



Use Week of:

Unit 1 • Session 3

Sin Entered the World

BIBLE PASSAGE:

Genesis 3

STORY POINT: Adam and Eve broke God's one rule.

KEY PASSAGE:

Colossians 1:16b

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Who is God? God is our Creator and King.

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TEACH THE STORY
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EXPERIENCE THE STORY
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LEADER Bible Study

Adam and Eve enjoyed all that was good in the garden of Eden. The Lord gave them only one restriction: “You must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil,” and the punishment for disobeying was severe: “You will certainly die” (Gen. 2:17).

Before the fall, Adam and Eve enjoyed a loving, two-way relationship with God. The garden was a true paradise. God filled the garden with good gifts so that they might enjoy them and give thanks to God; this glorifies God. All of that changed when Adam and Eve gave in to the serpent’s temptation. Eve believed the lie that leads many of us to sin: Maybe God is holding out on me.

Adam and Eve desired something more: the wisdom the fruit offered. But when their eyes were opened, they were aware of their nakedness and they felt ashamed. Surely the Lord’s heart broke at their act of disobedience and rebellion. Because of their sin, He cast them out of the garden. Though they did not die right away, sin’s effect was immediate and thorough. Their lives and their children’s lives—and the lives of all of mankind—would be forever affected by their choice.

God did not leave Adam and Eve without hope. He promised that one of Eve’s descendants would strike the head of the serpent. (Gen. 3:15) Each generation after Eve hoped that one of their children would be the promised One—the One who would crush the head of the snake and put an end to the curse over creation.

Sin is a big problem that needs a big solution. At just the right time, God sent His Son into the world, born as a baby. Matthew 1:21 says, “You are to name Him Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.” As the preschoolers you teach become increasingly aware of the bad news—that we are all sinners from birth—rejoice with them over the good news: “Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners” (1 Tim. 1:15).

The **BIBLE** Story

Sin Entered the World

Genesis 3

Adam and Eve—the two first people—lived in a beautiful garden. **God put trees in the garden with fruit that they could eat.** God gave Adam and Eve one rule. **God said, “You may eat from any tree in the garden, except for one. Do not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat from that tree, you will die.”**

Now out of all the animals on the earth, the serpent was very sneaky. **One day, the serpent asked Eve, “Did God really say, ‘Do not eat from any tree in the garden?’”** The serpent was trying to trick Eve.

Eve said, **“No, we can eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. God gave us just one rule: Do not eat from the tree in the middle of the garden. God said that if we eat the fruit from that tree or touch it, we will die.”**

“No!” said the serpent. “You will not die. If you eat the fruit, you will be like God and know good and evil.”

Eve looked at the fruit. It did look delicious, and she wanted to be wise like God. So **Eve took some of the fruit and ate it. She gave some to Adam, who was with her, and he ate it too.**

Then Adam’s and Eve’s eyes were opened, and they knew they were



naked. They sewed together fig leaves and made clothes for themselves.

That evening, Adam and Eve heard God walking in the garden, so they hid. God called to Adam, "Where are you?"

Adam said, "I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid."

God said, "Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree that I told you not to eat from?"

Adam said, "Eve gave me some fruit, and I ate it."

Eve said, "The serpent tricked me."

Adam and Eve had disobeyed God. That is called *sin*. **God said that because of their sin, bad things would happen.** Life would be hard. God said that the serpent would crawl on its belly and be an enemy to people. **But God promised that someone would come from Eve's family to get rid of the serpent.**

God made Adam and Eve clothes out of animal skins and sent them out of the garden. God put angels and a sword of fire at the entrance of the garden to guard the way to the tree of life.

Christ Connection: Everything was different after Adam and Eve sinned. Since then, everybody has sinned. Sin keeps us from God, but God never stops loving us. He sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God.

Bible Storytelling Tips

- **Circle a tree:** Set a potted tree, real or artificial, in the Tell the Story area. Consider taping some paper cutouts of fruit to the tree. Invite preschoolers to sit around the tree as you tell the Bible story.

- **Dramatic conversation:** During dialogue, stand in various places for each speaker.

INTRODUCE the Story



SESSION TITLE: Sin Entered the World

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 3

STORY POINT: Adam and Eve broke God's one rule.

KEY PASSAGE: Colossians 1:16b

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Who is God? God is our Creator and King.

Welcome time

- "My Father's World" song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert download
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church's security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

Activity page

- "What Changed?" activity page, 1 per child
- markers or crayons

Invite preschoolers to look at the two pictures and circle the things that are different in the second picture.

SAY • We have been learning about the beautiful world God created and His most special creation—people. In today's Bible story, we will hear about something that changed the perfect world God made.

LOW PREP

Play "Simon Says"

Explain to preschoolers that you will be *Simon*. You will give them instructions to follow, but children should only obey those instructions that begin with "Simon says."

Gently correct preschoolers who did an action that *Simon* did not say rather than sitting them out. After a few rounds, choose a preschooler to be *Simon* and play again. Continue playing with new *Simons* as time allows.

SAY • Good job doing what Simon said! In today's Bible

story, God said Adam and Eve—the two first people—could eat from any tree in the garden except for one. God said they must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Do you think Adam and Eve did what God said or not? We will find out in today's Bible story.

Move like animals

Print and cut out the “Animal Movement Cube” printable. Assemble the cube and secure it with tape. Invite a child to toss the cube. Read the instructions aloud. Permit the child to lead the group to move like the selected animal. Mention today's Bible story each time the snake is selected.

- “Animal Movement Cube” printable
- scissors (adult use)
- tape

SAY • In today's Bible story, a serpent tricked Eve. A serpent is a snake. God loved Eve. He was angry that the serpent tricked her. God punished the serpent. God said that the serpent would crawl on its belly and be an enemy to people. God promised that someone would come from Eve's family to get rid of the serpent once and for all. Let's hear what happened in today's Bible story.

Transition to Bible study

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, flip off the lights, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Give preschoolers an instruction to follow as they move to Bible study. Examples include “Put your finger on your nose,” “Clap your hands,” or “Hop like a frog.”

- countdown video (optional)

TEACH the Story



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Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at Genesis 3 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

SAY • God is so kind to give us His words in the Bible. The stories in the Bible happened in real life. Today's story is found in Genesis, the first book of the Bible.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- "Sin Entered the World" video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

SAY • **Adam and Eve broke God's one rule.** Breaking God's rules is sin. Everything was different after Adam and Eve sinned. Since then, everybody has sinned. Sin keeps us from God, but God never stops loving us. He sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God.

- paper
- marker
- scissors (adult use)
- "Key Passage Marker" printable
- Key Passage Poster
- "All Things" song
- "My Father's World" song

Practice the key passage

Before the session, write the key passage on a sheet of paper.

Cut the paper into pieces. Hide the pieces around the room. Invite preschoolers to find the pieces and reassemble the verse. Read the verse pointing to each word as you say it.

Cut out the “Key Passage Marker” and place it at Colossians 1:16b. Invite a volunteer to come up and open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Practice the motions you created for the verse.

SAY • Our key passage tells us that everything is made to show how amazing Jesus is. When we sin, we are not doing what we were made to do. But Jesus came to rescue us from sin and bring us back to God.

Sing the key passage song, “All Things,” and the theme song, “My Father’s World.”

Learn the big picture question

SAY • Our big picture question asks, ***Who is God? God is our Creator and King.*** When Adam and Eve sinned, they were not honoring God as King. Since then, every single one of us sins. We do not honor God as King either. Sin keeps us from God, but God never stops loving us. He sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God.

• Big Picture Question Poster



Missions moment

SAY • Only Jesus can save people from sin. The Rigneys are a missionary family living in London, England. They tell people the good news of how God sent Jesus to save people from sin. Let’s watch how God is using them to tell the people in their city about Jesus.

• “Our London” video

Show the “Our London” video.

Pray and transition to experience the story

EXPERIENCE the Story



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LOW PREP

- paper plates
- markers

Use the following
statements or
create your own.

- obey parents
- throw a fit
- pick up toys
- push
- be unkind
- help others
- smile
- have a happy attitude
- love brother or sister
- yell "No" at parents
- be mean to brother or sister
- toy fruits and vegetables
- baskets
- "Fruits and Vegetables" printable (optional)
- scissors (optional)

Identify sin

Give each preschooler a paper plate. Invite a preschooler to draw a happy face on one side of her plate and a sad face on the other. Define *sin* as "breaking God's rules." Explain that we sin when we *do* the things God says *do not do*. We also sin when we *do not do* the things God says *to do*. Tell preschoolers that you will call out an action, if the action is a sin, preschoolers will hold up their sad face. If the action is not a sin, preschoolers will hold up their happy face. Use the actions in the margin or create your own.

SAY • Sin came into the world when **Adam and Eve broke God's one rule.** Everything was different after Adam and Eve sinned. Since then, everybody has sinned—that includes you and me. Sin keeps us from God, but God never stops loving us. He sent Jesus to rescue people from sin and bring them back to Him.

Sort fruits and vegetables

Set out an assortment of toy fruits and vegetables. Invite preschoolers to name each item and sort it into a basket. Preschoolers may sort the items by fruit/vegetable, color, or size. If toy fruits and vegetables are not available, use the images from the "Fruits and Vegetables" printable instead.

SAY • God gave Adam and Eve all the food they needed in

the garden, but they ate from the one tree God said not to eat from. **Adam and Eve broke God's one rule.** Everything was different after Adam and Eve sinned. Since then, everybody has sinned. Sin keeps us from God, but God never stops loving us. He sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God.

Stomp snakes

Cover a table and the floor below with plastic tablecloths. Add an inch or two of play sand to a large plastic tub and set it on the table. Hide small plastic snakes in the sand. Invite preschoolers to dig in the sand for snakes. When a preschooler finds a snake, he may shake it off, drop it on the floor, and stomp its head with his shoe. Then he may hide the snake in the sand for another preschooler to find.

SAY • The serpent tricked Eve. **Adam and Eve broke God's one rule,** but God never stopped loving them. God promised that someone would come from Eve's family to get rid of the serpent. God kept that promise when He sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God.

- plastic tablecloths, 2
- large plastic tub
- play sand
- small plastic snakes
- toy sifters, rakes, and shovels (optional)

Tip: Warn preschoolers to not stomp real snakes in the wild.

Stamp a tree

Print a "Tree" printable on heavyweight paper for each child. Cut paper towel tubes into 3-inch lengths. Flatten one end of each tube so the edges form a leaf shape. Roll up sleeves and place a smock on each child. Squirt green paint onto a foam plate. Invite preschoolers to dip the flattened edge of the tube into the paint and then stamp it on their tree to create a leaf.

Encourage preschoolers to repeat the process until their

- "Tree" printable
- heavyweight paper
- paper towel tubes
- scissors (adult use)
- smocks
- washable green paint
- foam plates
- paint daubers
- marker
- wipes for cleanup

tree is full of leaves. Provide paint daubers in various colors for preschoolers to add fruit to their tree.

SAY • God filled the garden with many trees for Adam and Eve to eat from, but **Adam and Eve broke God's one rule** and ate from the tree God said not to. Their sin changed God's perfect world. Since then, everybody has sinned. Sin keeps us from God, but God never stops loving us. He sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God.



Pray for the Rigney family

Distribute a "Rigney Family" prayer card to each child.

• "Rigney Family Prayer Card" printable

SAY • Do you remember the name of the missionary family living in London, England? The Rigney family moved to London so they could share the gospel with the many different people living there. Take this prayer card home and put it in a place where you will see it and remember to pray for the Rigneys and the people they tell about Jesus. Why don't we pray for the Rigneys and the people of London right now?

Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

Serve fruit for snack. Talk about how God gave Adam and Eve everything they needed, but they chose to eat fruit from the one tree God said not to eat from. **Adam and Eve broke God's one rule.**

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. What did God put in the garden for Adam and Eve to eat from? (*fruit trees*)
2. What was the one rule God gave Adam and Eve? (*Do not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.*)
3. Who tricked Eve? (*the serpent*)
4. What happened after Adam and Eve ate the fruit? (*They knew they were naked.*)
5. What did God promise that someone from Eve's family would do to the serpent? (*get rid of it*)
6. What did God make for Adam and Eve? (*clothes out of animal skins*)
7. ***Who is God? God is our Creator and King.***

Transition

When children finish their snack, preschoolers may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert download
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- fruit (optional)

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- "All Things" song
- "My Father's World" song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers