

# Adam and Eve Disobey God

**Aim:** To understand that God made rules to protect us and that sin entered the world when Adam and Eve broke the rules.

## Teacher's Preparation

Have lots of wooden blocks for the children to play with. Tell the children that they must obey one rule if they want to play with the blocks and that rule is "No throwing blocks." As the children build walk around and ask them to explain what it is their building, praise them for doing their best work. Be excited and involved with the various building projects.

After the children have played with the blocks for a few minutes, ask them the following questions:

1. Why do you think I had the rule "No throwing blocks"? *(This rule was made to protect them and the room.)*
2. What might have happened if someone broke the rule and threw the blocks? *(Someone may have gotten hurt if they got hit by a flying block. The room may have gotten damaged, a nick in the wall or a broken window.)*
3. What should happen to a person who threw blocks? *(They could be punished with a time out and not allowed to play with the blocks.)*



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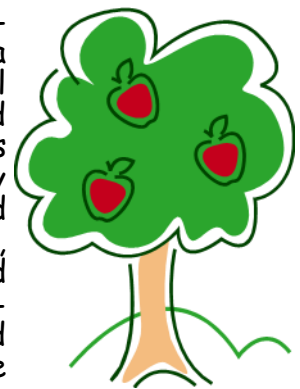
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## Genesis 3:1-7 (NRSV)

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'"<sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden;<sup>3</sup> but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'"<sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die;<sup>5</sup> for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God,<sup>6</sup> knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate.<sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

## Student Introduction

Just as we have rules at home and school, God gave us rules to abide by. This is a story about a child who learned how laws protect and help us when we obey them. Jerry had always wanted a dog of his own, so he was excited when he was given a beautiful puppy for his birthday. He named the dog Pal. Jerry and Pal had a lot of fun together. Jerry's city had a law that said all dogs must be on leashes when they were not in a fenced yard. One day Jerry decided to take Pal with him to a friend's house. He could not find Pal's leash, and his friend only lived a few houses away, so Jerry decided to take Pal without the leash. As they walked down the street, Pal saw a cat on the other side of the road. Before Jerry realized what was happening, Pal ran into the road and was hit by a car. With tears in his eyes, Jerry picked up the dog and carried him home. Jerry's mother took them to the veterinarian, who took care of Pal's broken leg. When they got home, Jerry's mother told him that Pal could have been killed. Jerry realized that if he had obeyed the law and kept his dog on a leash, Pal would not have been hurt. Jerry realized that the law was there to protect him and his dog, and he decided he would never disobey that law again.

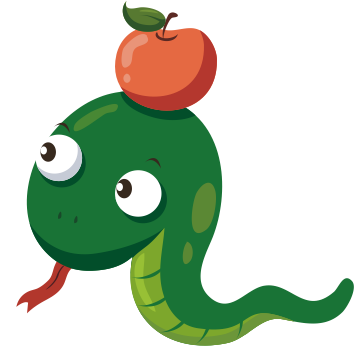


- Why do you think Jerry's city had a law about keeping dogs on leashes?
- How could Pal's accident have been prevented?
- Why do we have laws and rules that we must follow?

## Main Ideas

### **Adam and Eve willingly turned away from God by eating the fruit.**

Adam and Eve willingly turned away from God by eating the forbidden fruit. But before either of them ever touched the fruit, they had already sinned in their hearts. Eve had sinned by deciding to eat the fruit. Allowing herself to be influenced by the serpent (who was Satan), Eve began to doubt God and trust herself. Adam had sinned by deciding to let Eve eat the fruit even though God said it would bring death. Then, when Eve did not die right away, Adam ate also. So, in the very first sin, we see people trusting themselves rather than God.



### **God's word proved true, and death entered the garden.**

When Adam and Eve sinned, death entered the garden just as God had said it would. When the man and woman sinned, two things happened. First, they died spiritually, which means that something very important about their relationship with God died. This is why they had to leave the garden. Second, they were doomed to die physically even though they did not die right away. If they had never sinned, they would never have died and never had to leave the garden, just as Christians in heaven will never die and will never have to leave the presence of God.

### **God's mercy was displayed in the garden.**

Instead of killing Adam and Eve, God was merciful and gracious. He killed animals and then used their skins to cover Adam and Eve's shameful nakedness. This shedding of animal blood as a substitute punishment for sin was practiced throughout the Old Testament. Every time it happened, it was a picture of how one day Jesus would shed his blood to take our punishment for sin and permanently cover our shame.

## Activities

Review the words of Satan in *Genesis* 3:1, 4-5. List all the parts of Satan's words that were true and then list the parts that were lies.

Read *Genesis* 3:8-13. When God questioned Adam and Eve, what excuses did they make?

This activity is to show you how subtle and sneaky sin can be. The lies of Satan can often be mixed with the truth. Also, when we are caught in sin, we make excuses to protect ourselves.

What other ways can you think of where sin can be masked with truth?

Here are a couple of examples:

1. A cookie that is stolen from a cookie jar will taste good.  
*(The cookie will taste good, but taking it is still wrong.)*
2. Hitting your brother after he hits you first is okay because you didn't start the fight.  
*(Hitting a brother is not okay even if you didn't start the hitting. God's word tells us we should not repay evil for evil [1 Peter 3:9].)*

## Lesson Review

Answer the following statements as **True or False**:

1. In order to destroy Adam and Eve's relationship with God, Satan disguised himself as a serpent. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Satan tempted and deceived Adam first. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Eve ate the fruit and also gave some to Adam. \_\_\_\_\_
4. When Adam and Eve sinned, they were immediately separated from God. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Adam and Eve were no longer afraid of God after eating the forbidden fruit.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Values For Life

Satan is the same today as he was back then. He is God's enemy and our enemy. He does not want us to listen to God's Word and will use any means to hinder us from doing so.

God always does what He says. God doesn't threaten to punish sin and then not do it. He hates everything that is evil and punishes all disobedience to His commands.

## My Decision

- I will remember that I was born a sinner because of the original sin of Adam and Eve.
- I will remember that God's laws are meant to be obeyed and are for the good of His people.
- I will remember that when I do sin, I need to ask for forgiveness.
- I will remember that my sins were washed away because of the sacrifices of Jesus.

## Memory Verse

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

**Romans 3:23**

## Closing Prayer

Lord, we thank you for saving us from our sins. Help us to be aware of the sin that surrounds us in this world so that we may stand strong against it. Help us to be obedient to your laws and teachings. Continue to show us mercy Lord when we are disobedient, and please forgive us for our sins. Help us to grow stronger in our knowledge of you. In your Holy and precious name we pray. Amen.