LESSON 3

Adam & Eve Disobey God



BIBLE TRUTH

LESSON SNAPSHOT

1. OPENING ACTIVITY AND INTRODUCTION
2. BIBLE STORY
3. BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION
4. SNACK QUESTIONS
5. SWORD BIBLE MEMORY
6. ACTIVITIES AND OBJECT LESSONS (CHOOSE ONE OR MORE) 20-30 MIN Coloring Page 3 supplies: markers/crayons
Explaining Temptations supplies: lollipops for the class (optional)
Blame Game supplies: nothing
Puppet Show supplies: one puppet
Hiding Our Sin supplies: four clear plastic drinking cups (make sure they are transparent enough to see an object inside); four colored opaque plastic drinking cups; a piece from a checkers set or other object to hide
7. CLOSING PRAYER

TOTAL 60-80 MIN

THE LESSON

OPENING ACTIVITY AND INTRODUCTION 5-10 MIN

In today's lesson the children will hear the story of how Adam and Eve disobeyed God.

Ask the children some basic questions for review such as "who is Adam?" Announce that today's story will be about when Adam and Eve ate the fruit. Ask if anyone knows that story.

Demonstrate just how easy it is to disobey by trying this exercise with the children. Show the class a ten-dollar bill (you can substitute a bill of another denomination). Tell the class you are going to show them just how many interesting things you can find on a ten-dollar bill. Explain to them you do not want them to touch the bill just look at it carefully. Then call them around in a circle to look. Hold out the bill and watch to see just how many of the children touch it. They may even grab it from your hand. Don't object too quickly. After several of them have touched the bill, point out to them that you said they should not touch the bill. Ask how many of them touched it? Tell them it is okay, but you would like them to raise their hands if they did not listen to your instructions and, instead, touched the money.

Use this as an example to help the children see that we are just like Adam and Eve. Ask the children how many of them sin at home. (Try to conclude this short discussion by helping them see that we are all sinners. Even admit to being one yourself.) Explain to them that ever since Adam and Eve disobeyed God, sin entered the world and we are born sinful.

Ask the children if they know what Adam and Eve tried to do after they sinned. (They hid from God.) However, we can never hide our sin from God.

When God found Adam and Eve, did he kill them as a penalty for their sin? (No, he did not.)

Does anyone know what God killed instead of Adam? (God killed animals and covered Adam and Eve with their skins.) This is a hint that points to God's salvation in Jesus. Jesus would die on the cross, and his blood would cover over our sinfulness.

Pray for the remainder of the class time before moving forward with the lesson.

BIBLE STORY 10 MIN
Read story 3, "Adam and Eve Disobey God," from The Gospel Story Bible.
BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION
After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion:
What was the one rule God gave to Adam and Eve in the garden? (They were allowed to eat from any tree in the garden, but they were not allowed to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.)
What would God do if they disobeyed the rule? (God would punish them. Genesis 2:17 says that God told them: "You will surely die.")
What happened after they disobeyed and ate the forbidden fruit? (They hid from God.)
Why did they hide? (They were afraid of God's punishment.)
What did God do to them? (He made them leave the garden. He put an angel with a flaming sword in front of the garden so no one could go in. God showed his grace—love and kindness—by providing clothes for them.)
SNACK QUESTIONS
While the children are eating the snack, engage them by asking:
The Bible says that another part of God's punishment for Adam and Eve was to make it very hard for people to grow food. What kinds of things can make it hard to grow food? (The soil must be plowed up, which is a lot of hard work; disease can kill the plants; animals and insects eat plants; plants need rain to grow, but too much rain can rot plants.)
Do you know someone who has a garden where one of these things happened? (Accept any answer.)

What did God do to the serpent for his punishment? (made him to crawl on his belly)

What is a serpent? (a snake) How do snakes move? (They crawl on their belly.)

Did God keep his word? (Yes!)

Where Is Jesus?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

Passage: 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

When Adam and Eve sinned, God was not surprised. He had already appointed Jesus, the Creator of all things, to one day defeat sin and death. As it says in Colossians 1:19–20, "For in [Jesus] all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross."

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

Coloring Activity

SUPPLIES:

✓ coloring page 3—one copy for each child

While the children are coloring, engage them by asking the following questions:

Did you ever hide after doing something you were not supposed to?

(Accept any answer.)

Why do we hide after we do something wrong?

(We are afraid of punishment.)

What else did Adam and Eve do after they disobeyed?

(They blamed each other instead of saying what they did wrong.)

Explaining Temptations

SUPPLIES:

✓ lollipops for the class (optional)

Temptation is the feeling we get when we want something we are not allowed to have. For instance, let's pretend one of your parents took you on a trip to the bank right before lunchtime. When you got there, the bank teller gave you a lollipop. Since it was almost lunchtime, you were told not to open the lollipop, but to wait until after lunch to enjoy it. All the way home, you would be ... what? What do we call it when we want to do the wrong thing? That's right: tempted. (Have them guess the word and say it after you.) So, what are you going to do, disobey and eat the lollipop anyway? Or are you going to obey and save it for after lunch?

This could also be done by handing each child a lollipop, waiting 30 seconds or so, and walking through the above discussion. They would likely be feeling temptation as you taught.

The Blame Game

Explain what it means to blame others.

Ask the children if they know what it means to blame.

(to place your fault on someone else)

Who blamed someone in our story this week?

(Adam blamed Eve. Eve blamed the serpent.)

What should Adam and Eve have done?

(They should have told God the truth and admitted they ate the fruit from the forbidden tree.)

Have the children act out the scene two ways: First, act out Adam and Eve blaming. Then, have the kids act out the scene with Adam and Eve truthfully confessing their disobedience.

Conclude the time by asking:

Why is it better to confess and tell the truth about what you did wrong?

(God knows each time we disobey. So we can't hide our sin from God. If we admit and tell the truth about what we did wrong we can also ask forgiveness.)

Puppet Show

SUPPLIES:

✓ puppet

Have a dialogue between a teacher and a puppet that makes the wrong choice. Conclude with the comparison between how the puppet (representing us) is just like Adam and Eve. Sample dialogue could include:

Puppet: I would eat my lollipop right away.

Teacher: But that would be disobeying.

Puppet: If I duck my head behind the backseat, my mom would never see me

eat it.

Teacher: What if your tongue turned green or blue from the lollipop? Wouldn't your mom find out?

Puppet: I would just hide my tongue.

Teacher: What if your mom asked you to put your lollipop by your plate till you were done with your meal?

Puppet: Ah, oh, I would be in trouble. I would just go hide under my bed.

Teacher: What if your mom called for you?

Puppet: I would not answer.

Teacher: What if she found you?

Puppet: I would blame my dog and say he ate it.

Teacher: Then she would see your blue tongue and know you were lying ... etc.

Play out the drama and then ask the children questions about it.

Hiding Our Sin

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ four clear plastic drinking cups (make sure they are transparent enough so you can see an object inside)
- ✓ four colored opaque plastic drinking cups
- ✓ a piece from a checkers set or other object to hide under a cup

To prepare: Practice playing the "Shell Game" until you can do it smoothly enough to fool your students.

Demonstrate the "Shell Game" using the colored cups to start with. Shuffle the checkers piece around, and then ask the children to guess which cup the game piece is under. After they guess, test them a bit to see if they are really sure they are right. Ideally, you want the class divided, so that each time some of the class is wrong.

Explain that the checkers piece represents "our sin," and the cup, "the lies that we tell to hide our sin." Sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't.

Then, try the exercise again, only this time use the transparent cups. Of course, the children will be able to see the game piece easily. Read Genesis 3:8–13. Explain that God can see all and God knows all. He sees our sins. We can't hide our sins from God.

PRAY 5 MIN

Take time at the end of class to thank God for all you learned today. Include parts of your Bible lesson in your prayer as another way for the children to remember what today's lesson was about.

