

# Unit 2: Creation Is Ruined

**Unit Description:** Everything was perfect when God created it, but it didn't stay that way. Adam and Eve rebelled against God. From that time on, creation was ruined and everyone has been born a sinner. But God would not leave people to remain dead in sin. He would provide the solution for sin: His Son, Jesus Christ.

**Big Picture Question:** What does it mean to sin? To sin is to think, speak, or behave in any way that goes against God and His commands.



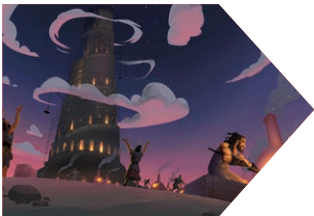
## **SESSION 1: Sin Entered the World** Genesis 3



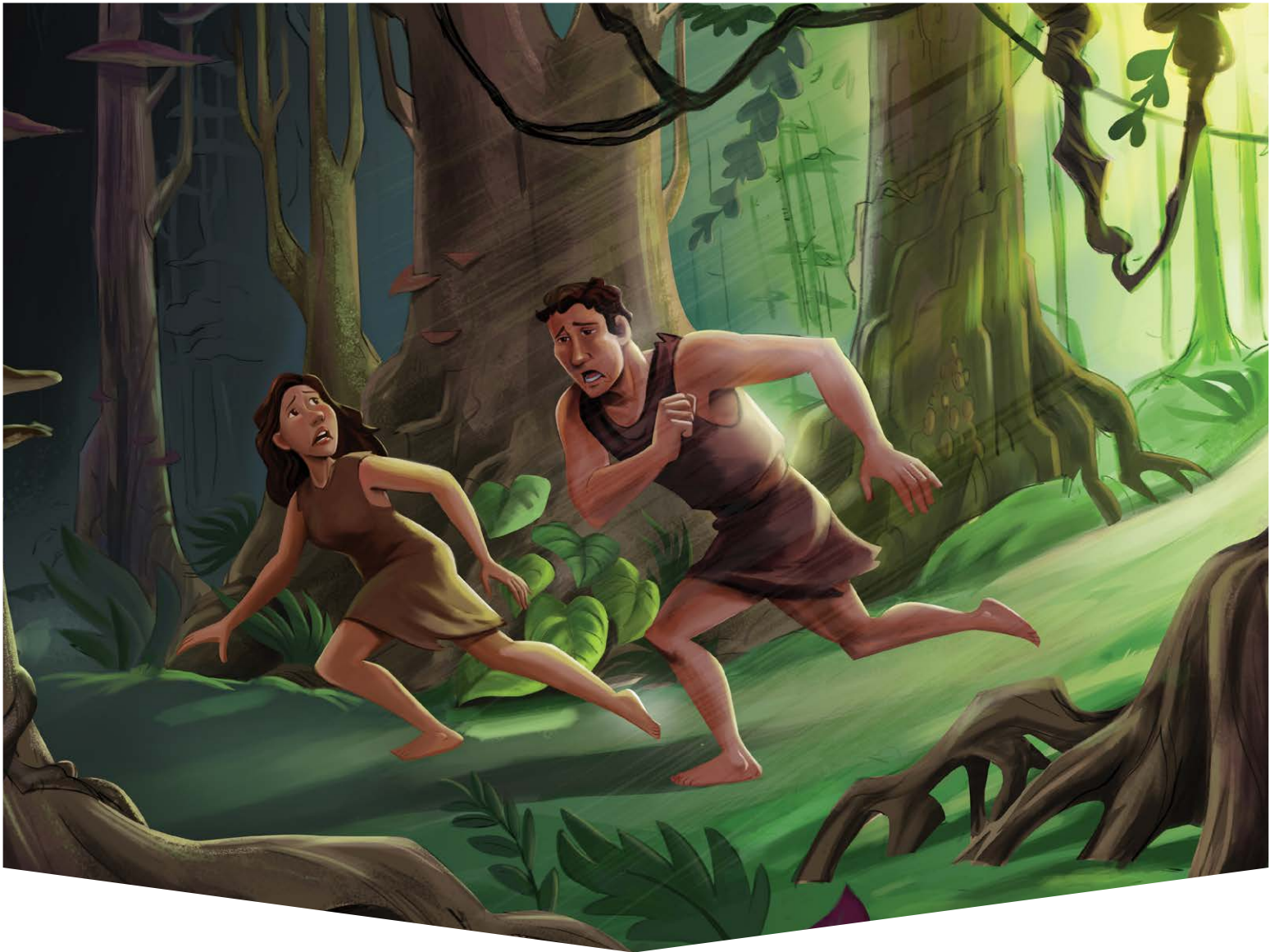
## **SESSION 2: Sin Spread to People** Genesis 4–5



## **SESSION 3: God Spared Noah** Genesis 6–10



## **SESSION 4: People Rebel Against God** Genesis 10–11



UNIT 2 | SESSION 1

## SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

GENESIS 3

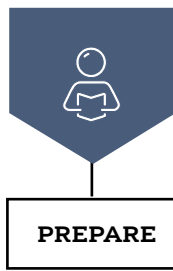
**KEY PASSAGE:** **For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, Romans 3:23 NIV**

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:**

What does it mean to sin? To sin is to think, speak, or behave in any way that goes against God and His commands.

**CHRIST CONNECTION:**

Ever since Adam and Eve sinned, all people have been sinners. Our sin separates us from God, but God still loves us. God promised a Rescuer would come from Eve's family. God sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God.



PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION



## LEADER Bible Study

Does the story of the fall surprise you? How could Adam and Eve—who had everything they needed—rebel against a loving God? Do you think you would have acted differently?

Adam and Eve’s story is our story. Think about the last time you blatantly sinned. What lies were you believing in that moment? Satan wants us to believe the same lie that Eve believed: *Maybe God is holding out on me. Maybe He isn’t good or loving. Maybe I would do a better job than Him.* Do you ever wonder if you know better than God?

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 Him thanks. This glorifies God. All of that changed when Adam and Eve gave in to the serpent’s temptation.

Adam and Eve desired something more: the wisdom the fruit offered. But when their eyes were opened, they didn’t get what they hoped for. Instead, they were aware of their nakedness. They felt ashamed. Surely the Lord’s heart broke at their act of disobedience and rebellion. Can you think of a time your own sin produced regret and sorrow?

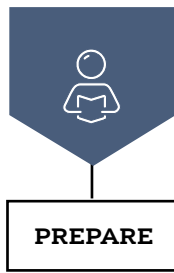
Because of their sin, God cast Adam and Eve out of the garden. Though they did not die right away, sin’s effect was immediate and thorough. Their lives and their children’s lives—and the lives of all of humanity—would be forever affected by their choice. We see this in the world around us. We experience God’s grace, but we are very aware that the world is broken. It was not meant to be this way.

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 kids 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).

### TERMS TO KNOW

**The Fall:** The first sin of Adam and Eve that brought judgment upon both nature and mankind. By rejecting God’s authority and choosing to eat the fruit God had forbidden, Adam threw God’s creation into chaos.



PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

## GATHER Supplies

Keep a regular supply of the following items available at all times: Bibles, pens or pencils, markers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue or tape, paper.



WELCOME

### Activity Page

- “Out of Eden” activity page

### Session Starter (Option 2)

- index cards



LEARN

### Introduce the Session

- countdown video

### Big Picture Question

- Big Picture Question Poster

### Review the Timeline

- Giant Timeline

### Tell the Bible Story

- “Sin Entered the World” video
- Bible Story Picture Poster

### Questions from Kids

- “Unit 2, Session 1” questions from kids video

### Missions Moment

- “A Legacy” missions video

### Key Passage Activity

- Key Passage Poster, multiple copies
- “For All Have Sinned (Romans 3:23)” song
- ziplock bags
- worship song of your choice (optional)



LOVE

### Review & Bible Skills

- Small Group Timeline and Map Set
- world map



LIVE

### Activity Choice (Option 1)

- small gift items, 1 per kid (stickers, rubber balls, candy, small crosses)
- tissue paper

### Activity Choice (Option 2)

- 10- to 12-foot lengths of rope or yarn, 2

### Journal and Prayer

- Journal Page
- “Says Who?” activity page



## WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

**SAY** “Can you think of a time you did something and wished you could take it back? Maybe you threw a ball in the house and broke a picture frame, or you said something mean and really hurt someone. [Allow kids to respond.] Sometimes an action that takes only a second can have long-lasting consequences.”

### 1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Out of Eden” on the activity page.

**SAY** “This maze shows Adam and Eve going out of the wonderful garden that God created for them. Do you know why they had to leave? We will find out in today’s Bible story.”

### 2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

#### OPTION 1: BELIEVE IT OR NOT



Read the following story aloud. Then ask questions about what you read. Kids should stand if they believe the answer is yes or sit if they believe it is no.

My name is Sam, and I have seven sisters. Their names are Sarah, Sally, Shiloh, Stella, Sophia, Sadie, and Savannah. Sarah is the oldest, and she knows how to ride a horse. Stella and Sophia are twins. Shiloh and I love soccer, and Sally likes to swim. Savannah is the youngest. She’s six. We have six pets: a snake, a salamander, a seahorse, a sheep, a squirrel, and a cat.

Suggested questions: Did I really say I have seven sisters? Did I really say Sarah can ride a donkey? Did I really say Shiloh and I are twins? Did I really say Sally likes to swim? Did I really say Savannah is seven? Did I really say we have a cat?

**SAY** “Did you remember what I said, or did you start to doubt what you had heard? In today’s Bible story, a serpent caused Eve to doubt God’s words. Let’s find out what happened after that.”

#### OPTION 2: PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

Before the session, list various problems on separate index cards. Use these examples or generate your own ideas: You get locked out of the house, You forgot to do your homework, Your dog needs to go outside but it’s snowing, You spilled a drink on the carpet, Your sister took one of your shirts.

Mix up the cards. Choose a volunteer to take a card. The volunteer will stand in front of the group and describe possible solutions to the problem. She should not state the problem in any fashion. The rest of the kids will try to guess what the problem is. Repeat with different problems as time allows.

**SAY** “Sometimes solving a small problem is really simple. If you’ve ever had a big problem, you know solving it is not always easy. In today’s Bible story, we will hear how the big problem of sin came into the world.”

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

# INTRODUCE the Bible Story

### 1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

**SAY** “Hello! It is so good to see you today. If you brought your Bible today, hold it up. [Provide Bibles for kids who need one.] Can anyone tell me what the Bible is about? [Allow kids to respond.] The Bible is God’s Word. It tells us the wonderful story of God’s plan to rescue sinners.

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. So because the Bible tells us that God rescues sinners, we can know that we are sinners who need to be rescued.”

### 2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

**SAY** “Today and over the next few weeks, we are going to be thinking about a big picture question. The big picture question is a question that helps us remember something that is true about God or ourselves. It reminds us that beyond the smaller details of a Bible story, God is working out a greater plan.

Our big picture question is, **What does it mean to sin?** What do you think? **What does it mean to sin?** [Allow kids to respond.] Those are some good ideas. Here is the answer to our big picture question: **To sin is to think, speak, or behave in any way that goes against God and His commands.** We’ll talk more about that after we hear today’s Bible story.”

### 3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the giant timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

**SAY** “Last time, we talked about God’s glory. Creation glorifies God! We see that truth in all God has made. We first heard how God created the world. On the sixth day, God created people. Everything God created exists for His glory.

When God created everything, His creation was good. In fact, God saw that it was very good. Everything was just how God wanted it. The first two people—Adam and Eve—had a close relationship with God. He loved them, and they loved Him. But as we will see in today’s Bible story, something happened that ruined creation.”



## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LEARN the Bible Story

#### 1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Genesis 3. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “Sin Entered the World.” Use the bolded text to retell or review the story.

#### SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

“God gave the first two people a beautiful garden to call home. He gave them everything they needed, and He gave them a command. God said, **“You may eat from any of the trees in the garden, except for one.”** The garden had a tree in it called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. **God warned the man, “If you eat from that tree, you will die.”**

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the animals. **One day, the serpent went to the woman. “Did God really say, ‘You can’t eat from any tree in the garden?’” he asked.**

**The woman answered, “We can eat the fruit from the trees in the garden, but God told us not to eat from the tree in the middle of the garden. He said if we eat the fruit or touch it, we will die.”**

**“No! You will not die,” the serpent lied. “You will be like God, knowing good and evil.”** The woman looked at the fruit. It did look delicious, and she wanted to be 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.** Then their eyes were opened, and they knew they were naked. So they sewed together fig leaves and made clothes for themselves. **That evening, the man and his wife heard God walking in the garden. They hid among the trees. God called out to the man, “Where are you?”**

**The man said, “I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.”**

**“Who told you that you were naked?” God asked. “Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”**

**The man blamed his wife. “She gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it,” he said. The woman blamed the serpent. “He tricked me,” she said.**

**God said bad things would happen. Life would be hard and painful, all because of sin. But God promised that one of the woman’s descendants would destroy the serpent. God made those first people—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: Ever since Adam and Eve sinned, all people have been sinners. Our sin separates us from God, but God still loves us. God promised a Rescuer would come from Eve’s family. God sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God. ”

#### STORYTELLING TIPS

**Vary your voice:** Use a different voice or tone for each speaker in the story.

**Call for active listening:** Invite kids to give a thumbs-down when they hear something sad or bad, and give a thumbs-up when they hear something happy or good.



## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### 2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

**SAY** “ How do you think Adam and Eve felt before they sinned? What was their relationship with God like? [Allow kids to respond.] They had a right relationship with God. He gave them everything they needed. They were completely known and loved.

Then one day, this serpent came along. The serpent wasn't just a tricky snake. Who was he? The serpent was actually Satan, an enemy of God. Satan—also known as the devil—is against everything that God is for. Satan came along and led Adam and Eve to doubt God. What question did Satan ask Eve? Look at Genesis 3:1. [Choose a volunteer to read aloud Gen. 3:1.] Satan lied and told Eve that she would not die if she disobeyed God.

Eve believed the lie, and she ate the fruit. Adam ate it too. Sin entered the world when Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command. God still loved Adam and Eve, but He did not let them stay in the garden.

After Adam and Eve sinned, how do you think they felt? [Allow kids to respond.] They felt ashamed and tried to hide from God. What did Adam and Eve think God would do? What did God do? Look at Genesis 3:21,23. [Choose a volunteer to read aloud Gen. 3:21,23.]

Before Adam and Eve left the garden, God explained the consequences of their sin. Adam, Eve, and the serpent all faced consequences. What were some of the consequences? Look at Genesis 3:14-19. [Allow kids to scan the passage and share some of the consequences.] God judged Adam and Eve. He said their lives would be marked by pain and suffering. Their sin separated them from God. God sent them out of the garden, but God also showed them grace. He clothed them, and they did not die right away.

Look at Genesis 3:15. God told the serpent that someone would come from Eve's family to destroy the serpent. One day, Satan and his evil work would be stopped for good. What a wonderful promise. ”

### 3 CHRIST CONNECTION

**SAY** “ Ever since Adam and Eve sinned, all people have been born as sinners. Sin separates us from God, but God still loves us. God promised a Rescuer would come from Eve's family. God sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God. ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the guide provided to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

### 4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 2, Session 1” questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. Why did God put the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden if He didn't want Adam and Eve to eat from it?
2. What lies do you believe when you choose to disobey God?



## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### 5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

**SAY** “ Many years ago, a missionary couple named Jim and Elisabeth Elliot went to the Amazon jungle to tell people who had never heard of Jesus about Him. Let’s find out more about how the Elliots and others obeyed God and sacrificed everything to share the gospel. ”

Play the missions video. Explain that ever since Adam and Eve, every person has been born a sinner. Missionaries dedicate their lives to going and sharing the good news of Jesus so people can be free from sin and live with God forever. Ask a volunteer to pray for missionaries in the Amazon and for any missionaries your church supports.

### 6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Before the session, print a few extra copies of the key passage poster. Cut each poster into several large pieces and place each set of pieces in a ziplock bag.

Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading Romans 3:23 aloud together. Form groups of kids based on the number of posters you prepared. Give each group a bag and challenge groups to put together the key passage puzzle. When kids finish, lead them to say the key passage together.

**SAY** “ **What does it mean to sin? To sin is to think, speak, or behave in any way that goes against God and His commands.** Satan is against God. Eve believed his lies and chose to sin. Praise God for His great plan to send a Savior! ”

Lead kids to sing “For All Have Sinned (Romans 3:23).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

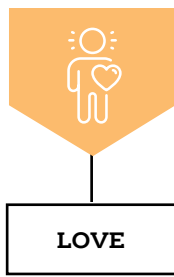
### 7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning from **LEARN** to **LOVE**.

**SAY** “ Lord God, thank You for Your Word. In it, we see the truth about who we are as sinners. We see Your love in how You provided a way for people to be saved from death. We need Jesus. Help us turn to You in our need and receive Your grace. Amen. ”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





## THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

# LOVE God by Applying the Story

### 1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles and display the Old Testament Mediterranean Map. Guide kids to open their Bibles to Genesis 3. Explain that we don't know exactly where the garden of Eden was located. Point to the region in the bottom right corner of the map, and explain that some people think it may have been in that area.

Consider comparing the Old Testament Mediterranean Map to a modern-day map to help kids understand where these stories took place. Locate the areas in and around modern-day Iraq. Then Choose a volunteer to read aloud Genesis 3:23.

**| SAY** “ God sent Adam and Eve out of the garden with a promise—that Eve’s descendant would defeat the snake—and with a job: to work the ground. Next time, we will see what happened to Adam and Eve outside of the garden. ”

### 2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

**| SAY** “ Why did the snake tempt Eve? ”

Remind kids that Satan was behind the temptation. Satan is against God and everything that He is for. The snake tempted Eve to doubt God's goodness. Emphasize that when Satan tempts us to sin, he may try to get us to doubt God's goodness too. Kids must be aware of Satan and his tactics in order to resist them.

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Jas. 4:7.)

**| SAY** “ Can we hide from God? Why do you think people might try to hide from God? ”

Point out that after Adam and Eve sinned, they heard God in the garden and hid among the trees. God asked, “Where are you?” but that doesn't mean that God could not see them. God gave Adam an opportunity to confess his sin. Ask if a parent has ever said, “Who did this?” when finding a mess in the house. The parent may know the answer but gives a kid the opportunity to tell the truth. Discuss why people might try to hide from God (fear, shame, and so on). Emphasize that we cannot hide from God.

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Heb. 4:13.)

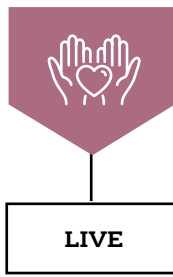
**| SAY** “ Does sin always have consequences? Explain. ”

Lead kids to recognize that although we may not see the consequences immediately, sin always has consequences. Point out that the biggest consequence of sin is that it separates us from God.

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Isa. 59:2.)

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





## THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

### LIVE the Mission

#### 1 ACTIVITY CHOICE (10 minutes)

##### OPTION 1: GIFTS FROM ABOVE



Wrap small items in tissue paper to give as gifts to the kids. Make sure you have enough gifts for everyone in the group.

Ask kids to sit on the floor. Drop small gifts on the floor for them. Invite kids to pick up one gift that falls near them. When each kid has chosen a gift, invite them to open the gifts.

**SAY** “ When Jim Elliot and his fellow missionaries wanted to make friends with the Waorani people, they dropped gifts like tools and clothing from an airplane. They wanted the people to know that they were friendly. The real gift the missionaries wanted to give them, however, was Jesus. Because the missionaries showed friendship, many Waorani people today know Jesus. ”

Remind kids that after Adam and Eve sinned, God promised a Rescuer would come from Eve’s family. God calls us to tell others that Jesus came to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God.

##### OPTION 2: TOO GREAT A GAP



Position two lengths of rope or yarn about 18 inches apart. Direct all the kids to stand on one side of the rope. Explain that the space between the ropes is a valley. If kids step in the valley, they are out.

When you say go, kids should move to the other side of the rope by stepping or jumping over the valley. After each crossing, move the ropes farther apart. Kids who are out may assist in moving the ropes.

Continue playing and moving the ropes until everyone is out.

**SAY** “ Our sin keeps us from God. Imagine a wide valley. We can’t get across to the other side on our own. We might try to do good things or avoid wrong things, but we would fall short every time. We need someone to get us to God. That’s what Jesus does. He is the promised descendant of Eve. Jesus died on the cross so that everyone who trusts in Him can have life with God forever. ”

#### 2 JOURNAL AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

Distribute journal pages and pencils. Guide kids to think about and answer the questions listed on the page. As kids journal, invite them to share their ideas.

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does the story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God’s glory and my good?
- Are there promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

Review the gospel. Encourage kids to speak with you or another teacher if they have questions. Then pray, asking God to help kids resist sin and thank Him for sending Jesus to rescue sinners. As time allows, lead kids to complete “Says Who?” on the activity page.



JOURNAL PAGE

1. What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
2. What does this story teach me about myself?
3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
5. How does this story help me to live on mission better?



Unit 2 • Session 1

## SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

Genesis 3

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SIN? TO SIN IS TO THINK, SAY, OR BEHAVE IN ANY WAY THAT GOES AGAINST GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.**

God gave the first two people everything they needed, and He gave them a command. God said, "You may eat from any of the trees in the garden, except for one." God warned the man, "If you eat from that tree, you will die."

One day, the serpent went to the woman. "Did God really say, 'You can't eat from any tree in the garden?'" he asked.

The woman answered, "God told us not to eat from the tree in the middle of the garden. We will die."

"You will not die," the serpent lied. "You will be like God." So she took some of the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, and he ate it. That evening, the man and his wife heard God walking in the garden. They hid among the trees. God called out to the man, "Where are you?"

The man said, "I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid."

God asked, "Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

The man blamed his wife. The woman blamed the serpent.

God said bad things would happen. Life would be hard and painful, all because of sin. But God promised that one of the woman's descendants would destroy the serpent. God sent them out of the garden.

*Christ Connection: Ever since Adam and Eve sinned, all people have been sinners. Our sin separates us from God, but God still loves us. God promised a Rescuer would come from Eve's family. God sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God.*

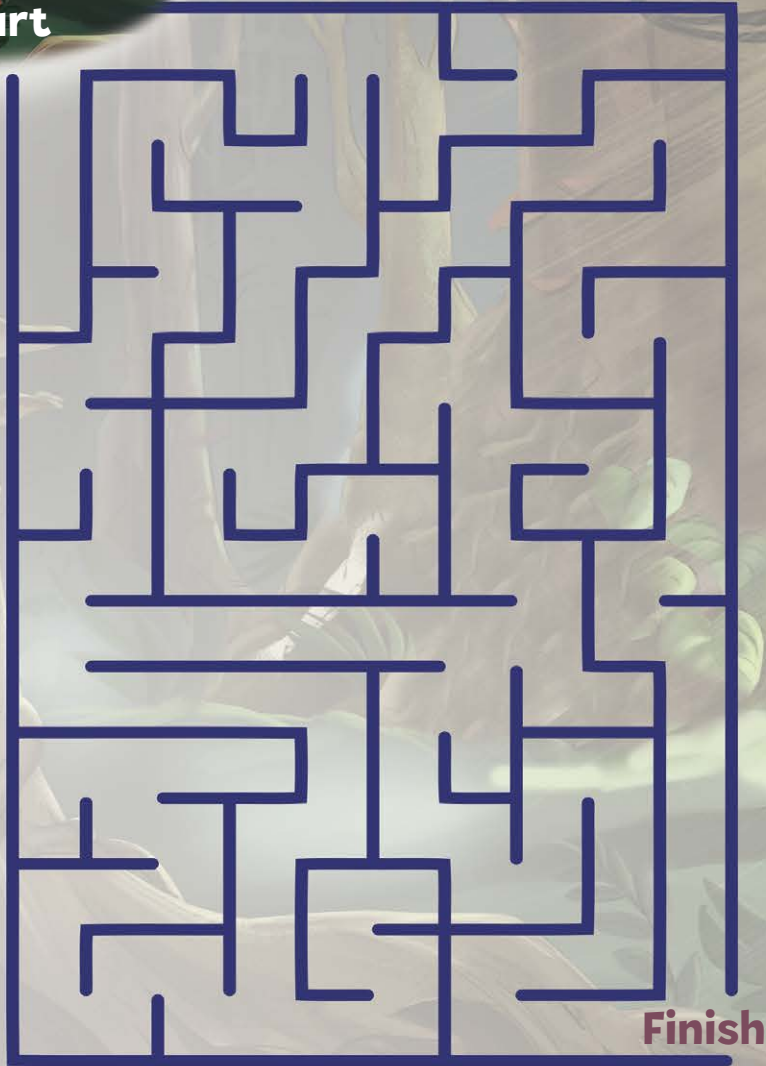
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**Out of Eden |** Complete the maze to lead Adam and Eve out of the garden.

**Says Who? |** Match each quotation with who said it. Read Genesis 3 to check your answers.

**Start**



**Finish**

**Adam      Eve      snake      God**

**"He tricked me."**

**"You may eat from any of the trees except for one."**

**"Where are you?"**

**"She gave me some fruit, and I ate it."**

**"If you eat from that tree, you will die."**

**"If we eat the fruit or touch it, we will die."**

**"Did God really say that?"**

**"You will not die. You will be like God."**

**"I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid."**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_



## Sin Entered the World

### BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- God said not to eat fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
- A serpent tricked Eve and Adam to eat the fruit.
- Adam and Eve had to leave the garden, and the world was broken by sin.
- God provided animal skins to cover Adam and Eve, and He promised to send a Rescuer.

### CHRIST CONNECTION:

Ever since Adam and Eve sinned, all people have been born as sinners. Sin separates us from God, but God still loves us. God promised a Rescuer would come from Eve's family. God sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Romans 3:23

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What does it mean to sin? To sin is to think, speak, or behave in any way that goes against God and His commands.