

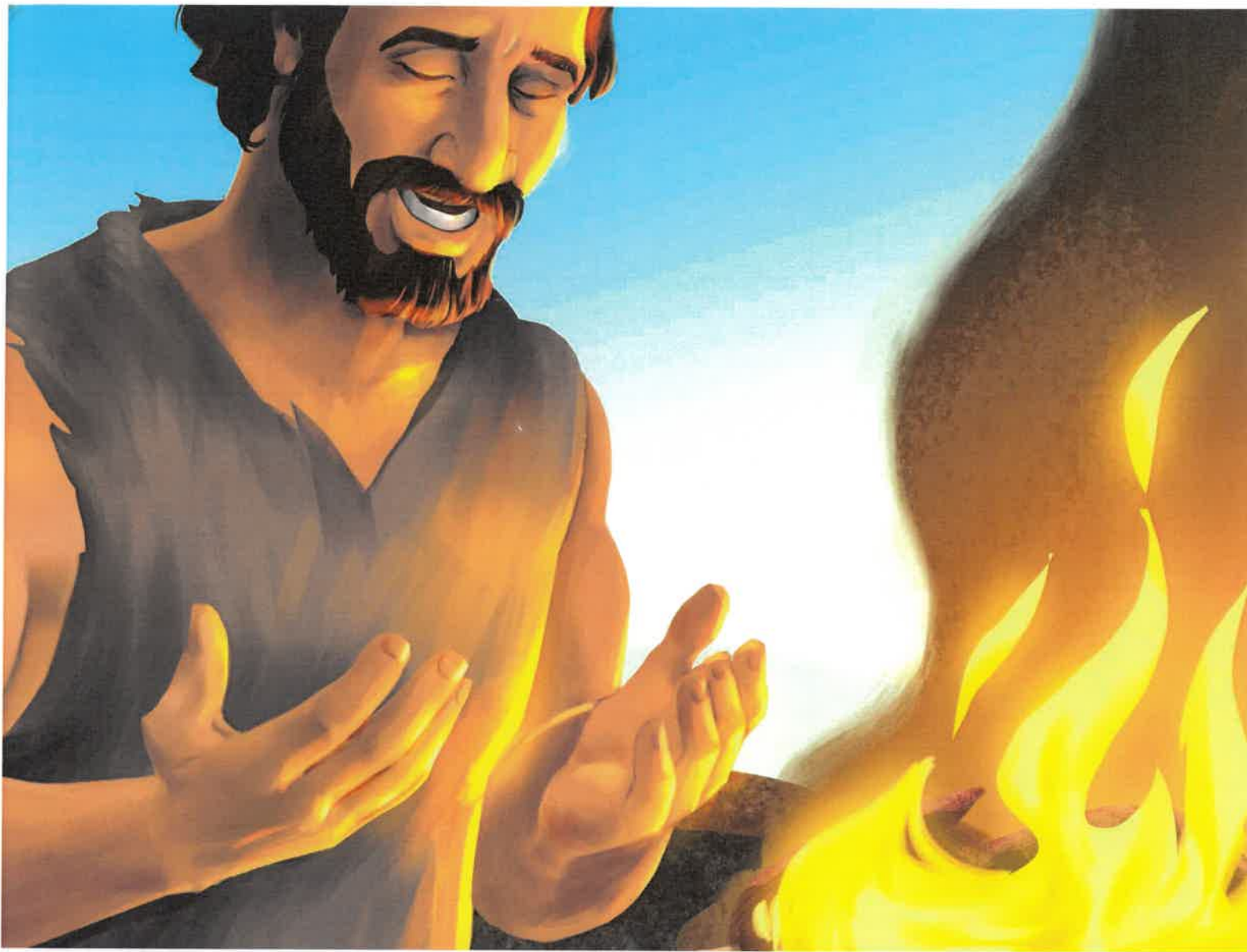
Grades 1-3 Lesson Template

Where	Who and What	What you Need
Classroom	Teacher takes attendance Give students a sticker	Paper on table, check off who is here, put onto the clipboard
	Sessions Starter: Option 2: What is it? Read directions on p. 29. Bags are in your classrooms already.	Leaders guide Bags with objects in it.
	Sent Away: Maze worksheet	Worksheet
Large Group	Large Group Time: Leader is Amanda. She'll get you when ready.	
Classroom:	Page 34 Love God by Applying the Story: Hand out Bibles Open it up to Genesis 4. Do questions under the group discussion.	Leaders Guide Bibles
	Bridge the Gap page 35 Explain that Jesus is our bridge back to God.	Tape Blocks
	Gr. 3 - Extra Worksheet	

UNIT 1 | SESSION 3

THE FIRST FAMILY

GENESIS 4



KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 104:24

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

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.

STORY POINT: Sin separates us from God.



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’s the best gift you have received? How did the gift show that you are loved?”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Sent Away” activity page.

| **SAY** “Today, we will learn how Cain’s sin against his brother, Abel, led to him being sent away from his family and from God’s presence.”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

☐ OPTION 1: SORT IT



Before the session, fill plastic bags with 36 pieces of fruity O-shaped cereal or 36 beads of six different colors. Make enough sets for each group of kids. Form kids into groups of three or four. Provide each group with a plastic bag filled with fruity O-shaped cereal or beads and six small bowls. Instruct groups to sort the cereal or beads by color and place each color in its own bowl. Consider timing kids to see which group can sort the colors the fastest.

SAY “When you sorted the colors, you had to separate them. Blue is not the same color as purple and yellow is not green. Today, we are going to learn that **SIN SEPARATES US FROM GOD**. God will not accept sin because there is no sin in God. He is holy and perfect. When we sin, we disobey God and His commands. We choose to let sin rule our hearts, instead of choosing God as our King. Let’s get ready to learn how a man named Cain sinned and how his sinned separated him from God.”

☐ OPTION 2: WHAT IS IT?



Before the session, place some cotton balls, felt, corn cob, and broccoli in individual paper bags. Number the bags 1–4. Lead kids to sit in front of you, while you display the paper bags. Tell kids that in each paper bag is a clue about our Bible story. Hold up bag number one and invite kids one at a time to feel what is inside the bag. Then lead kids to guess what they think is in the bag. Reveal the contents of the bag. Repeat with the three remaining bags.

SAY “Our bags revealed cotton balls, felt, corn, and broccoli. Each of these materials represents something about our Bible story. We’ll hear how two brothers, Cain and Abel, gave offerings to God. Abel gave to God from his flock [point to the cotton and felt], and Cain gave an offering from the produce he grew [point to the corn and broccoli]. Let’s get ready to hear why God accepted Abel’s offering but not Cain’s.”

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





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God by Applying the Story

1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles and display the Old Testament Mediterranean Map. Guide kids to open their Bibles to Genesis 4. Explain that God's Word is true and trustworthy. Tell kids that the events in the Bible really happened and the Bible has genealogies or family histories that show the accuracy of the Bible. Point out some of the names in Adam's family from Genesis 4:25-26.

Consider pointing out the location of the land east of the Euphrates River (E11) on the Old Testament Mediterranean Map where this story may have taken place. Choose a volunteer to read aloud Genesis 4:26 or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verses aloud.

SAY 🗨️ Even though Cain sinned and rejected God's ways, other people worshiped God. Abel worshiped God by faith when he gave an acceptable offering. Seth's family members worshiped God and called on His name. Some people still trusted God and had hope that He would send someone to rescue them from sin.

At just the right time, God sent His Son—Jesus—to live a perfect life and die on the cross for our sins. When we trust in Jesus, we are saved from our sins. Jesus forgives us and changes our hearts so we can worship God and live for Him. 🗨️

2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

SAY 🗨️ What is sin? Why must God punish sin? 🗨️

Remind kids that **SIN IS DISOBEYING GOD AND HIS COMMANDS**. Help kids understand that because God is holy and without sin, sin separates us from Him. Explain that when we sin, we go against who God is and all that God loves. Tell kids that it would not be good or loving of God if He overlooked sin. Share that God is a good Judge and punishes sin.

SAY 🗨️ How did Cain's sin separate him from God? How does our sin separate us from God? 🗨️

Discuss how God cast out Cain from His presence and from the community of his family. Tell kids that when we choose sin over obeying God, it's like traveling on a road away from God. Our sinful choices lead us away from the Lord. Explain that sin comes between us and God because He is holy and just.

SAY 🗨️ God promised that a Rescuer would come to save people from sin. How does Jesus bring us back to God? 🗨️

Tell kids that God's Son, Jesus, came to earth and always obeyed God. Share how Jesus died on the cross and took the punishment our sin deserves. Help kids understand that God was just because our sin was punished through Jesus' sacrifice, but He was also merciful because we escape the punishment through faith in Jesus. Discuss how faith in Jesus' death and resurrection brings us back to God.

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





LIVE

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE the Mission

1 ACTIVITY CHOICE (10 minutes)

☐ OPTION 1: BRIDGE THE GAP

Before the session, make three pairs of X's on the floor using painter's tape. Make each pair of X's 4 feet apart. Form kids into three groups and provide each group with building blocks, making sure groups will not have enough material to bridge the gap between the X's. Lead each group to a pair of X's and instruct the groups to build a bridge from one X to the other. Tell kids they can only use the materials you have given them. Allow a few minutes for groups to work together to build their bridge.

SAY 🗣️ No matter how hard you tried, you could not make a bridge long enough to connect the X's. This reminds me of how **SIN SEPARATES US FROM GOD**. When we sin and disobey God and His commands, we fall short of His perfection. No matter how hard we try, we can't build a bridge to God, so God has done that for us. He sent His Son, Jesus, to be the way back to God. When we trust in Jesus, we can now be with God forever. 🙏

☐ OPTION 2: WHAT TIME IS IT?



Choose one kid to be Mr. Wolf. Lead Mr. Wolf to stand at the front of the room and the remaining kids to stand at the back of the room. Tell the kids to say, "Mr. Wolf, Mr. Wolf, what time is it?" Then direct Mr. Wolf to call out a time such as four o'clock. Lead kids to step forward the number called out, in this case four times. Lead kids to repeat saying, "Mr. Wolf, Mr. Wolf, what time is it?" until he decides to say, "Lunch time!" Then Mr. Wolf will turn around and try to tag as many kids as possible while they run away from him. Play again as time allows, choosing a new kid to be Mr. Wolf.

SAY 🗣️ At just the right time, Mr. Wolf decided to call out 'Lunch time!' This reminds me of how God determined just the right time to send His Son, Jesus, into the world. God had promised Adam and Eve that a Rescuer would come, and today we learned that Cain was not the promised son. But the good news is God kept His promise! Jesus came into the world at just the right time to die for our sins that we may be saved. 🙏

2 REFLECTION AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

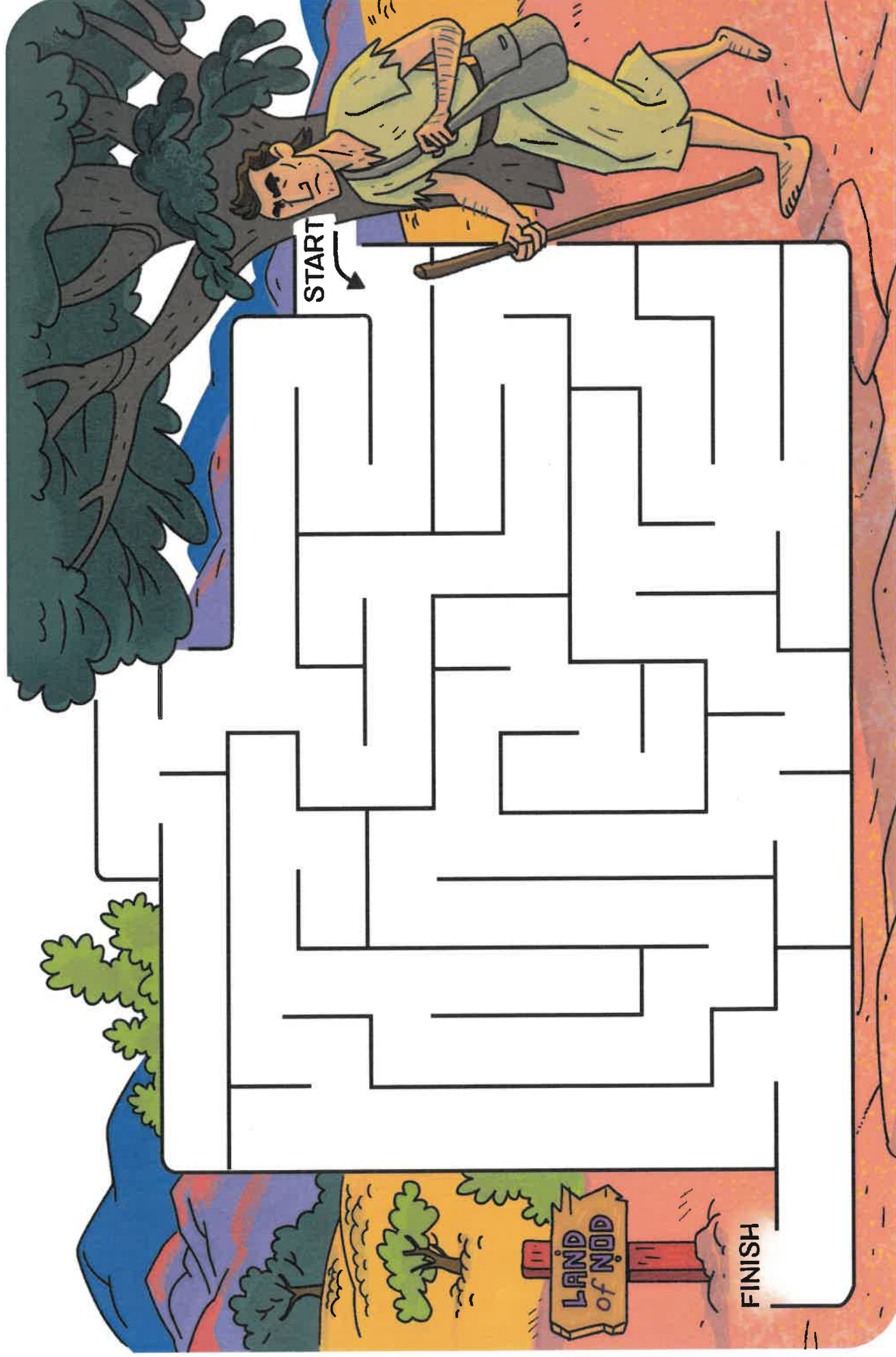
Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each kid. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- 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.

Sent Away

INSTRUCTIONS: Cain's sin separated him from God and his family. Complete the maze to send Cain to the land of Nod.



NAME:



The First Family

Genesis 4

STORY POINT:

Sin separates us from God.

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.

KEY PASSAGE:

Psalms 104:24

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Who is God? God is our Creator and the King of everything.

Scan the QR code
for resources to
use at home!

