruit? (They hid from God.) Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and He made them leave the beautiful garden. But God still loved them and took care of them. How did God take care of Adam and Eve? (He gave them clothes from animal skins.) God takes care of us, too. God sent His Son, Jesus, to the earth. Jesus lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead to rescue us from our sin. ”

6 PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Before the session, write each word of the key passage on separate index cards and hide them around the room. Place the key passage marker at Psalm 104:24. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Lead the children to find the hidden index cards. Use the key passage poster to help preschoolers put the key passage in order.

SAY “ Do you remember what Adam and Eve did when they heard God walking in the garden? (They hid from Him.) We do not have to hide from God when we sin; He wants us to talk to Him about it and ask for forgiveness. He loves us and sent His Son, Jesus to forgive us of our sin. ”

Sing the key passage song, “How Countless (Psalm 104:24).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

7 LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

SAY “**Who is God? God is our Creator and King.** God is our Creator, and He rules over all creation. That means He is in charge and has a plan. Adam and Eve did not follow God’s plan when they chose to sin. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD.** Sin separates people from God, but God had a plan all along. Jesus came to earth as a man to live a sinless life, die on the cross, and rose again to rescue people from sin.”

8 MISSIONS MOMENT

Display a world map. Help preschoolers find the country of Brazil in South America. Display the “Reese Family Photo” printable and point out the picture of Eric and Ramona Reese and their daughters, Gloria and Alicia.

SAY “Brazil is the largest country in South America. Many of the people there speak a language called Portuguese. To say ‘hello’ in Portuguese, say, ‘Olá!’ (OHL-ah) **[Lead preschoolers to repeat the greeting.]** Eric and Ramona Reese are missionaries in Brazil. They know that **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD**, but God sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin. Let’s pray that the people in Brazil who hear about Jesus will believe and follow Him. **[Lead in prayer.]**”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**



LOVE God because of what we learned

1 PRAY

Invite preschoolers to close their eyes and think about God as they talk with Him.

SAY “ God, thank You for loving us and taking care of us, even when we choose to disobey. Please forgive us for our sin. Thank You for sending Jesus to rescue us from our sin so that we can be with You forever. Amen. ”

2 SNACK AND TALK

Post an allergy alert. Wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Serve a snack. Show the Bible story picture poster as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

SAY “ What was your favorite part of today’s Bible story? ”

SAY “ What did you learn about God in today’s Bible story? ”

SAY “ Why did Adam and Eve hide from God? ”

SAY “ Who is God? God is our Creator and King. ”

3 MATCH FRUIT PIECES

Before the session, slice fruit into bite-size pieces. Place at least two pieces of each fruit on a plate for each child. Instruct children to wash or sanitize their hands and join you at the table. Distribute plates of fruit to each child. Instruct the children to put the matching fruit together on their plates. Allow children to eat the fruit if they would like to do so.

SAY “ I love strawberries! What is your favorite fruit? [Allow responses.] Adam and Eve lived in and took care of the beautiful garden that God had created. God had a rule about one of the trees in the garden. Do you remember what it was? (Do not eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil.) Adam and Eve broke this rule and disobeyed God by eating from the tree that God told them not to eat from. Adam and Eve sinned. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD.** Everyone has sinned. But God sent Jesus to take away our sin! When we ask God to forgive our sin and we trust in Jesus, then we will be forgiven and God will be with us forever. ”



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE for God out of love

- 1 Choose the activities that best fit your group, space, available resources, and time constraints. Set up activities in one of these ways: as a group, all at the same time; in small groups that rotate through each activity; or set up as centers, allowing preschoolers to browse and choose.

SPELL WITH PLAY DOUGH



Write the words sin, God, and Jesus on separate pieces of paper. Distribute play dough to each child. Show children how to form play dough into a log or snake shape. Lay the prepared papers on the table and lead preschoolers to trace over the letters with the play dough pieces.

SAY “ We used our play dough to trace over three different words. The first word was sin [point to the paper]; **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD.** The next word was God [point to the paper]; God is our Creator and King. The last word we traced was Jesus [point to the paper]; Jesus is God’s Son, sent to rescue us from our sin. ”

BUILD BRIDGES

Set cups and craft sticks in the block area or on a table. Show preschoolers how to make a bridge by setting a craft stick on top of two cups that are spaced out. Encourage preschoolers to experiment with their bridges by stacking them on top of each another, stacking additional cups to make it taller, or by adding blocks.

SAY “ Have you ever seen a bridge? A bridge is something that helps you safely get from one place to another. Sometimes bridges are over water. Cars cannot drive in water, so they drive over the bridge to get to the other side. God sent His Son Jesus so we can be with God. Our sin keeps us away from God. Do you remember what sin is? **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD.** Jesus came to earth as a man to live a sinless life, die on the cross, and rose again to rescue people from sin. ”



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

MAKE A LEAF PRINT



Before the session, gather several leaves from outside. Make sure these leaves are fresh and not dried out. Considering taking the children outside to gather the leaves if your church policies and procedures allow. Cover a table with a plastic tablecloth. Distribute a few leaves and washable markers to each child. Instruct preschoolers to color the backside of the leaf until it is completely covered. Set a piece of paper on top of the colored side of the leaf and assist the preschooler as he uses a rolling pin to roll over the paper and the leaf. Lift the paper to reveal the leaf print underneath. Encourage preschoolers to continue adding different-colored leaf prints to their papers.

SAY “Your leaf print looks beautiful! In today’s Bible story, Adam and Eve made clothes out of fig leaves after they disobeyed God. Adam and Eve hid from God when He came looking for them. Because they disobeyed God’s commands, they had to leave the garden. God made them new clothes. Do you remember what those clothes were made of? (animal skins) How do you think Adam and Eve felt when they had to leave the garden? [Allow responses.] ”

LOOK AT BOOKS

Set up a cozy, quiet reading area for preschoolers. Consider adding throw pillows and blankets to make it more comfortable. Set out various books about trees and reptiles.

SAY “In today’s Bible story, we learned that Eve said a snake tricked her into eating the fruit from the tree. God told Adam and Eve to not eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, but they did it anyway. Adam and Eve disobeyed God. Adam and Eve sinned. **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD.** We sin too when we disobey God. What are some ways we sin? [Allow responses.] God sent Jesus to rescue us from our sin. Jesus came to earth as a man to live a sinless life, die on the cross, and rose again. ”

2 TRANSITION

Invite preschoolers to complete their coloring pages. Consider leading preschoolers to sing the key passage song or involving them in a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question. If parents are picking up children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Give parents the completed activity page. Distribute the big picture cards for families. Encourage parents to engage with the family discussion starters and family activities during the week.