

# GOD'S BIG PLAN

## Life Outside the Garden

Genesis 3:22-6:12

**Supporting Scriptures:** 1 Chronicles 1:1-3; Isaiah 64:6; Jeremiah 17:9-10; John 3:16; Romans 5:12; Hebrews 11:1-6



**Lesson Goals:** To see that sin separates us from God.  
To realize that we have all received that sin nature from Adam.  
To know that God loves us enough to send His Son.

### Scripture Memory

Be on your guard and stay awake. Your enemy, the devil, is like a roaring lion, sneaking around to find someone to attack. 1 Peter 5:8 (CEV)

**NOTE:** Familiarize yourself so much with this story that it can be told as a STORY, not as “He said. . . She said” or read. But, to reinforce that these ideas are not your own, hold your Bible as you tell the story.

### The Lesson:

Now, let's review. (Take time to review the previous stories. Encourage more and more students to share. It will help them remember and learn the stories.)

When Adam and Eve were created and placed in the garden, was there anything that they needed but didn't have? (No, God gave them everything they needed.) What kinds of things did God give them? (Fruit from any tree but one, walks with Him, each other, etc.) So were all of those wonderful things enough for them? (No, they wanted what the devil offered.) Did Adam and Eve know it was wrong to eat from the “tree of knowledge of good and evil” that the snake offered? (Yes.) How did they know? (God told Adam.)

Was God “okay” with what Adam and Eve had done? (No. God is perfect and holy. God is pleased with obedience, not disobedience.) Can God leave sin unpunished? (No. God hates sin.) How does God punish sin? (With death.) Did Adam and Eve die? (Not right away, but they began dying—growing older.) So, if sin is punished by death, how were Adam and Eve punished? (An innocent animal was killed to clothe them, they were given pain having a baby, and the ground was cursed.) Was there nothing for them to look forward to? Was everything all punishment and sadness? (No. God promised that one day, His innocent Son would die in my place and your place.) Would you like to know what happened next? Did Adam and Eve stay in the wonderful garden God had made for them? Or could something else have happened?

**READ: Genesis 3:23-24 (Hold the Bible in your hands throughout the story.)**

God did something very loving for Adam and Eve. He ran them out of the Garden of Eden and guarded the entrance with angels and a burning sword. Loving? How is that loving? Well, who remembers the name of the other special tree in the garden? It was the “tree of life.” Even though Adam and Eve had disobeyed God, He still loved them. They had eaten what was forbidden, and their bodies began to die. But if they had stayed in the garden and eaten from the “tree of life,” they would have lived forever in decay and growing old, with pain and trouble. But God's promise to send Someone who would crush the devil's head was also a promise to give us life forever, the way it could have been in the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God. They had once walked in the garden with Him. In the garden, there had been no pain, no fear, only good things. Now, there was pain and fear and lots of hard work. But even more than that, there was now a “wall of sin” between them and God.

Sometime after they were sent out of the garden, Adam and Eve had a son. They named him Cain. Then they had another son, Abel. They both grew. Cain became a farmer and Abel became a shepherd. Then it happened that they both brought gifts to God. Cain brought some of the fruit he had grown. Abel brought the first little animal born to his sheep. God was very pleased with Abel and his gift, but displeased with Cain's gift. Cain was very angry and sad and depressed, all at the same time. God spoke to Cain and told him that if he would do the right thing, he would feel better and be accepted by God. Then, God warned, "If you choose not to do the right thing, sin is waiting to pounce on you, like a wild animal, and destroy you. You have to rule over it. Don't let sin get control of you." But just like his mother and father before him, Cain chose to disobey God. Instead of getting control of his feelings of anger, Cain went out into a field with his brother and killed him. Cain's punishment was this: He would forever wander around, never able to get the ground to produce food for him. But worst of all, Cain would forever be separated from God.

Cain and Abel were gone. But God gave Adam and Eve another child. They named him Seth because God had "chosen," or given them, another child in Abel's place. Seth grew and had a son. It was during this time that people began to worship and praise God by name. Just like Seth's name describes him as given to Adam and Eve by God, God's names are the same. There is only one God but this one God is so amazing that there are many names to describe what He is like. "Creator" describes God as the One who made everything from nothing! This focusing on God and worshipping Him by name led to something amazing. Seth's great, great, great grandson, Enoch, really loved God. Enoch obeyed God and spent time with God. Then, one day, Enoch was gone. Enoch had walked so closely with God, that God just took him from the earth to be with him forever! Can you imagine, spending time with God, telling Him how wonderful He is and loving Him and then realizing you are not just worshipping a God you cannot see, you are with Him!

Unfortunately, not everything was this wonderful in the life outside of the garden. Seth's children had children, and Cain's children had children and there were lots of people on the earth. And just as God, the Creator, saw His wonderful creation and knew that it was good, He saw all of these people, too. But what He saw wasn't good. God saw the bad things that people were doing. And He knew the bad things they were thinking. Things were so bad that people were only and always thinking evil thoughts—evil, evil, evil. There wasn't a good thought in their minds. And God was sorry that He had ever created man to live on the earth. BUT, there was one man, in all the world, that pleased God. It was Adam and Eve's great, great, great, great, great, great, great grandson. His name was Noah. Noah walked with God and obeyed God. And God showed Noah that He was about to do something really big!

**Review:**

Now, let's review what you have learned. Who wants to retell the story? (Ask your group if anything was left out or told inaccurately.) Would anyone else like to retell the story?

What did Adam and Eve's sin do to their relationship with God? (It put up a wall of separation.) Adam and Eve's sin also brought sin to all humans. Because Adam and Eve chose to disobey God, you and I are born into sin; everyone is. And just like Adam and Eve with the fig leaves and Cain with his less than best gift to God, our best efforts to be good and do things don't even come close. So, what do we do? What is one of God's names? (Creator.) Another of the names used when people called on God's name was "Eternal God." Who knows what "eternal" means? ("Eternal" means to last forever.) How long has God been around? (Since the beginning. Forever.) And how much longer will He be around? (Forever.) Do you know that you, too, can be around forever? God tells us in His word that He loves us so much He sent His One and Only Son. And whoever believes in that Son can have eternal life. And that eternal life will be with the Eternal God who loves you so much! Will you trust Him and believe, even if you might not be able to understand it all? Talk with me, if so.

**Planning for Next Week**  
**Lesson 7 • Noah Pleases God**  
**Genesis 6:8-9:29**

# PRESCHOOL LESSON

**SING:** "He's Still Working on Me"

**SHARE:** Last week we talked about the big mistake that Adam and Eve made. Who remembers what they did? (Encourage them, guiding if necessary, to realize that Adam and Eve knew God's rule and chose to disobey it.) God punished Adam and Eve for their disobedience. And then, God ran them out of the Garden of Eden. He guarded the entrance with angels and a burning sword. Adam and Eve's disobedience (sin) separated them from God. They had walked in the garden with God; now they were sent out of the garden and wouldn't be able to visit with him the way they had before. In the garden there had been no pain, no fear, only good things. Now, there was pain and fear and lots of hard work.

After they had been sent out of the garden, Adam and Eve had a son. They named him Cain. Then they had another son. They named him Abel. Both the boys grew up. Cain became a farmer. He grew fruits and vegetables. Abel became a shepherd. He took care of sheep. One day, they both brought gifts to God. Cain brought some of the fruit he had grown. Abel brought the first little baby born to his sheep. God was very happy about Abel and his gift, it was a good gift. Abel had given the first baby sheep. God was unhappy with Cain's gift. Cain hadn't given the first fruits and vegetables, or even the best.

Cain was very angry that God didn't accept his gift when he knew it wasn't the best he could give. God spoke to Cain and told him that if he would do the right thing, he would feel better and be accepted by God. But God warned Cain that it was his choice. God wasn't going to make Cain do the right thing. But bad things would happen if Cain disobeyed.

Instead of obeying God and being accepted by Him, Cain chose to do the wrong thing. God had punished Adam and Eve for disobeying, and now He would punish Cain. God made Cain go away. He had to leave his family, and God, forever. And even though there were a few people who chose to obey God, the longer people lived, the worse they became. Until finally, when Adam and many of his children and grandchildren had already died, the people who were left were awful! They didn't pray to God; they didn't obey God. They thought about bad things, ALL the time. BUT, there was one man, in all the world, that pleased God. It was Adam and Eve's great, great, great, great, great, great, great grandson. His name was Noah. Noah walked with God and obeyed God. And God showed Noah that He was about to do something really big!

**PRAY:** Thank you, God, for listening to my prayers.

# LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Memory Verse Activity - Make a Memory Verse Rebus. A “rebus” is a kind of puzzle that uses pictures in place of words. For example: Beginning a rebus of 1 Peter 5:8, you would use the picture of a bumble bee in place of the word “be.” Be creative, practicing the verse until your students have it memorized.
- If you haven’t done so already, take the opportunity to talk with your students about the meaning of their names. If this isn’t possible, take the opportunity to talk about the name meanings of the characters from the Bible that we have already talked about.
  - Adam**—”man,” “earth”
  - Eve**—”life giving”
  - God**—”Creator,” “Eternal God”
  - Noah**—”comfort”
- Review Roman Road.
- Discuss Cain and Abel’s gifts to God. Read Genesis 4:3-4. Abel brought the “first,” which in Scripture signifies the best. Does the Bible say that Cain brought “his best?” Talk about the importance of not giving God our leftovers, but giving Him the first and the best.
- Make a Family Tree. Read Genesis 5 and label the “Tree” from Adam to Noah.
- Play “Who Am I?” In a paper bag, place the names of people we have studied until now. To play, a student draws a name and gives a description of the person until their “name” has been guessed.