

Lesson 21

Effects of the Fall

God judges sin.



K-1st Lesson

Introduction

- Refer to the Lesson 19 Flip Chart. We learned how God created the whole world and everything in it. Then God made the first people. What were their names? *Adam and Eve.*

Show one Lesson Illustration. Set the other one aside for later. Here is a picture of Adam and Eve in God's perfect creation before sin corrupted it. It's a nice picture. Adam and Eve love each other. They're happy, the animals get along, and all the plants are strong and healthy.

- Refer to the Genesis Timeline Poster. Then Adam and Eve sinned. They disobeyed God. How did they disobey God? What did they do? *They ate the fruit they were commanded not to eat.*

Yes. God must have been very sad when Adam and Eve ate fruit from the ONE tree God told them not to eat from. And when they disobeyed God, sin entered the world and corrupted God's perfect creation.

- And who became sinners after that? Just Adam and Eve? Or all of us? *We are all sinners.*

Yes. Since Adam and Eve were the very first people and they sinned, every person after them is a sinner, too—including me and you.

- Who else was there in the garden when Adam and Eve sinned? Who lied to Eve? *The serpent.*

That's right. The serpent lied to Eve, and she listened to him instead of listening to God. And because sin corrupted the world, God's beautiful creation would not be perfect anymore. Life would completely change for Adam and Eve.

God Punishes Sin

- How many of you have ever been punished for something bad that you did? Raise your hand. *Show of hands.*

- What were you punished for? *Allow answers.*

We know our parents don't want us to sin. And God doesn't want us to sin either, does he? The Bible tells us that God is holy, so he must punish all sin. That means God had to punish Adam and Eve.

- We're going to read about what happened after they sinned and how God punished Adam and Eve and the serpent. Who has the Bible? Bring that up now, please. Make this a special time as the student brings the Bible and opens it to where the sticky note is. Show the students where the book is. Let them look at it. Carry it around your circle.

Genesis 3:14

First, God punished the serpent for his part in the sin. Listen as I read Genesis 3:14. Read the verse emphasizing "on your belly" and "dust you shall eat."

- Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. What did God say to the serpent? How would the serpent move around from now on? *On his belly.*

- And what would he eat? *Dust.*

That's right. And that is what we see snakes doing today, isn't it? They slither on their bellies right in the dirt and dust! That was the serpent's punishment.

Show the same Lesson Illustration again. Remember our nice creation picture? Suddenly creation wasn't the same anymore. Tear the picture in half.

Refer to the Flip Chart. God then moved on to Eve. He had to punish her for her sin, too. God said that she would feel pain when she had babies.

And there was something else. The perfect love between Adam and Eve would not be the same anymore. Now they would both want to lead the family—and that was supposed to be Adam's job!

- What happens when two people both want to be the boss or the leader? *They argue or fight.*

They have a hard time getting along, don't they? It's more difficult to love each other when we all want to be the leader. Now, because of sin, it would be harder for Adam and Eve—and all people—to love each other the way God wants them to.

Tear one piece of the Lesson Illustration in half. No, God's creation wasn't the same anymore.

Genesis 3:17–18

Let's look and see what God said to Adam. What would his punishment be? Read Genesis 3:17–18 emphasizing "cursed is the ground" and "thorns and thistles."

- What did God curse? *The ground.*
- And what started to grow? *Thorns and thistles.*

Refer to the Flip Chart. That's right. God cursed the ground and made thorns and thistles grow. The Bible says that Adam was working already, but now his work would be a lot harder! God said it would be painful work. Adam would have to work very hard to grow food for his family. Even today, we still have to work hard to provide for our families.

- Did God create it this way? *No.*

No. God didn't create it like this. This was part of the punishment for sin. Tear the other piece of the Lesson Illustration in half.

Refer to the Flip Chart. Remember how God made Adam out of the dust of the ground? Well, God gave one more punishment. He told Adam that he would one day return to the ground. God meant that Adam, and all people, would die.

And then the Bible says that God sent Adam and Eve out of the garden. Because of sin, Adam

and Eve could not stay there anymore. Now they would be separated from God. That's what sin does; it keeps us apart from God. The perfect life they had in the garden was gone. Because of their sin and our sin, we all have to live with the same problems. We are going to have pain, hard work, sickness, and death—all because of sin.

God Shows His Love

Lay out the pieces of the Lesson Illustration in order. That's really bad news, isn't it? But there is some REALLY good news, too! Even though we are all sinners and live in this world that is corrupted because of our sin, God showed that he does love us and wants us to be with him.

- Tape the Lesson Illustration back together as you continue. Do any of you know how God showed that he still loves us a lot? Who did God send to die on the cross for sinners? *Jesus!*

- Who is Jesus? *God's Son.*

Yes! God sent Jesus, his only Son, to die on the cross for us. Jesus took all the punishment for sin on himself so that whoever believes in him will have everlasting life.

We know that life on earth will end. We know that because of sin, everything must die. But God promises life for his children—with him forever!

- Who are God's children? *Allow discussion.*

God's children are all those who turn away from sin and turn to Jesus, believing in him and putting their trust in him. This is a wonderful gift from God!

Show repaired Lesson Illustration. Look at this picture now. It looks better doesn't it? When you become a child of God, God will make your heart new. But that doesn't mean everything will suddenly be great and you'll never have any troubles again. We live in a world that's been torn apart by sin, and it shows just like the tears in this picture. The great news is that God promises to be with his children always—even when things get tough.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game.

God punished **SIN**.



God showed his **LOVE**.



God will make a **NEW** heaven and earth.

