



THE FALL

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 3

FOCUS VERSES: Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:2; Exodus 15:11; James 4:17

Summary: God created a perfect world where people were in a perfect relationship with Him. A serpent tempted Eve. She and Adam ate fruit from the tree. They became separated from God. They were no longer perfect, and the world was broken by their sin. They hid from God in shame, but the Lord did not leave them without hope. He promised a Savior who would defeat the serpent and free all people from the power of sin.



MONTHLY *Memory Verse*

*By Him all things were created, in heaven
and on earth...all things were created
through Him and for Him.*

(COLOSSIANS 1:16)



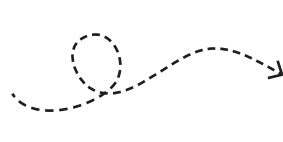
**God is holy, but
people sin.**

We will go deeper in God's truth by answering these questions:



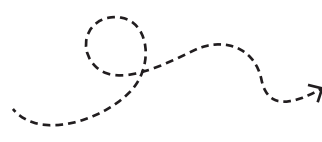
DOES GOD DO ANYTHING WRONG?

God is holy. He never sins. He created a perfect world that was broken by sin.



WHY DO PEOPLE DO WRONG THINGS?

Sin is anything we think, say or do that disobeys God. Everyone sins, choosing our way instead of God's way.



HOW IS GOD INVITING ME TO RESPOND?

Kids will be given the opportunity to reflect on the truth they learned about God and respond accordingly.

Leader TRAINING

LEADER TRAINING TOPIC: HELPING KIDS BELONG

Child disciplinators create environments where every kid feels loved and known and has a sense of belonging.

- **Kids need to feel safe.** For kids to feel like church is a place where they belong, they must feel physically, emotionally and spiritually safe. Set boundaries for behavior and make your group a friendly, welcoming space for everyone.
- **Kids need to feel noticed.** You will have kids who come in loud, seeking attention. You will have kids who barely say a word and try to blend in. Every kid needs you to look in their eyes and acknowledge how glad you are they are there. Stand by the door as kids enter and personally welcome each one.
- **Kids need to feel known.** Use Belong activities to connect with kids and get to know them on a personal level. Ask questions about their families and interests. Remember special interests they name (even if you have to write it down.)

NAVIGATING A BROKEN WORLD: DOES GOD PUNISH US?

In 2017, 50 percent of adult believers said they believe God has punished them in their lifetime.* Many kids grow up with an unhealthy fear of God that follows them into adulthood. They could grow up obeying out of fear instead of love, or they could grow up angry with God. In today's lesson, kids will learn that sin has serious consequences but that God sent a Savior to free us from the consequence of sin that we deserve: eternal separation from Him. His desire isn't to make us face punishment, but His desire is that we would all be free from sin. Help kids see how very much God loves them. The story of Adam and Eve is a sad one where the world was broken by sin, but God's grace, mercy and love for His people are clear.

ELEMENTARY GLOSSARY

Creator: the One who made everything

Holy: set apart; perfect

Sin: anything we think, say, or do that disobeys God

*For more resources on this topic, check out: britecurriculum.com/resources

Large Group ROADMAP

1**WELCOME**

(8 MINUTES)

SUPPLIES: Video player, Intro Video, teaching slides**2****FIND IT IN
THE BIBLE**

(2 MINUTES)

SUPPLIES: Bibles, teaching slides**3****BIBLE
TEACHING**

(10 MINUTES)

**THE FALL
(GENESIS 3)****SUPPLIES:** Bible, teaching slides, 5 candles, matches, table**4****REVIEW**

(8 MINUTES)

SUPPLIES: Video player, Bible Review Video, teaching slides**5****LARGE GROUP
WRAP-UP**

(5 MINUTES)

SUPPLIES: Video player, Memory Verse Video, teaching slides

Welcome



Say: In professional baseball, each hitter has a “batting average.” It shows how many times a player gets a hit compared to how many times they get out. The best batting average ever belonged to Hugh Duffy in 1894. He had 237 hits that season—pretty amazing!

Say: Form groups of two or three and guess—how many times do you think Hugh Duffy **didn’t** get a hit? Talk it over and come up with your best guess.

Allow time for discussion, then call on a few groups to share.

Say: Ready for the answer? The best hitter in baseball history failed 249 times! Even the best fall short more than they succeed.

Say: We all fail too, even the very first people. Today’s scripture shows how God responds when we fail.

SUPPLIES:

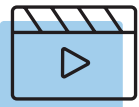
Video player, Intro Video, teaching slides

PREP:

None

LEADER TIP:

Find and show a picture of Hugh Duffy to help kids visualize this legendary baseball player.



INTRO VIDEO

Play Intro Video then transition into discussion.

Say: Exploding those chalk cubes looks so fun—and hard!

Discuss: Have you ever missed a target you were aiming for? What happened?

Say: We are learning today that we all purposefully miss the target of pleasing God with our words, thoughts, and actions at times. Today’s Brite Idea is: God is holy, but people sin.

Show teaching slide: Brite Idea

Show teaching slide: He/We/Me Questions

TODAY WE WILL ANSWER THESE TWO QUESTIONS:



Does God do anything wrong?



Why do people do wrong things?

AT THE END OF OUR TIME TODAY, THE QUESTION YOU WILL BE ABLE TO ANSWER IS:



How is God inviting me to respond?

FIND IT
IN THE



Bible

WHAT IS GOD'S BIGGER STORY?

Show teaching slide: God's Big Story

Say: The Bible is real and true. God gave us the Bible so we could know Him. The Bible is filled with many books and stories, but they are all a part of one BIG story — God's story.

Creation: God is the one true God and He has always existed. He is the Creator of all things, including you and me. He is good, He loves us, and we are made in His image.

Fall: Adam and Eve sinned and disobeyed God. Sin broke the world, and people were separated from God. People could not fix their sin problem on their own.

Redemption: God sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross, to take the punishment for our sins, and to rise from the dead to conquer death. When we trust in Jesus as our Savior, our relationship with God is made right again through His grace, and He gives us new life.

Restoration: When we walk with Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit and learn God's Word, He renews us. One day, Jesus will return to renew all things.

WHERE IS TODAY'S BIBLE STORY?

Show teaching image: God's Creation.

Say: Two weeks ago we learned about creation and that God created everything!

Show teaching illustration: Adam and Eve.

Say: Last week we studied Adam and Eve and discovered together that we are all wonderfully made.

Show teaching slide: Books of the Bible.

Say: This week's story comes from the book of Genesis. Genesis is the 1st book of the Bible and found in the Old Testament.

Show teaching slide: Find It in the Bible Timeline.

Say: This story falls in the "Beginning" period of the Bible. Today's true story tells us what happened in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve were tempted to sin.

Show teaching slide: Biblical Theme.

Say: This month we are focusing on the truth that God is the Creator.

Say: This week we'll learn that God loves us and wants to be close, but people often choose to go their own way instead of His way.

LET'S FIND IT IN OUR BIBLES!

Open your Bible and show the kids the title page for the book of Genesis. Help kids turn in their Bibles to today's Bible passage (Genesis 3).

Bible TEACHING

THE FALL GENESIS 3



PRAY: God, You are perfect and holy and we are not. May these verses make us thankful that although we have gone our own way, You made a way for us to enjoy closeness with You again. Amen.

SUPPLIES:

Bible, teaching slides, 5 candles, matches, table

PREP:

Place the 5 candles on a table at the front of your space. Have matches out of view but accessible.

LEADER TIP:

Do not allow kids access to matches or lighters. Have a fire extinguisher nearby.

Begin by lighting all the candles.

Say: These candles today represent the light found in God's presence. God created us all to be close to Him and enjoy His light and life forever. When we choose our way instead of God's way, we separate ourselves from closeness to God. Today's story is about the very first time that ever happened.

Say: God's first people, Adam and Eve, lived in the beautiful garden of Eden in a perfect relationship with God. God placed the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. God told Adam to eat from any tree except for that one. God told him, "If you eat of it, you will surely die."

Show teaching illustration: Tree of Knowledge

Say: There was a serpent who was sneakier and more deceitful than any other wild animal God had made. One day, the serpent said to Eve, "Did God actually say, 'You cannot eat from any tree in the garden'?" Eve replied, "We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden, but God told us not to even touch the tree of knowledge of good and evil."

Say: Wait a minute! God didn't say not to touch the tree. Eve added to His words! In this moment, do we think Eve is thinking about obeying God or is her mind on that fruit in that tree? It seems like she's thinking about the fruit.

Blow out the first candle.

Bible TEACHING CONTINUED

Read Genesis 3:4–5 directly from the Bible: *But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”*

Say: When the woman saw that the fruit looked very good and that it would make her wise, she took the fruit and ate it.

Say: In this moment, Eve definitely chose disobedience and darkness over the light found in God’s presence.

Blow out the second candle.

Say: She also gave some to Adam, and he ate it.

Show teaching illustration: Adam and Eve Eating the Fruit

Say: Now both have chosen sin instead of following God’s command.

Blow out the third candle.

Say: Then both of their eyes were opened. Immediately they were ashamed and hid.

Say: When God walked through the garden, He called to Adam, who was hiding. Adam confessed that he ate the fruit, but he blamed it on Eve. Eve blamed it on the serpent. And everything was different.

Say: The blame-game is just another way Adam and Eve chose darkness over the light found close to God.

Blow out the fourth candle.

Say: Sin had entered God’s perfect world. The world was broken, including Adam and Eve’s relationship with God.

Blow out the fifth candle.

 (CONTINUED)

Bible TEACHING CONTINUED

Say: They would have to leave the garden. They would one day die instead of living forever with God in His perfect creation. Everything would be harder. God told them that the ground would be difficult for Adam to work and Eve would have pain when having babies. But then He told the serpent that one day there would be a human Child. The serpent would strike the human's heel, but the human would crush the serpent's head. One day, God would send a Rescuer who would destroy sin and death forever.

Show teaching slide: Point to Jesus



POINT TO JESUS

Say: God is perfect and holy. When sin entered His perfectly created world, everything was broken, including His relationship with people. Sin is anything we think, do or say that disobeys God. And everyone sins! That means every person is separated from His holiness. That's why God had a plan from the beginning to send Jesus to take the punishment for our sin.

Relight the candles.

Say: Because Jesus died on the cross and rose again, we can be forgiven. One day He will restore all of broken creation and make it new.



BIBLE REVIEW VIDEO

Play Bible Review Video. Play the game below using teaching slides: Review Game

SUPPLIES:

Video player, Bible Review Video, teaching slides

PREP:

None

INSTRUCTIONS: Have kids partner up. They will answer the question by working together to make a “T” out of their bodies for True and an “F” out of their bodies for False.

1. God told Adam not to eat from many trees in the garden. (False)

There was only one tree—the tree of the knowledge of good and evil—that God said not to eat from.

2. The serpent came along to help Eve make the best choice. (False)

The sneaky and deceitful serpent tempted Eve to disobey and sin.

3. Adam and Eve both chose sin and disobedience over God’s best plan. (True)

4. Because of their sin, Adam and Eve had to leave the garden of Eden and live much harder lives. (True)

5. God never does anything wrong. (True)

God is holy. He never sins. He created a perfect world that was broken by sin.

6. People sin by choosing God’s way over their own way. (False)

Sin is anything we think, say or do that disobeys God. Everyone sins, choosing our way instead of God’s way.



Wrap – Up

Show teaching slide: Brite Idea



SUPPLIES:

Video player, Memory Verse Video, teaching slides

PREP:

None

Show teaching slide: He Question and Answer

HE

Does God do anything wrong?

God is holy. He never sins. He created a perfect world that was broken by sin.

Show teaching slide: We Question and Answer

WE

Why do people do wrong things?

Sin is anything we think, say or do that disobeys God. Everyone sins, choosing our way instead of God's way.



MONTHLY Memory Verse

Choose an older kid to look up the verse and read it aloud to the group. Have the whole group repeat it together.

Show teaching slide: Memory Verse

By Him all things were created...all things were created through Him and for Him.

(COLOSSIANS 1:16–17)



VERSE VIDEO

Play Memory Verse Video
after the verse is read.



PRAY: God, we admit that we aren't like You. You are holy and perfect, and we choose sin and disobedience. Thank You for sending Your Son Jesus to rescue us from our sin. Amen.