

Parents, use *The Action Bible* as you lead your kids, and also use your own Bible to read through some of the verses that will help them understand. This week, please prepare for discussion by listening to the sermon together and reading **Genesis 3:14-19**. Have your kids turn to **pages 22-23 in The Action Bible** to review.

Review from last week:

Let's see what you can remember about what happened to Adam and Eve. God had made a beautiful garden for Adam and Eve. He gave them everything that they, and the animals He created, needed to live. But Adam and Eve disobeyed God. **Who tricked Eve into eating the fruit God had told them not to eat?** (*The serpent*) **What did they say when God asked why they were hiding?** (*They were ashamed because they were naked*) God knew they had disobeyed them. **When He asked Adam why he had disobeyed, what did Adam say?** (*He blamed Eve*) **Who did Eve blame?** (*The serpent*) Read **Genesis 3:13**. **How did Eve say the serpent convinced her to eat the fruit?** (*He deceived her, tricked her*)

1. Because Adam and Eve sinned, there would be consequences. **What is the consequence?** (Something that happens as a result of what you have done) God punished the serpent for tempting Eve. Read **Genesis 3:15,16** and discuss.
 - The serpent was cursed above all the animals of the earth
 - He was made to slither on his belly and eat dust all the days of his life
 - He would be the enemy of the woman, and all their children would forever be enemies and bruise each other-people will bruise the head of serpents and serpents will bruise (bite) the heels of people.
2. Then, God punished Eve for disobeying Him. Read **Genesis 3:16**. Because of her sin, what would happen to her?
 - Eve and all women will have pain in childbirth (Pain and sorrow enter the world)
 - There will be difficulty in relationship between men and women- she will desire to please her husband but he will want to rule over her (Disharmony between men and women)
3. How did God punish Adam? Read **Genesis 3:17-19**
 - The ground will be cursed because of Adam's sin (disharmony with creation)
 - The plants will bring forth thorns and thistles
 - Man will have to work long hours in order to eat the plants of the field, and the work will be hard. Before, all they needed was provided by God for them.

- They will die and be returned to the ground (Adam was made from dust and will return to dust) instead of living forever. God never intended for Adam and Eve, nor you and me, to die.
4. Adam and Eve committed the first sin. **How did it change things?** (*Before sin entered the world, the world God created was in harmony- everything was beautiful and perfect. After sin entered the world, everything changed and the world was in disharmony- our relationship with God, with each other, with creation, and within ourselves.*)
 5. **Have you ever been punished for disobeying your parents or for doing something you knew was wrong?** (*Discuss together- we have all sinned, all except Jesus who lived the perfect life while here on earth. Parents, it's important to admit that you have sinned too.*) When we sin, there are consequences. But God provided a way for us to be forgiven and be part of His forever family! He sent Jesus into the world to save us from our sins and to teach us about God's love for us.
 6. Read **Romans 8:28**. "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose."

When we sin, does God turn His back on us? (*No, God never gives up on those He loves.*) Even when we try not to, we sometimes sin and do wrong things, but we can trust God to forgive us even though there may be consequences to what we have done. So, we need to remember to: **"Do our best, and let God do the rest!"**

Digging Deeper (For older kids or those who want to know more)

1. In **Genesis 3:17-18** we find a reference to what Jesus will one day do for us:

God says the ground is cursed because of what Adam has done, and that it will bring forth thistles and thorns. When Jesus was crucified, the guards made a crown of thistles and thorns for His head. The ground produced thistles and thorns because of Adam's sin, and Jesus died for us wearing a painful crown of thistles and thorns so that we could be forgiven of our sins! God began to reverse the curse of sin through Jesus.
2. In Jesus, the curse that resulted from Adam's and Eve's sin will one day be completely reversed. Read **Romans 8:16-22**. Though our bodies groan with pain, as does creation, and even the Holy Spirit who lives in us, one day, it will all end. Jesus will redeem everything! **God's got this!**

Pray:

Dear God, We know that You love us, even when we have sinned. Thank You for providing a way for us to be forgiven through Jesus. Help us to do our best to follow You and obey You. We trust You to do the rest! In Jesus' name, Amen.

Family Challenge:

Choose one or more challenge activities to do together this week.

1. **Consequences Game:** Ask family members to take turns listing consequences that can happen when they sin. Use these scenarios:
 - You break one of your family member's favorite things. Instead of telling them, you hide the thing you have broken, hoping they don't find it. What are the consequences?
 - You lie to a friend and they find out the truth. What are the consequences?
 - You hurt someone's feelings by making fun of them. What are the consequences?
 - You don't do your homework all week. What are the consequences?
 - You hang out with kids who are always doing wrong things and who try to tempt you to join in. What are the consequences?
 - There is a new kid at school who doesn't know anyone, and you ask them to sit with you at lunch. What are the consequences?
 - You ask your mom how you can help her around the house or with a meal. What are the consequences?
 - You say something kind to a neighbor who is lonely. What are the consequences?
 - You play with your brother or sister even though you have other things you want to do. What are the consequences?
 - You pray and ask God for His help when you are sad or worried about something. What are the consequences?

Say: There are always consequences (good or bad) to the decisions we make or the things we do. It's important to "do our best and trust God to do the rest." He can make good of all circumstances for those who love Him. And, we can be thankful that because He loves us so much, He sent Jesus to die on the cross so we could be forgiven of our sins.

2. Spring is nearly here~ **take a walk with your family** and look for signs of spring! Talk about how God can make all things new, even after a season when we have suffered or been disappointed.
3. Together, **make up motions for this month's memory verse:** "Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord had made." **Genesis 3:1**

Ask: Who is this verse talking about? (Satan) Can Satan still tempt us to sin as he did with Adam and Eve? He is "crafty." What does that mean? (He knows how to deceive us and to trick us into doing wrong things.)