





People Disobey God

The Garden of Eden

A Very Sad Day

I heard of a six-year old boy on a playground saying, "Hey! That's against the wooos (rules)." Well, God had to say that to Adam and Eve. God gave Adam almost unlimited freedom, plus a fulfilling job naming animals and overseeing the garden. The one "rule" was that Adam had to avoid.

The Story: Once, in a beautiful garden called Eden, there were the two very first people, Adam and Eve. God made this garden super special with lots of yummy fruits and pretty trees. He told Adam and Eve they could eat from any tree they wanted—except one, the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.

But one day, a sneaky snake tricked Eve. It said, "Hey, if you eat this fruit, you'll be super smart like God!" Eve thought that

sounded pretty cool, so she ate the fruit and gave some to Adam too. They weren't supposed to, but they did it anyway.

Suddenly, they realized they did something wrong and felt really sorry. They tried to hide, but God knew what happened. He was sad because they didn't listen to Him. So, He said they couldn't stay in the perfect garden anymore.

This story teaches us that it's important to listen and follow rules, even if someone tries to tell us something different. And even when we make mistakes, we can always talk to God about it, just like talking to a friend. He understands and loves us a whole bunch!

God had to bring punishment on Adam, Eve, and the serpent, but God had not ceased to care about human beings and He gave a promise of a coming Savior.

Power Point

People choose not to listen to God and do things their own way.

MEMORY VERSE

Job 5:17, 18,

"Blessed is the man
whom God corrects; so do not
despise the discipline of the Almighty."

Game: Simon Says

Play the old favorite game, SimonSays, with your group. Have fun with it and make it energetic. Consider having some fun background music to liven things up.

Use a leader who can really command attention and is creative.

Get everyone moving. If the game goes quickly and you get down to one person rapidly. Play the game again.

After the game, apply this moral: Everyone makes mistakes. There is no perfect person.

Introduction / Demonstration:

Say, "Life is full of choices and every choice makes other things happen. Some choices lead to good things and other lead to bad things. Call on a volunteer to hold a book at arms length in front of them. Then ask them to choose to release the book from their hands. After the book falls to the ground, explain that it was the choice to release it that made it fall.

Now repeat the demonstration but have an adult volunteer sit on the floor where the book will drop. (This should be done carefully so no one gets hurt.) Explain that our choices can often hurt other people. Say, "In our lesson today, you will learn about the very bad choice that Adam & Eve made. This lesson will help you to understand how Adam & Eve's choice to disobey God first brought bad results into the good world that God made.

Active Listening: Ask for children to listen carefully for the following three questions as they listen. These are the key points for them to understand from the lesson, so be sure to emphasize them as you present the lesson. Display the following questions on pieces of paper (or markerboard):

- What was the choice?
- Why did God have to punish Adam & Eve?
- What was the promise?

Welcome Activity

Welcome activities are things to have out for the children to do as they are arriving for class. These activities will get them engaged as soon as they arrive and will help the transition from their parents.

Playing with blocks – Place a large pile of blocks in the middle of the room. Let the children know that they may build with the blocks.

As the Lesson Begins, let the children continue to play with the blocks. But, this time, there are two rules:

1. No throwing the blocks &

2. You may only take one block from the middle pile at a time.

Give them time to play by the rules. Then have them clean up and put the blocks away.

Talk to the children after they are finished cleaning up about the rules of the activity. Ask them why it is good to have rules and why they think you had those rules.

Rule 1: "No throwing blocks" was so that no one gets hurt.

Rule 2: "You may only take one block from the middle pile at a time" was so that everyone would be able to use them.

God has rules, too.

Act it Out

Call on three volunteers (Adam, Even, Snake) to act out the events from the story. You may want to bring an apple for visual effect. You can read portions from Genesis 3 to help.

Have Adam & Eve stand at one side of the room. The snake will "crawl" across the floor to them.

Snake: "Did God really say not to eat from that tree?"

Eve: "God said if we eat it we will die."

Snake: "You will not die if you eat this."

Remind the children about the choice.

Eve looks at the fruit and says, "This looks like good fruit, why would God not want meto be happy." She then takes a bite. Then shares with Adam.

Explain to the children that this choice to

disobey God resulted in many bad things for all people. But God's promised to put things right again one day.

Review: Remind the children of the book drop object lesson from the introduction. Explain that when we choose to disobey God it brings bad results into our lives. Our sin separates us from God. But God loves us and has made a way to be right with him once again.

Always obey

The story of Adam and Eve is a great reminder to everyone about what can happen when the rules are not obeyed. It might feel ok in the beginning, or for a short while afterward, to break the rules, but it never ends well. Adam and Eve knew that what they were doing was not right, and they knew the consequences, but still chose to disobey. This is fairly similar to how we operate in life; we usually know the consequences of our actions and still chose to disobey.

Object Lessons

Recreate the story of Adam and Eve right in front of them using Play-Doh

The story of Creation is about just that – Creation! Just like God created Adam and Eve you can easily create a human-shaped Adam and Eve, and a tree with some fruit and a snake out of Play-Doh. Kids LOVE to watch toys being played with and/or things being created, so this is guaranteed to keep them entertained. If you feel it's needed you could even have the kids help you create the story and tell it.

Mirror - God's special creation

Start the story with this object lesson. You could even do this as they arrive in class and have the first ones to arrive be the ones who get to look in the box. Hide a mirror in the box with a cover. Tell the kids you want to show a few of them what God's greatest creation is. Let them come up and look in the box, they will be pleasantly surprised to see a mirror showing them, THEMSELVES! Ask the kids who didn't get to look, what they think is in the box. Then show them the mirror and discuss how God created everything, but that they as humans, are God's most special creation. Then begin the story of how God created the first humans, Adam and Eve.

Games:

Name That Animal

One of Adam's jobs that God gave him, was to name the animals. Turn this into a game! The kids either guess the proper name from a picture of an animal AND/OR they rename the animal to what they would choose if they had Adam's job!

Hide & Seek

Adam and Eve kind of played the first game of hide and seek. Most of the time hiding in a classroom is almost close to obvious, so instead, have them hide a fake fruit in the room while everyone's eyes are closed and the first one to find the hidden fruit gets to hide it next.

Toilet Roll Roll

Hand each player a toilet roll with a stick through the middle of it. A friend must hold the ends of the stick while the players each unravel their toilet roll. The player that unravels their toilet roll the fastest is the winner. Application: What a mess! Today we are learning about how sin messes things up, because sin wrecks stuff!

SNACK IDEAS

Fruit

Fruit is a simple and low-cost healthy snack and happens to be the main item in the story of Adam and Eve! You could get specific and get a tree growing fruit like apples or mangos, or you can make it super simple and have fruit trays of all kinds to share with the kids. Either way, the Adam and Eve story make for an easy snack day, which is an all-around win!

Gummy Worms

They aren't necessarily serpents, but they kind of resemble serpents, you could always give one out to each kid before you tell the story and ask them to pretend that their worm is actually a snake!

Gummy Worm Game:

Choose two contestants for this game and sit them at a table. Put a bowl of pudding in front of each one. The contestants must find and pull out the four gummy worms using only their mouths. The first person to find all four worms wins.

