

The Fall and a Promise

Read Genesis Chapter 3. Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden. There were many fruit trees in the garden. When they were hungry, Adam and Eve would pick the fruit and eat. However, there was one tree in the midst of the garden called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God said if they ate this fruit, they would surely die.

Adam and Eve were happy living in the Garden of Eden. In the cool of the evening, God would talk with them. But the devil was not happy. The devil is a fallen angel who no longer follows and serves God. He did not like it that Adam and Eve were friends with God.

The devil formed a plan to ruin the love between God and Adam and Eve. The devil took the form of a serpent and asked Eve, “Did God [really] say, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?’”

Eve immediately answered the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”

The Bible in John 8:44 refers to the devil saying, “for he is a liar and the father of lies.” The serpent answered, “You shall not surely die: For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”

What the devil did in the garden of Eden, he still does to us today. He sows seeds of doubt and mistrust. He tries to get us to question if God’s way is the right way.

Go ahead. No one is looking. (He doesn’t remind you that God is always there.)
What they don’t know can’t hurt them. (Of course, he doesn’t say how much pain it might cause those you love in the future.)
It’s your body. You should be able to do what you want with it. (He just happens to omit the fact that your body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit.)

The Bible warns us that the devil is very real. We are to consider him an enemy. We are to be always alert so that we can avoid the traps he will set for us – just like he set a trap for Eve. “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.” 1 Peter 5:8.

And Eve allowed the lies of the devil to block out the words of the Lord. She pulled off some fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and she shared it with Adam.

In the cool of the evening, Adam and Eve heard God walking in the garden. They knew they had done wrong, and they tried to hide. We cannot hide from God. The Bible says

Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?
If I ascend up into heaven, you are there: if I make my bed in hell, behold you are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; and the light about me be night. Even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day;

for darkness is as light with you. Psalm 139:7-12.

And God asked Adam, “Have you eaten of the tree that I commanded you that you should not eat?”

We can almost see Adam’s eyes get big, and his hand touching his chest as he mouths the word, “Me?” His mind starts to race as he thinks, ‘What do I do? What do I say? How can I get out of this?’ Adam looks around, vainly seeking an excuse. His eyes fall on Eve, and he accuses, “The WOMAN.” Adam points at Eve. “The woman that YOU gave to be with me, SHE gave me the fruit, and I did eat.”

And God looked at Eve and said, “What is this that you have done?” Now it is Eve’s mind that is racing as she looks around for an excuse. “The SERPENT,” she says. “The serpent BEGUILED me, and I did eat.” (Eve is saying that the serpent tricked her with deceit and lies.)

Does this sound familiar? Have you seen other people trying to pass the blame on to someone else? Have you ever done it yourself? Adam and Eve are not so different than you and I. Sometimes it can be hard to accept the blame for something we have done.

Disobeying God changed things for Adam and Eve. They no longer walked in the Garden of Eden with God in the cool of the evening. But Satan did not get his way. God did not stop loving Adam and Eve because they had sinned. God had a plan. He would send a Savior who would pay the penalty for all sin.

One of the lies that Satan uses to try to move us away from God is to tell us that God cannot love someone like us – someone sinful, someone who does things we know that God does not like. “You’ll never be good enough,” the devil whispers to us. “God can’t love a sinner like you,” the devil insists.

One way we can fight the devil and his lies is with Bible verses. Ephesians 6:17 calls Scripture the Sword of the Spirit. Scripture tells us that God will never stop loving us. In Jeremiah 31:3 God confirms, “I have loved you with an everlasting love.” 1 John 4:10 reminds us, “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

Prayer: God, Adam and Eve messed up. They did something you told them not to do. But you didn’t stop loving them. You gave them the promise of a Savior who would wash away the sins of the world. God, I mess up too. I do things that I know I should not do. Thank you for sending Jesus. When Jesus died on the cross, he took away not only Adam and Eve’s sins, but my sins too. Help me to be strong and not listen to the devil when he whispers you could never love a sinner like me. Give me the faith to believe what you wrote in the Bible, “Though your sins be like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.” Thank you, God, for loving me. Amen.

The Fall and a Promise

Adam and Eve lived in a beautiful garden called the Garden of Eden. Everything was lush and green. There was the smell of damp earth. The beauty of flowers. The musical sound of water flowing over rocks in the river. This was a very special garden, because this is a garden God had made to be the home for Adam and Eve.

In the cool of the evening, God would visit Adam and Eve. They would talk and walk together in the Garden. God was their friend, and Adam and Eve loved God very much. God loved Adam and Eve. Everything in the garden was perfect until one day something happened.

In the garden were many trees that had fruit for Adam and Eve to eat. But there was one tree, called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, that was a special tree. God told Adam and Eve they were not to eat the fruit of that tree, or even touch the fruit.

The devil (who was once an angel, but stopped following and serving God) saw how happy Adam and Eve were in the garden. The devil made a plan to ruin the friendship Adam and Eve had with God. He wanted to stop God from loving Adam and Eve.

One day the devil took on the form of a snake. He told Eve God was not telling the truth when God talked about the fruit on the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The devil lied to Eve and told her eating the fruit would make her smart. Eve saw that the fruit looked good to eat. She forgot what God had said and listened to the lies of the devil. Eve ate some of the fruit and gave some to Adam. Adam ate the fruit too.

After Adam and Eve ate the fruit, they knew that what they did was wrong. God had told them not to eat it. This was the first time Adam and Eve had done something bad. They were afraid that God would be mad.

God knew what Adam and Eve had done. He told them they could no longer live in the Garden of Eden. But God also told them something that let them know that God had not stopped loving them. God told them that he would send a Savior to take away the sins of the world.

Jesus was the Savior that God was talking about. When Jesus died on the cross, it paid for all the sins of the whole world so that we can one day live with God in Heaven. God did this because he loved Adam and Eve. He did it because he loves you and me too.





The Garden of Eden Velvet worked with silk and metal threads. 1575 – 1600.

The First Sin

Adam and Eve did something wrong;
and yes, it made God sad.
They knew that they had not been good.
They knew what they did was bad.

But God's a friend and full of love;
he told Adam and Eve his plan.
God would send a Savior into world
to remove the sins of man.

Janet Sidman Ruszkowski

Important Words to Remember

Even though Adam and Eve had sinned, God did not stop loving them. God's love for us is something we can always depend on....always believe in....always count on.

In Jeremiah 31:3 God tells us

I have loved you with an everlasting love.

This is God giving us a promise. God's love never fails. God lets us know that his love for us is an everlasting love. He doesn't love us sometimes, or even most of the time. God loves us ALL the time. His love is everlasting.

Just like Adam and Eve, we sin. We make mistakes. We do things we know we should not do. And the number of things we have done wrong are so many, that we can never make up for them – we could never pay the price to make it all right again. That is why God sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior. Jesus is God. He could do what you and I cannot. Jesus paid the price for our sins by dying on the cross. Jesus took the punishment for our sins upon himself, so that our sins are washed away by his sacrifice.

God tells us in the Bible in Isaiah 1:18

**Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow.
Though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.**

If we spilled some grape juice or red wine on a white shirt, chances are we could never wash it out all the way. It would leave a stain. God is saying that even if our sins are like stains we can't wash out, through the power of Jesus' death on the cross, they are now as white as snow.

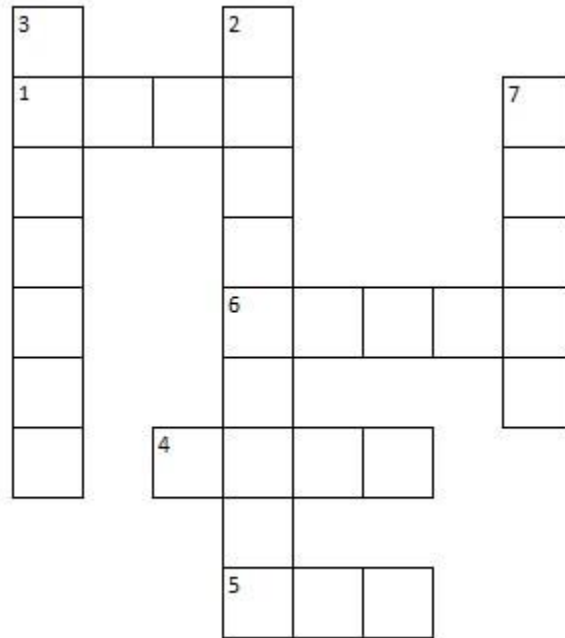
God tells us in Psalm 103:12

**As far as the east is from the west, so far has He
removed our transgressions from us.**

God is letting us know we don't have to let our sins weigh us down. We don't have to carry around the burden of our guilt. We don't have to let our past sins stick or cling to us. We can move on – move forward – in love and thankfulness. We can try to live our lives in a way that will please God. And yes, we will stumble, we will fall, we will fail. When we do, we can ask God for forgiveness. We will be given the opportunity to start fresh and new. A chance to let the love of God shine through us.

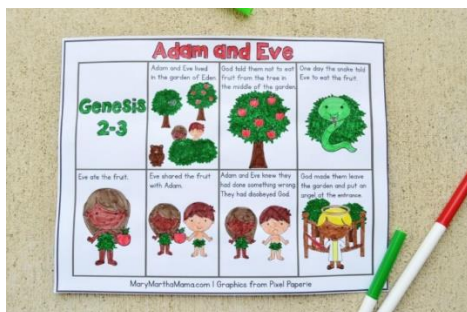
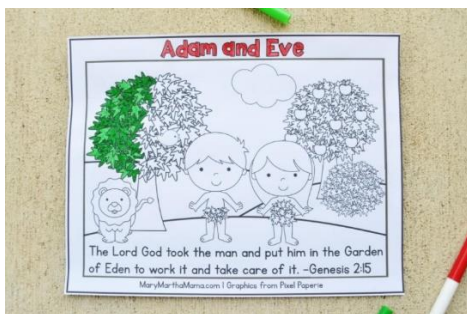
Prayer: Thank you Lord for loving me with an everlasting love. Thank you for sending Jesus to be the Savior of all. Help me to live my life in a way that will please you. When I stumble and fall, help me to get back up. Give me the strength to let your love shine through me. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Review



1. Adam and Eve lived in a special place God made for them called the Garden of _____.
2. God told Adam and Eve they were not to eat the fruit of the tree of the _____ of good and evil.
3. The devil took on the form of a _____ when he tricked Eve into eating the fruit using lies and deceit.
4. Eve ate the forbidden fruit. She gave some to _____, and he ate the fruit also.
5. Instead of confessing he had done wrong when he ate the forbidden fruit, Adam tried to blame _____.
6. Adam and Eve had to _____ the Garden of Eden. They could not live there anymore.
7. Even though Adam and Eve had sinned, God still _____ them. He promised to send a Savior.

Suggested Coloring Pages



These coloring pages can be downloaded for free at the website MaryMarthaMama.com.

The website grants permission for making photocopies for Sunday School classes.