

2



THE FALL

Sin Enters the World

Year 1 – THE KINGDOM STORY

1 | Teacher's Notes

Scripture Genesis 3

Objectives To explain that

- Our lessons are all a part of a bigger story which is the story of the Forever Kingdom. This big story is found in the Bible.
- Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and did not let God be King.
- Mercifully, God sent Adam and Eve out from the Garden of Eden because of their sin.
- Adam and Eve lost God's blessings because of their disobedience.
- God gave them a promise: That one day, one of their descendants would crush Satan (the first promise of the Forever King).

Memory Verse **(God speaking to the Serpent/Satan about Eve)** "Her son (Jesus) will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." (Genesis 3:15 - NIV)

ACNA Today's story of the Fall connects with these Catechism questions and answers:

Catechism Connection

Q 2 What is the human condition? ...cut off from fellowship with God by our rebellion, leading to guilt, shame, fear of death and judgment...

Q 133 What are sins? ...disobedient acts to God's will...

Q 134 How does God respond to human sin? ...we are subject to God's condemnation and mercy...

Q 3 & Q 48 How does sin affect you? ...alienates me from God, creation...

Q 47 If God made the world good, why do I sin? ...Adam and Eve sinned and I have inherited a fallen and corrupted human nature...

Q 215 Is God responsible for evil? ...No, people have free choices...

Suggested Materials, Props, and Costumes

Big story props:

- Crown - or picture of a crown
- Large Bible.

(These props relate to the bigger story of the Forever Kingdom, and will be used for every lesson. The crown will be referred to as the Kingdom Crown.)

Lesson Props:

- Artificial tree with a sign, "Tree of life"
- Artificial tree with a sign, "Knowledge of good and evil"
- Fruit hanging from the tree with the sign "Knowledge of good and evil"
- Garden tools
- Huge Sign: "Garden of Eden"
- Toy microphone (optional)
- Cue cards are encouraged if a child reads the part

Memory Verse: (God speaking to the Serpent/Satan about Eve) "Her son (Jesus) will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." (Genesis 3:15 - NIV)

(Found on the last page of this lesson plan) Print out and place in large Bible.



2 | Lesson Outline:

Welcome	As the children arrive ensure each one is personally welcomed and everyone knows each other's name.
Greeting & Collect for Purity	Light the candles Say the Greeting and Collect for Purity (<i>see Resource Section</i>)
Prayer of Confession	Say the Prayer of Confession (<i>see Resource Section</i>) Extinguish the candles
Music	Books of the Bible - Old Testament Also choose another song from the Resource Section
Review of foundations	Choose from the following as appropriate: The Lord's Prayer, The Apostles Creed, The Ten Commandments or The Greatest Commandment. <i>For more information on how to teach these, see Resource Section</i>
Reading	Memory verse (Printed out and placed in large Bible – invite older child to read)
Poster Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss the key concepts highlighted in this week's poster.• Ask "I wonder questions" – these will be answered during the story. <i>Poster discussion is found in Section 3 and on the back of the poster</i>
Props/Costumes	Take a few moments to arrange the narrator and actors. (Props should already be set up prior to the start of the class.) Big story props: Kingdom Crown, Large Bible
Bible Story	<i>Proceed with story and life application found in Section 4.</i>
Related activities	<i>After the story, proceed with related activities found in Section 5.</i>
Preparation for Communion & leaving class	Gather the children together for the Preparation for Communion prayer before exiting the classroom. <i>See Resource Section.</i>

3 | Poster Discussion

Poster

(During the poster discussion, explain any difficult words in the story.)

Who recalls our story last week? (God created heaven & earth and everything in it. God also created Adam and Eve. Adam and Eve lived in a beautiful garden called "The Garden of Eden" and they were living under God's rule and received the perfect blessings of God)

Today, we are going to talk about something very sad that happened – and how it affected EVERYONE, including you and me!

Let's look at the picture now. What do you see in this picture? Is there anything that you wonder about?

This picture shows Adam and Eve leaving the beautiful Garden of Eden.

I wonder why they had to leave.

I wonder why there is a sunrise and cross way in the back of the picture. (Points to God's promise to save)

I wonder what will happen to them now. Let's find out more in our story....



4 | Story and Life Application

CROWN: *Point to the crown and say: 'Today we are continuing our big story of God's Forever Kingdom.'*

BIBLE: *Hold up the Bible and say: 'Our story today is from the book of Genesis, the first book of the Bible, in the Old Testament. We know that it is a true story because it comes from the Bible and the Bible is God's Word.'*

LESSON SUMMARY: *The teacher reads the lesson summary from back of poster: It was a very sad day when Adam and Eve had to leave the Garden of Eden. The wonderful friendship that they had with God was broken and creation was ruined. How did this happen? The story begins with a snake, who was Satan in disguise. The snake tempted God's people to not trust God but instead, to disobey Him. God had told Adam that they could eat from any tree in the garden, but they were not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If they did, they would surely die. Adam and Eve chose to disobey God and listen to the snake. They ate from the tree that God had told them not to eat from. They had changed! Adam and Eve wanted to live their lives without obeying God as their King and now death would come to them. Sadly, God had to send them out of the garden. In the future they would die, just as we do. But the Good News on this sad day came when God gave Adam and Eve a hint that He would someday make a way to overcome their sin. God promised that one day Someone would come and crush Satan's power over people. A descendant of Eve would crush the head of Satan and put a stop to Satan's evil work. That special Someone would be Jesus, our Savior and Forever King.*

STORY:

TEACHER: Now, let's go back into the Genesis story and put on our imagination caps. We will call this place the 'Garden of Eden'.

ACTION: *Put on imagination cap. Point to the sign saying "Garden of Eden".*

TEACHER: In the middle of the garden, God planted a tree that gives life.

ACTION: *Point to one of the two trees and show the children the word "Tree of Life".*

TEACHER: This tree was a special tree. If you ate from this tree you would live forever.

God also planted a tree that gives the knowledge of good and evil.

ACTION: *Turn over the sign on the other tree and display the words, "Knowledge of Good and Evil". (Have some apples hanging from the tree.)*

TEACHER: God had Adam and Eve care for and work in the garden.

ACTION: *Have 2 people/teachers enter the garden with garden tools and pretend to work the garden.*

TEACHER: God said to Adam:

GOD (student): "You may eat the fruit from any tree in the garden. But you must not eat the fruit from the tree which gives the knowledge of good and evil. If you ever eat fruit from that tree, you will die!"

ACTION: *Male person admires the fruit on the tree and then walks away.*

TEACHER: One of the cleverest of all the wild animals God had made was the snake. Satan hated God, so he crept into the garden looking like a snake. Satan tempted Eve.

ACTION: *Have the woman walk near the tree.*

TEACHER: The snake said to Eve: "Did God **really** say that you must not eat fruit from any tree in the garden?"

EVE (student): "We may eat fruit from the trees. But God told us, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, or you will die.'"

TEACHER: Satan told Eve to doubt God's goodness. Satan (looking like a snake) tempted Eve to disobey God's word.

The snake said to the woman, "You will not die. God knows that if you eat the fruit from that tree you will learn about good and evil. Then you will be like God!"

After hearing these words, Eve took some of the fruit on the tree and ate it.

ACTION: *Eve takes the fruit from the tree and pretends to eat it.*

TEACHER: Eve then gave the fruit to Adam, and he ate it!

ACTION: *Adam is nearby and Eve gives him a piece of the fruit.*

TEACHER: Adam and Eve had a choice to make. They chose to disobey God. It was a sad moment! They listened to Satan and ate the fruit. They did not let God be king over them. That was a very sad day.

TEACHER: At that point, it was as if Adam and Eve's eyes were opened. All of a sudden, they realized they were naked, so they looked for something to cover themselves. They felt fearful and sad.

Later on, in the early evening, they heard God walking in the garden. However, this time rather than running to see God, Adam and Eve hid. Then God called to Adam....

GOD (student): "Where are you?"

ADAM (student): "I heard you walking in the garden. I was afraid because I was naked. So I hid".

GOD (student) says to Adam: "Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat the fruit from that tree?"

ADAM (student): "It was this woman that you gave me. She ate the fruit and so I ate it."

GOD (student) says to Eve: "Why did you do this?"

EVE (student): "The snake tricked me. So I ate the fruit."

TEACHER: Why was it so terrible that Adam & Eve ate the fruit? What is wrong with eating a bit of fruit?

It was wrong because God told them **NOT TO**. Adam and Eve did not want to live under God's rule – they wanted to do things their way. But there was a reason why God gave them this command to not eat of the fruit. God knew what was best for them. Under God's rule, they would be blessed and would enjoy God's life and love. But when they broke God's command and ate the fruit, they stepped outside of God's blessing, and they would die. That meant they would be separated from God's love and life forever.

Then God said to the snake....

GOD (student): "A curse will be put on you. You will crawl on your stomach, and you will eat dust all the days of your life."

"I will put hostility between you and the woman and between your offspring and hers; He will crush your head, and you will strike his heel".

TEACHER: Wow! That is a powerful statement.

God said that he would put hostility between the snake (Satan) and Eve (all people). And, in the future, a descendant of Eve will be born, and He (Jesus) will crush the snake's head!

This is the first time in the Bible that God points to the future and talks about Jesus destroying Satan. 'He (Jesus) will crush the snake's head'.

Let's hear what else God said to Adam....

GOD (student): "You ate fruit from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from. So I will put a curse on the ground. The ground will produce thorns and weeds for you. You will sweat and work hard for your food. And when you die, you will return to the dust."

(Turning to Eve, God says) "And you will experience great pain when giving birth to your children."

TEACHER: Then God made clothes from animal skins for the man and his wife. Now that Adam and Eve knew both good **and** evil, God said that they must be kept from eating the fruit from the tree of life. God knew that if Adam and Eve ate of the tree of life, they would live forever, but would still have sin in their life. That would be terrible!

For this reason, God sent Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden.

ACTION: *Point to the poster.*

TEACHER: God still loved Adam and Eve even after they disobeyed him. However, they had to leave the Garden of Eden.

ACTION: *Have one of the children remove the sign "Garden of Eden" and have Adam and Eve walk out of the garden.*

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:

- **How is God showing his love for Adam and Eve?** (giving them boundaries, searching for them when they sinned, giving them the consequences of their choice, saving them from eating from the Tree of Life which would have kept them in a sinful state, giving them a promise that one day one of their descendants would crush Satan.)
- What tree did God tell Adam and Eve that they were **not** to eat from? (the tree of the knowledge of good and evil)
- Who told Eve that the fruit from that tree would make them be like God? (Satan disguised as a snake)
- Did Adam and Eve have a choice to eat or not to eat from that tree? (yes)
- Why did they choose to eat the fruit from that tree? (they believed the lies the snake told them, they didn't trust God or obey His word, they wanted to become just like God,

they wanted to run their lives without God's instructions)

- Was this a sin? (yes, sin is disobedience to God's word)
- What happened as a consequence of Adam and Eve going against God's will and eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? (then they knew evil, they suffered many losses; they lost their close friendship with God, they lost everlasting life and would eventually die, they felt fear and shame, lost their place in the garden, the earth was cursed, they had to work hard to grow food, experience pain in childbirth, their children (mankind) would all inherit the same losses as Adam and Eve after the Fall)
- How does our Bible Memory verse from this story tell about Jesus? (God promised to send someone from Eve's descendants to crush Satan and his evil work. That someone is God's Son, Jesus)

Life Application (this discussion can also take place during craft/activity time):

Because God loves us, He has given us rules and boundaries to keep us safe, healthy and in good relationship with others.

What are some of the rules in your family, that your parents have given you, that keep you safe, healthy and in good relationship with others? Let's thank God for wise rules that keep us safe and healthy and parents who help us obey.

Look at the Bible Memory Verse. We believe that Jesus was the One sent to crush the head of the serpent (Satan). How does today's story help us to love God even more? (God is stronger than Satan. God keeps his promises even way into the future. Jesus forgives me and loves me all the time, just like he still loved Adam and Eve. Even though I am weak, God is strong.)

5 | Response Activities

Kingdom News handout and colouring supplement

- Have the children complete the activities in the Kingdom News handout and colouring supplement.

Optional activities

- Different learning stations, such as: a book table, modelling clay, colouring papers.



(God speaking to the Serpent/Satan about Eve)

"Her son (Jesus) will
crush your head, and
you will strike his
heel."

(Genesis 3:15)