

SECTION 3.3

The Fall



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: One Rule

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: After kids are seated, tell them there is only one rule to follow. At your signal, your group will play the quiet game, where everyone has to stay quiet — the challenge is there is to be no noise of any kind from anyone.

STEP 2: Give a signal. See how long kids can go before someone breaks the rule.

STEP 3: Once the rule has been broken (or after one minute), ask the following questions:

- What was the hardest part about following the one rule?
- How did you feel during that time?
- What could be a consequence for this rule after it were broken?
- What if we said the quiet game was going to last for an hour, could you do it?

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- God created man as perfect and sinless. He was made in God's image and likeness.
- God made man to have a relationship with Him.
- In the garden of Eden, God gave man only one rule to follow: Do not eat from the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.

STEP 5: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the fall of man.

Notes:

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Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Temptation Troubles

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Brainstorm about what tempts kids their age to sin. Remind them that sin means anything we think, say, or do that disobeys God. Give one or two of the following suggestions to get them started.

Things that can make kids feel tempted to sin:

- A brother or sister picks on you.
- Someone breaks a promise to you.
- You do not want to do what someone asks you to do.
- You have to follow a rule you don't understand or like.
- You have to wait longer than you expected to do something.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What makes these situations temptations?
- How do you feel when you are faced with one of these temptations?
- If you choose to respond in anger or to sin, whose fault is it?
- Why is it a sin to respond in anger or negatively in these situations?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God created man perfect and sinless. He was made in God's image and likeness.
- God made man to have a relationship with Him.
- In the garden of Eden, God gave man only one rule to follow: Do not eat from the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Adam and Eve's sin caused all of us to face temptation.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the Fall of man.

Notes:

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Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Adam and Eve Scenarios

What You'll Need: Bible, Adam and Eve Scenario Handout

PREP: Print out a copy of the Adam and Eve Scenario Handout.

STEP 1: Explain that today's lesson is about the fall. Ask a female volunteer to read the Eve scenario, and then ask a male volunteer to read the Adam scenario.

STEP 2: After both scenarios are read, share the following key concepts:

- God created a perfect world with no sin, death, or pain. He made Adam and Eve in His image and likeness (Genesis 1:26). They could think, feel, and make their own choices.
- Adam and Eve lived in a beautiful paradise known as the garden of Eden (Genesis 2: 8). They were to tend the garden.
- God gave them only one rule: They were not to eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil (Genesis 2:15-16).
- Satan, God's enemy, wanted to destroy God's plan and ruin His friendship with man. He tempted Eve and lied to her by telling her that the fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil would make her be like God (Genesis 3:4-5).
- Eve chose to eat of the fruit, and she gave it to Adam, who ate it too. Immediately they sinned, and their perfect fellowship with a holy and pure God was broken (Genesis 3:6-7).
- Since then, every person who has been born after Adam and Eve (except Jesus) has been born a sinner (Romans 5:12).

STEP 3: Discuss the following questions together:

- Why do you think Eve ate the fruit when she thought it would make her like God?

- How do you think Adam and Eve felt after they had sinned?
- How do you think God felt after Adam and Eve sinned?
- How does it make you feel knowing that their choice to sin affected all the people who would be born after them?

STEP 4: Close in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help us understand that we are sinners in need of a Savior.

Notes:



Adam and Eve Scenarios

Adam

I'm Adam, the very first human God created. My beginning was different from yours. God made me from dirt and then breathed His breath of life into me. I was never a little baby or a little boy.

Those first few days of my life were amazing. I could talk openly with God, and He gave me a beautiful garden to live in. He even gave me a special job: I got to name all the animals. That sure was a lot of work!

Even though I was friends with God, He made me a special friend, Eve. Together, we were close to God. We were even able to walk with Him and talk with Him, just like I'm talking to you now. Our beautiful home was perfect for us, and we had a lot of things to enjoy there. We had lots of freedom, and only one rule: We were not supposed to eat from one tree, the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.

Then the worst day happened.

God's great enemy, Satan, disguised himself as a serpent. The wicked, Evil One came to Eve and questioned her about God's one rule.

Sadly, Eve listened to the serpent. She took the fruit and ate it. She brought the fruit to me. And I disobeyed God and ate the fruit.

Immediately, and for the first time, I knew something was wrong. I felt something I had never ever felt before. I had all these new feelings. I was scared, and worried, and nervous, and sad all at once. I looked at beautiful Eve, and I knew she felt the same thing too. We were both so ashamed.

We had broken God's one rule.

Eve

You have probably heard many things about me. I'm Eve. God made me from Adam's rib, and I was to be a friend and a companion to him. My first days on earth were wonderful. I had a beautiful garden full of wonderful things that I could touch and smell and eat. There were many creatures that I had never seen before. I had fun learning about my new world with Adam. And best of all, we were both good friends with God. We were able to walk with Him and talk with Him.

That is, until the worst day ever came.

I was alone in the garden, exploring everything around me. But I wasn't alone. Satan, God's great enemy, disguised himself as a serpent. He came to me.

"Did God really say you couldn't eat from all the trees in the garden?" he asked me.

I replied, "God said we could eat of all the trees except one. If we eat of that tree or even touch it we will die!"

"You won't die!" Satan replied. "God knows that if you eat this fruit you will be like Him and know good and evil."

At first, I wasn't sure, but then I looked closer at the fruit. It looked good, and I was sure that it would taste good too. I thought it couldn't hurt me to eat it. I mean, how bad would it be to know both good AND evil?

I took the fruit, and I bit into it. Then I gave some to Adam to eat. We both knew immediately that something wasn't right.

I began to feel ... sad. I was also ... scared. For the first time, I felt all alone, and I felt as if I had done something terribly wrong.

I was so ashamed, and I didn't want God to find me. Adam and I both hid from Him. We knew even then that what we did wrong would affect our friendship with God forever.

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Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Adam, Eve, and Me

What You'll Need: Bibles

STEP 1: Assign the following verses to three volunteers:

Genesis 3:5-8

Romans 5:12

James 2:10

STEP 2: Have the first volunteer read Genesis 3:5-8. Share these key concepts:

- God created a perfect world with no sin, death, or pain. He made Adam and Eve in His image and likeness (Genesis 1:26). They could think, feel and make their own choices.
- Adam and Eve lived in a beautiful paradise known as the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2: 8). They were to tend the garden.
- God gave them only one rule: They were not to eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil (Genesis 2:15-16).
- Satan, God's enemy, wanted to destroy God's plan and ruin His friendship with man. He tempted Eve and lied to her by telling her that the fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil would make her be like God (Genesis 3:4,5).
- Eve chose to eat of the fruit, and she gave it to Adam, who ate it too. Immediately they sinned, and their perfect fellowship with a holy and pure God was broken (Genesis 3:6-7).
- Adam and Eve's sin had disastrous consequences that still affect us today.

STEP 3: Have the second volunteer read Romans 5:12 and the third volunteer read James 2:10. Then share these key concepts.

- Because Adam and Eve chose to sin, every person born after them (except for Jesus) has been born with a sin nature.

- No matter how hard we try to be good, we will still be sinners. Even if we break just one rule (like Adam and Eve did), we will be guilty.
- Adam and Eve experienced a broken friendship with God because of their sin. We were born with that broken fellowship. In fact, we are born as enemies of God (Romans 5:10).
- Just as God still loved Adam and Eve, God loves us too. He made a way for us to be right with Him.

STEP 4: Close in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help us understand that we are sinners in need of a Savior.

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