

The Fall- Genesis 3

THE POINT

Focus:

God's perfect world is infected with sin

Application:

We understand that we have been born with sin

We understand that sin separates us from God

We seek to have sin destroyed in our lives and on our earth

Last Week: God Creates Human Beings

2 Weeks Ago: God Creates the World

HEART CONNECTION (4-5 MINUTES)

PREK/K MATERIALS:

Content:

How many of you have ever done something wrong and tried to hide it?
(listen to a few examples).

Why did you try to hide it?

(afraid of getting in trouble, ashamed, felt bad about what you did)

FIRST & SECOND MATERIALS:

- A food with liquid or cream such as chocolate milk, milk + cereal, frosting or lemonade
- 1 Tablespoon of dirt- enough to contaminate the food and make it unpalatable, but not enough that it appears completely destroyed

Content:

Last week we talked about how God created the world to be a beautiful and wonderful place. It was a place where God and people could enjoy spending time together all the time. It was good.

In my cup here, I have a _____. Doesn't it look delicious?

What if I stirred in this dirt? Would anyone want to eat it now? At first glance it still looks like it might be good, but we know that there's dirt all throughout it and it's not good to eat anymore. Even if we added more delicious things to it, it would be ruined because of all the dirt in it.

STORY CONNECTION (8-10 MINUTES)

PREK and KINDERGARTEN:

MATERIALS:

- an apple or another piece of fruit to pass around in part 1
- OPTIONAL: Bible story book to look at pictures of the story

1st & 2nd GRADE:

MATERIALS:

- Bible for each student or pair of students

This is an easy story to start looking up the Bible passages for 1st and 2nd grade students. Have them find the first book of the Bible (Genesis), the 2nd chapter by the big "3", and the first verse- the tiny "1". They don't have to follow along the whole time or read aloud, but knowing how to find your way around the Bible is a good skill to start and worth an extra few minutes!

Have the children sit in a circle for the story. This helps include children who might feel shy, and helps each child feel equally engaged. It reassures children that they are seen and welcome in the community.

For the teacher: This is a long story, and I've abridged the ending (the section with the curses and consequences). The bold parts are for you to read aloud to set up the story.

Genesis 3, abridged

Our story today is in 3 parts:

The 1st part is the disobeying.

The 2nd part is the hiding.

The 3rd part is the conversation about punishing disobedience.

Is that what happens in your house when you disobey? Your parents give you consequences because they love you. God gave consequences to Adam and Eve because he loved them.

In our story today, we have a talking snake, or serpent. What sound does a snake make? Listen hard, and whenever you hear the word “serpent”, I want you to make a sssssssssss sound.

Part 1: The Problem.

The serpent was more clever than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. The serpent said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat the fruit of any tree that is in the garden?’”

² The woman said to the serpent, “We can eat the fruit of the trees that are in the garden. ³ But God did say, ‘You must not eat the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden. Do not even touch it. If you do, you will die.’”

⁴ “You can be sure that you won’t die,” the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ “God knows that when you eat the fruit of that tree, you will know things you have never known before. You will be able to tell the difference between good and evil. You will be like God.”

⁶ The woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good to eat. It was also pleasing to look at. And it would make a person wise. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her. And he ate it.

Pick up the piece of fruit and pass it around the group.

⁷ Then both of them knew things they had never known before. They realized they were naked. So they sewed fig leaves together and made clothes for themselves.

(continued below)

Part 2: The Hiding

Have the class close their eyes and imagine this next part. Read slowly to let them imagine going for a walk in the garden, hiding from God, and listening to his calling.

⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the Lord God walking in the garden. It was the coolest time of the day. They hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

⁹ But the Lord God called out to the man. "Where are you?" he asked.

¹⁰ "I heard you in the garden," the man answered. "I was afraid. I was naked, so I hid."...

¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What have you done?"

The woman said, "The serpent tricked me. That's why I ate the fruit."

Adam and Eve hid because they were scared of what the Lord God would do when he found out they had been disobedient.

Part 3: The Consequences

God gave consequences to the serpent, to Adam, and to Eve. Each one did something wrong.

He told the serpent that he would crawl on his belly not have legs anymore. Serpents would be enemies with people.

He told Eve that from now on, when women had babies, they would feel pain. He told Adam that from now on work would be hard, not just enjoyable.

Now that sin had entered the world, they would sometimes fight instead of being understanding. Men and women, boys and girls would be selfish and afraid instead of kind and compassionate.

God still loved Adam and Eve, but the whole world was broken because of their sin. God had to start his plan to fix the world. He made them leave the garden because he wanted to protect them from being even more hurt. He put an angel as a guard and sent them out on their journey.

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WONDER CONNECTION (3-5 MINUTES)

MATERIALS: None.

I wonder what it was like in the garden on that day that Eve and Adam ate the fruit.

I wonder what the serpent's voice sounded like.

I wonder how Adam and Eve felt when they were hiding from the Lord.

I wonder how God felt when he saw how the good world that he had created became broken.

What do you wonder?

SPIRIT CONNECTION (7-10 MINUTES)

MATERIALS: Coloring supplies: paper, crayons, pencils, hard drawing surfaces (floor, clipboard, or table).

Take a few minutes to talk quietly with the Lord while you draw, write, or just think inside your head. Talk with God about the story today. This is a quiet time for you to spend with the Lord, not with your neighbor or anyone else.