

Story: **Adam and Eve**

Background Scripture : **Genesis 2-3**

Specific Passages : Genesis 2:15-17; Genesis 3:1-7

YOU WILL NEED: Sign that say: *Adam*

NOTE: The following Bible story is told in three parts which are best if broken up by games and activities as seen in the Sunday School series: *Sailing the 7 C's: The C of Compassion*.

Adam and Eve

BIBLE STORY, part 1

Choose 1 volunteer—To be Adam. (Give him the *Adam* sign.)

SAY: God made Adam in His own image.

Ask the students—**What does it mean that God made people in his image?**

SAY: After God made Adam from the dust of the earth, he breathed life into him. God gave Adam a spirit. Animals don't have spirits, but people do—just like God has a spirit. Since Adam was made in God's image, it must have been like looking in a mirror. Adam was *like* God. He had perfect love, perfect joy, perfect peace and he was connected to God in a perfect friendship, but all this happened before sin came in.

Ask the students—**Who knows what God did next?** (No, He didn't make Eve. Instead, he called all the animals to Adam and Adam named them. Have your Adam volunteer name a few of the students in your class with animal names.)

SAY: But none of the animals were a suitable helper for Adam, so God caused him to fall into a deep sleep. (Have your volunteer act this out.) Then God took a rib from his side and from it, God made the first woman, and Adam named her Eve.

Choose a volunteer—To point out where Genesis is on the Bible Book chart. Tell them the story of Adam and Eve is found at the beginning of Genesis and that Genesis means "beginning." So it's the beginning of the beginning. Show them what section of the Old Testament it is in and reinforce to them that it is the first book (the "beginning") of the Bible.

SAY: God did good when He made Adam and Eve but soon something terrible happened, but first we're going to have a Bible drill.

Ready... Genesis 2:15-17...Go!

Read the verses.

Ask the students—**Why would God put a tree in the Garden only to instruct them not to eat from it?** (People aren't truly free to follow God until they have a choice not to follow Him. God didn't make us to be robots but to have a free choice, but to be free to make a choice doesn't mean that you're free from the consequences [the results] of that choice.)

BIBLE STORY, part 2

SAY: Adam and Eve walked with God and talked with God and had a perfect relationship with God, but listen to what happened.

Assign the following parts:

When they hear the word **serpent**, everyone makes a hissing sound.
When the girls hear the word **woman** or **Eve**, the girls say, "Go Eve!"
When the boys hear the word **woman** or **Eve**, the boys say, "No Eve!"

Read the following from Genesis 3:1-7

Now the **serpent** was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the **woman**. "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

The **woman** said to the **serpent**, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

"You will not surely die," the **serpent** said to the **woman**. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God"...When the **woman** saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye...she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened.

SAY: And so Adam and Eve disobeyed God.

Ask the students—**When their eyes were opened, what did they realize?** (They realized they didn't have any clothes on. They felt shame and guilt and tried to cover themselves with fig leaves.)

Ask the students—**What do you think happened next?** (They heard God walking in the garden.)

Ask the students—**What do you think they did? Run to Him and apologize or hide?** (They hid.)

Ask the students—**What do you think God called out?** ("Where are you?")

Ask the students—**Don't you think God knew where they were? Then why did He ask?** (He wanted them to step forward and confess their sins in the same way He wants us to confess our sins and ask for forgiveness when we do wrong things.)

SAY: We're going to finish the story in a minute, but first let's play a game.

Trading Places

Trading Places—Part 1

Have the children sit in a circle facing towards the middle. Then have them scoot their chairs back so that they are about a chair's width apart. Number the children one through four all the way around the circle. (Number from one to three for smaller classes or you can join up with another class.)

Pick a child to be "it" in the center of the circle and remove his chair and any other extra chairs from the circle. Tell the students that you are going to call a number and if you call their number, they have to switch places with someone else. If it's not their number, then they remain seated. While they are trying to trade places, "it" is going to try to get one of their chairs. Whoever doesn't get a chair is left in the middle of the circle. Then you will call another number and this child will try to get a chair and someone else will be in the middle. Play for several minutes, then add in the next variation.

Trading Places—Part 2

After playing for several minutes as described above, add a twist. When a student is left in the middle of the circle because he didn't get a chair in time, ask him to make up an excuse or blame someone else for your not finding a new spot.

The students can make very ridiculous excuses or give silly reasons. For example, "Bobby was making faces at me." Or, "Because I'm pigeon-toed." Or, "Because my shoes are hard to run in."

Discussion

Gather kids in your lesson circle.

Ask the students—**Can you think of a time when someone did something wrong and he made an excuse or blamed someone else?**

Take a few responses. Then give an example from your own life.

SAY: Today we're going to see how Adam and Eve made excuses and blamed others. Then we'll see a promise God made in which we can "trade places" and receive forgiveness for the bad things we do.

BIBLE STORY, part 3

Ask the students—**Who do you think Adam blamed for his sin?** (He said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.” Adam blamed Eve.)

Ask the students—**Who do you think Eve blamed for her sin?** (She said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate it.” Eve blamed serpent. That’s kind of like saying, “The devil made me do it,” which is impossible because only you can make the choice for you.)

SAY: The next time you do something wrong, don’t blame others or try to hide your mistake. Instead, confess your sins and ask God to forgive you.

Ask the students—**Does anyone know what happened because of their sin?** (All three were punished: (1) The ground was cursed because of Adam. It would no longer just produce good things. He would have to work hard to make things grow. (2) Eve was given great pain in child birth. (3) The serpent was cursed above all the wild animals and was made to crawl on its belly. And on top of all this, Adam and Eve were kicked out of the Garden of Eden. Because they had sinned, they were no longer allowed to walk and talk with God as they had, and the day would also come when they would physically die because of their sin.)

SAY: And God made a promise concerning serpent (which represents the devil) and this is the first prophecy about Jesus, that He would be the Savior of the world. God said, “He [a descendant of the woman] will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

Ask the students—**Does anybody know what God did next?** (It might surprise you, but He killed an animal. This is the first time anything ever died—You see, sin always brings pain and death. Then God took the animal’s fur and make a covering for Adam and Eve so that they wouldn’t be ashamed. Thousands of years later Jesus would be born in a stable. He would die to make a permanent way to “cover” our sins so that if we give our lives to Him, He will forgive our sins and make us new again. When you are “saved,” you are re-made in Christ’s image, just like Adam was originally created to be in God’s image.)

Ask the students—**Does anybody know what compassion is?** (It’s a deep love. That’s what God has for you—a love so strong and deep that it is impossible imagine. God showed compassion for Adam and Eve and He still shows that same compassion for us today.)