


the  
Jesus   
Storybook  
Bible  
Curriculum

## The terrible lie

Adam and Eve lose everything, from Genesis 3

☉ Please see the curriculum Introduction .pdf for more guidance on praying with your group and on Scripture memory.

☉ The total allotted time per lesson is 45 minutes. This is the minimum amount of time it would take to complete the whole lesson. The time can easily be extended to increase the lesson to as much as 1.5 hours. If you have more than the allocated 45 minutes, please use the extra time to extend the time for activities, to learn the memory verse, and to pray.

☉ The “Notes for Teachers on the Text” section is intended as explanation of the Bible text and advance preparation for you only; it is not expressed in terms or language the children could understand.

*The Jesus Storybook Bible Curriculum*  
By Sally Lloyd-Jones and Sam Shammas

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## Recap of the Previous Story

3 min. 

☉ Welcome the children and ask them to sit in a circle.

☉ Briefly recap the main point of the previous story: “Last time we heard about all the things that God created. God created everyone and everything. And in the beginning everything God created was good. Do you remember the verse we memorized?”

☉ Ask the children to recite together the verse they learned at home about the story. “Genesis 1:1 — ‘In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.’”

☉ To lead into the theme of today’s story, ask: “Can you remember the last thing God created? Yes, it was people. It was Adam and Eve. God loved Adam and Eve and ‘nothing ever made them sad or lonely or sick or afraid.’”

## Activity Introducing the Story

10 min. 

**Aim:** To expend energy and learn about some of the effects of sin.

**Materials:** None.

1. Ask: “Do you ever feel sad or lonely or sick or afraid? Stand up and raise your hand if you have ever felt sad or lonely or sick or afraid?”

2. You should raise your own hand along with the children.

3. Say: “Stay standing if you like feeling sad or lonely or sick or afraid. If you don’t like feeling those things — sit down.”

4. Say: “Everyone, show me using just your face and your hands — not your voice — what it would look like if you were sad.”

5. Pick a child who does this really well and ask them to do it again in the center of the circle for everyone to see. Pick a specific movement that they did to show they are sad and make everyone else repeat it (e.g., wiping tears from their eyes). Ask everyone to remember that movement.

6. Repeat with the words “lonely,” “sick,” and “afraid.”

7. Explain the game: You will go to the center of the circle and close your eyes. While your eyes are closed, each child should choose one of the four movements that represent sad, lonely, sick, or afraid and repeat that movement. You will call out one of the words — “sad,” “lonely,” “sick,” “afraid” — and then open your eyes. The children who are doing the movement that represents the word you called out sit down. You will keep on doing this until no one is left standing.

8. Go to the center of the circle and ask everyone to stand up. Play the game. Move fairly quickly from word to word so that this activity does not take too long.

9. At the end of the activity, say: “When God first made the world, no one was sad or lonely or sick or afraid. But all that changed. Let’s read today’s story to find out why.”

Join the children in the circle and announce the title of the story. Read aloud pages 28–36 from *The Jesus Storybook Bible* or listen to CDI track 3.

### Notes for Teachers on the Text

Genesis 3 shows us that sin is a deeper concept than just “breaking the rules.” It shows us that the essence of sin is not breaking a rule, but rather it is trying to be our own god—our own savior, our own lord. This desire to be God’s rival and to be “like God” has now passed into every human heart and informs absolutely everything we do, whether consciously or unconsciously.

The devastating effects of sin immediately spring to sight in the narrative, and they are comprehensive. First, our relationship with ourselves is affected by sin—verse 7 says, “They realized they were naked.” Though the word “shame” is not used here, it is strongly implied, because this verse is the opposite of Genesis 2:25, where we read that “Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.” Now they feel shame. This is the ruin of our psychological relationship with ourselves.

Second, our relationship with each other is affected by sin—verse 7 continues, “They sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.” Adam and Eve are now ill at ease with each other, and uncomfortable with absolute transparency. They now need to control what others see of them. This is the ruin of personal relationships with others.

Third, our relationship with God is affected by sin—verse 8 says, “They hid from the LORD God.” Adam and Eve were alienated from God. Moreover, Adam’s answer in verse 12 shows that even in the very presence of God, humanity has now become resentful of and hostile to God. Adam says: “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.” This is a clear accusation that God is to blame for what Adam has

done. This is the ruin of our personal and eternal relationship with God.

Fourth, there is economic-cultural breakdown. In verses 17–19, God indicates that because of sin, our ability to work and build a culture is seriously affected and damaged. Work was a good thing, yet here we see that work becomes “painful toil.”

Fifth, there is physical breakdown. “Pain” and “sweat” lead to physical death itself, verse 19 says, “until you return to the ground.” Disease, old age, and death itself are the results of sin. Before the fall, God ruled over man who ruled over nature. This is no longer the case, as the dust of the ground “wins” over us in the end.

It is critical to see the far-reaching results of sin. Sin leads to death/disintegration in every area of life: spiritual, physical, social, cultural, psychological, eternal. We all recognize murder, adultery, theft, and so on as sins and results of the fall. But do we also realize that poverty, bad government, and poor race relations are a part of the groaning of creation under sin? The biblical view of the world is that it is fallen and subject to death in every aspect. Nothing works as it should; everything falls apart.

Despite the bleakness of the circumstances, God injects a strong note of hope in verse 15. God predicts that a descendant of Eve will someday come and battle the serpent who, of course, is Satan. What will the outcome be? Eve’s son will be wounded (“you will strike his heel”) but Satan will be defeated (“he will crush your head”). Here is the first prediction of the coming of Jesus. God’s words indicate that Jesus’ coming will undo the work of the serpent—of sin and all the wrecked relationships it causes.

# Understanding the Story

15 min. 

**Aim:** To understand that our sin spoiled God's perfect creation.

**Materials:** 3 sets of index cards – each card has the question number and one question written/printed on it (see below, you will need 23 index cards in total); a microphone (this can be made out of paper, though if you can get a real microphone children enjoy using it and it can be used for multiple activities); 3 name tags with Adam, Eve, and Snake written on them; a chair; crayons; copies of the handout (the last page of this document).

1. At the end of the story, say: "That is how it all changed. The world was perfect and then the world stopped being perfect. We are going to find out how that happened by interviewing some of the people in this story. We are going to interview Adam, Eve, and the snake. First, I have some questions here for Adam. Who would like to ask Adam a question?"
2. Hand the children the index cards with the questions for Adam. Explain that the person with the index card should stand, hold the microphone, and ask Adam the question on the card. (NOTE: If the children struggle to read the questions, one of the other teachers can ask the questions talk-show host style while holding the microphone but still involving the children as much as possible. Alternatively, you could print the questions on large cards and one of the other teachers can hold them up one by one so everyone can see them and everyone can ask the questions by reading them aloud together.)
3. Put on the name tag that says Adam (or ask another teacher to do so). Put the chair in the circle so everyone can see you, and sit down holding the microphone. Announce that you are Adam; e.g., "Hello, my name is Adam. I'm not having a very good day. But I hear you have some questions for me. Who has the first question?"
4. Hand the child with index card number 1 the microphone and get them to ask the first question. Take the microphone back to answer the question and then hand it to the child with index card number 2, and so on.
5. Questions for the index cards and answers for Adam:

NO.	QUESTION FOR INDEX CARD	ADAM'S ANSWER
1	What was it like in the garden God created?	Perfect. I was so happy.
2	How did you feel about God?	I loved God. Everything was perfect.
3	How did you feel about Eve?	I loved Eve. Everything was perfect.
4	God gave you one rule to obey. What was the rule?	Not to eat the fruit from this one tree.
5	Why did you eat the fruit?	I heard what the snake said and I believed the lie. I thought that God did not really love me and that I didn't need God. So I followed Eve and ate the fruit.

NO.	QUESTION FOR INDEX CARD	ADAM'S ANSWER
6	What happened after you ate the fruit?	Everything went wrong. Everything was broken. I had to leave the garden because I had broken my relationship with God.
7	Why isn't the world perfect anymore?	Because of what we did, sin entered the world. Sin now means everyone is running away from God. Sin now means everyone thinks they can be happy without God. All of creation is broken. It's all Eve's fault really. Actually, now that I think about it, everything is Eve's fault! But you don't need me to tell you; here's my wife.

6. Adam should collect and put away the index cards with his questions. Another teacher should take Adam's place and introduce themselves as Eve; e.g., "Hello, my name is Eve. I'm not having a very good day either. But I know you've got questions for me. Who has the first question?"

7. Hand the children the index cards with the questions for Eve. Get them to interview Eve.

8. Questions for the index cards and answers for Eve:

NO.	QUESTION FOR INDEX CARD	EVE'S ANSWER
1	What was it like in the garden God created?	Perfect. I was so happy.
2	How did you feel about God?	I loved God. Everything was perfect.
3	How did you feel about Adam?	I loved Adam. Everything was perfect.
4	God gave you one rule to obey. What was the rule?	Not to eat the fruit from this one tree.
5	Why did you eat the fruit?	The snake told me a lie and I believed the lie. I thought that God did not really love me and that I didn't need God. So I ate the fruit.
6	What happened after you ate the fruit?	Everything went wrong. Everything was broken. I had to leave the garden because I had broken my relationship with God.
7	Why isn't the world perfect anymore?	Because of what we did, sin entered the world. Sin now means everyone is running away from God. Sin now means everyone thinks they can be happy without God. All of creation is broken.
8	Do you know Adam gave the exact same answers?	Adam copied me! He always copies me! You see how the world is not perfect anymore. And Adam thinks he's the boss! Where is Adam anyway?

9. As Eve leaves she should collect and put away the index cards with her questions. Another teacher should take her place and introduce themselves as the snake; e.g., “Hello. My name is ... Well I have many names, some of them not very nice, but you can call me Snake. I will answer your questions if you like, but then I tend to lie. A lot. That’s my other name, Liar. I like that name. I’m having a very good day indeed, so please ask your questions.”

10. Hand the children the index cards with the questions for the snake and get them to interview the snake.

11. Questions for the index cards and answers for the snake:

NO.	QUESTION FOR INDEX CARD	THE SNAKE’S ANSWER
1	What was it like in the garden God created?	Perfect. I was so unhappy.
2	How did you feel about God?	I am God’s enemy.
3	How did you feel about Adam and Eve?	They were part of God’s perfect plan so I had to stop them.
4	What did you do?	I lied to Eve. I told her that God did not love her and that she didn’t need God.
5	What happened when Eve believed your lie?	She and that silly husband of hers ate the fruit that God told them not to eat.
6	What happened after they ate the fruit?	It was wonderful. Everything went wrong. Everything was broken. They had to leave the garden. They broke their relationship with God. I win!
7	Why isn’t the world perfect anymore?	Because sin entered the world. Sin now means everyone is running away from God. Sin now means everyone thinks they can be happy without God. And that is exactly what I want them to believe.
8	Do you know that God promises the world will be perfect again one day?	That is a lie. Who are you going to believe, me or God? [The snake should leave making slithering sounds.]

12. At the end of the activity, collect the index cards and say: “As you heard from Adam, Eve, and the snake, God’s perfect world has been spoiled by sin. Now all creation is broken; everyone is sinning, which means they are running away from God and trying to be happy and live without God; nothing is perfect anymore.”

13. Give each child a copy of the handout and a crayon. Say: “On your paper there are two questions and some numbers. Look at the first question. On a scale of 1 – 10, 10 being the highest, how much do you think God loved his people at the beginning, when the world was perfect? Circle the number. Whoever circled the number 10, raise your hand. Thank you, hands down. God completely loved his people at the beginning.”

14. Say: “Look at the next question. On a scale of 1 – 10, 10 being the highest, how much do you think God loves his people now, when the world is *not* perfect? Circle the number. Whoever circled the number 10, raise your hand. Thank you, hands down. God still completely loves his people even though the world is not perfect.”

## Drawing the Story to a Close

1 min. 

Say: “Even though we do not love God or his creation the way we should, even though we sin and make ourselves and others sad and lonely and sick and afraid, and even though we have broken our relationship with God, God still loves us with a ‘Never Stopping, Never Giving Up, Unbreaking, Always and Forever Love.’”

Say: “So God makes a promise to Adam and Eve. God promises he will battle the snake, and get rid of sin, and his people will never be sad or lonely or sick or afraid ever again. God will mend our relationship with him, so that we can be with him forever. How does God do that? How does God solve the problem of sin? Correct, by sending Jesus.”

## Jesus in the Story

2 min. 

Ask: “What did we discover about Jesus from today’s story?”

Get a few children to share their answers aloud, commenting appropriately; then ask everyone to write an answer in the space on their handout.

## Praying about the Story

5 min. 

Pray aloud, thanking God for sending Jesus to solve the problem of sin and for one day making the world perfect again.

Ask the children to think of something they have done that is not what God wanted and to pray for forgiveness. At the end, say: “Thank you, God, that even when we sin and make mistakes, you love and forgive everyone who trusts in you—because of Jesus. Amen.”

## A Verse from the Story to Learn at Home

2 min. 

⊙ Introduce the verse: “We are going to memorize a verse from Genesis that tells us about sin.”

⊙ Announce the verse: “So, the verse to learn at home is Genesis 6:5 — ‘The LORD saw that the human heart was only evil.’”

⊙ Read the verse out loud together as a group.

⊙ Remind the children to give the handout to their parents and to memorize the verse for next time.



# The terrible lie (Adam and Eve lose everything, from Genesis 3)



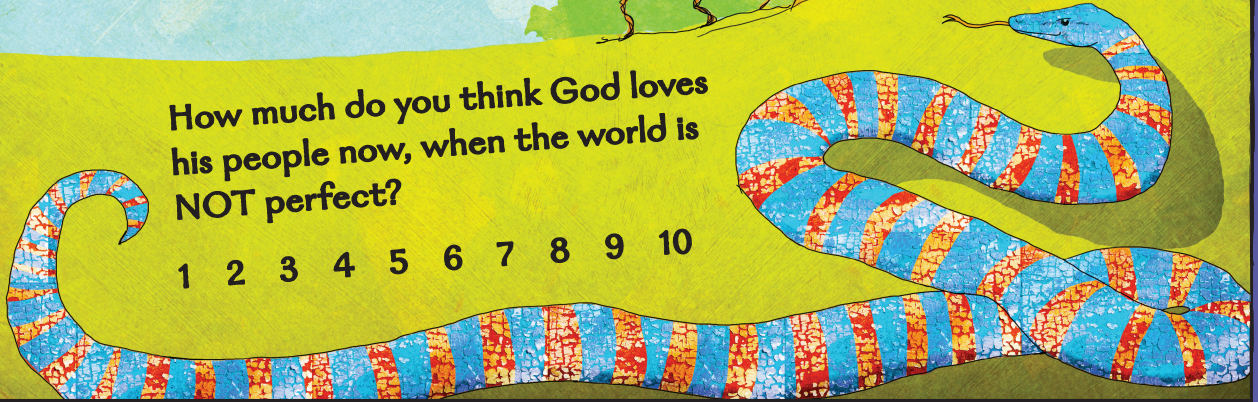
How much do you think God loved his people at the beginning, when the world was perfect?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



How much do you think God loves his people now, when the world is NOT perfect?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



## Jesus in the Story

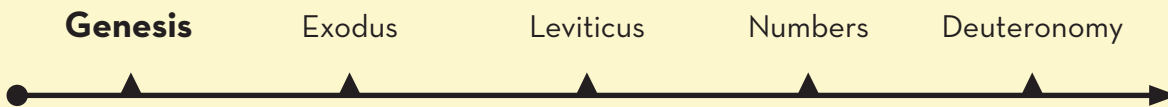


What did you discover about Jesus from this story?

Jesus

## A Verse from the Story to Learn at Home

The LORD saw that the human heart was only evil.  
(Genesis 6:5)



Notes for parents: From the story we learned that even though we don't always love God, he always loves us. God has a plan to solve the problem of sin, and the plan is Jesus. Please help your child to memorize the verse and the Scripture reference for next time. Please review with them the place of the book of Genesis, using the diagram above. [www.jesusstorybookbible.com](http://www.jesusstorybookbible.com)

