

# The Fall: What is Sin?

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**Q: What is sin?**

**A: Sin is deliberate disobedience against God's Law by failing to do what God commands or doing what God forbids.**

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## Memory Verse

*"Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old." Psalm 25:6*

## Bible Reading

- Psalm 25:6-7
- Romans 6:23

## Discussion Questions

- How would you define sin?
- What are some examples of sin you struggle with?
- How are those sins direct disobedience to God's law?

# Devotion

We have learned that Adam and Eve were able to perfectly obey God when He created them. However, they chose to rebel against God and directly disobey His law.

The Bible says that sin is when we transgress (or break) God's law. In the garden of Eden, God's only rule was to not eat the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil, and yet Adam and Eve chose to disobey that clear command. That is sin.

When we read the Bible, there are sometimes different words for sin, such as evil, transgression, or iniquity. All of these mean sin because they are all describing disobedience and rebellion against God.

Since God is completely holy and without sin, we become separated from God when we sin. The Bible says true life can only be found in God, and separation from Him brings death. Without God's saving grace, we are doomed to live in sin and be separated from Him. It's like a prison!

However, because of His great love for us, He sent His one and only son, Jesus, to die on the cross in our place. If we believe in Him and what He did, ask for forgiveness from our sins, and trust Him as Lord of our lives, we will no longer be doomed or separated from God, but bound to Him and His goodness.

## Crafts/Activities

- **Apple.** Use a paper plate and paint it red, adding a stick and a leaf to make it look like an apple. Rip a "bite" out of the apple and explain that taking that bite was direct disobedience of God. Discuss what Adam and Eve may have been thinking in those moments before the bite was taken, or what we are thinking about just before choosing to sin.
- **Sticky Sin.** Wad up several balls of masking tape with sticky side out. Make a quick list of common sins that we all struggle with on a daily basis, and talk about the "decision point," when we make that choice to directly disobey God. Give your child the masking tape balls. Then have a discussion with yourself out loud where you are debating whether to obey or to sin, and then choose to sin. Have your child throw a masking tape ball at you for each sin decision and then talk about how it is impossible to get rid of sin by ourselves.

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Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline.

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## Notebooking Pages



We all battle the desire to do what we want instead of obeying because we have all been born with sin in our hearts. Without God and without the discipline of those who are in loving authority over us, our lives would be torn apart by our disobedience.

We can see several examples in the Bible of when people chose to disobey God and His ways. The nation of Israel is a prime example. God calls the people of Israel His children, and He directs, guides, instructs, and protects them. Yet they disobey and rebel over and over.

We can also see disobedience in our own life. When we choose to do what we want to make ourselves happy for the moment instead of obeying God and those He has put in authority over us, discipline is sure to come. Discipline may not seem pleasant, but it is important and a sign that God loves us, and so do our parents.

When we face that decision whether to obey or to disobey, we can turn our hearts to God, remembering how much He loves us, and bring to mind the commands and encouragement He has given us to do the right thing. When we are followers of Christ, He gives us all we need for godly living.

Write down a list of common sins you might struggle with and then fill out the chart below. What would obeying look like in this situation? What would disobeying look like? What scriptures can help you make the right choices?

Pray that God would show you in those moments how much you need Jesus and bring to mind the scriptures you have written down. Choose one to begin memorizing as a family.

*(image public domain: Hugo van der Goes)*

# Making Wise Choices

<p><b>SHOULD WE OBEY?</b></p>	
<p><b>OR DISOBEY?</b></p>	
<p><b>SCRIPTURE TO REMEMBER</b></p>	