

The FALL

Date: 02.01.26 | Sin Enters The World
Scripture: Genesis 2:15-16 & 3

CENTRAL TRUTHS



PRESCHOOL:

God loves me and helps me make right choices.

YOUNGER KIDS (K5-2ND GRADE):

God loves me, forgives my sin, and helps me choose to do what's right.

OLDER KIDS (3RD-5TH GRADE):

God is holy, and He calls us to live for His glory. When we sin, Jesus offers forgiveness, and the Holy Spirit helps us choose what's right.

STUDENTS:

God is holy and calls us to live for His glory. Though sin separates us from Him, Jesus died to redeem us, and the Holy Spirit helps us walk in purity and self-control.

ADULTS:

The holy and perfect God calls us to live for His glory in purity and obedience. Though sin leads to death, Jesus redeemed us through the cross, and the Holy Spirit empowers us to walk in holiness and self-control.

MEMORY VERSE

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 6:23



DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

What is sin? Sin is rejecting or ignoring God in the world he created, rebelling against him by living without reference to him, not being or doing what he requires in his law -- resulting in our death and the disintegration of all creation. NCC q.16

BACKGROUND INFO FOR LEADERS



After forming Adam and placing him in the beautiful Garden of Eden, “the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it” (*Genesis 2:15*). God generously provided Adam and Eve with dozens—likely hundreds or thousands—of fruit-bearing trees, all filled with lush, sweet, delicious fruit for their enjoyment. God then gave Adam a clear and loving command: he could eat from any tree except one—the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God warned, “in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die” (*Genesis 2:17*). God’s commands were not meant to restrict them but to protect them and give them joy.

Genesis 3 opens with the sudden appearance of a serpent—“the most crafty of the beasts of the field” (*Genesis 3:1*). We are not told where the serpent came from or how it became evil. The serpent begins with an innocent-sounding question but twists God’s words, asking, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” (*Genesis 3:1*). This deliberate distortion was meant to make Eve doubt God’s goodness, generosity, and character.

The serpent then directly contradicts God, denies the certainty of death, and presents the forbidden fruit as something desirable—something that would make them “like God, knowing good and evil” (*Genesis 3:5*). Instead of ruling over the serpent as God commanded (*Genesis 1:28*), Adam and Eve listened to a created thing rather than their Creator. **Their choice to obey the serpent and reject God’s command was not just an act of disobedience—it was a rejection of God’s lordship over their lives.** They attempted to place themselves in God’s place, deciding for themselves what was good and evil rather than trusting the One who made them.

Adam, who was “with her” (*Genesis 3:6*), took the fruit knowingly. His sin was both a conscious act of rebellion and a failure to carry out his

God-given role to protect (“keep”) the garden and the woman God had made for him (*Genesis 2:15, 18*). With one act of defiance, sin, suffering, chaos, and death entered the world (*Romans 5:12*). Every perfect relationship—between God and humanity, between man and woman, and between humanity and creation—was shattered.

Immediately, Adam and Eve felt the effects of sin. Before the fall, “the man and his wife were naked and were not ashamed” (*Genesis 2:25*). After eating the fruit, their eyes were opened—not to real wisdom, but to shame, fear, and brokenness. They tried to cover themselves with fig leaves (*Genesis 3:7*) and hid from the Lord (*Genesis 3:8*). Instead of running to their loving Father, they fled from Him. Instead of confessing their sin, they blamed one another and the serpent. God held each accountable (*Romans 14:12*), for ultimately, each had rebelled from a heart of distrust.

God then pronounced judgment in reverse order: serpent, woman, man.

To the serpent, God declared a curse—he would crawl on his belly and “eat dust all the days of [his] life” (*Genesis 3:14*). But God also spoke the first promise of salvation—the “protoevangelium,” or “first gospel”: “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; **he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel**” (*Genesis 3:15*). A child would come from Eve’s family line who would ultimately defeat the serpent. The New Testament identifies this child as Jesus (*1 John 3:8*). Through His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus destroys the works of Satan (*Hebrews 2:14; John 12:31; Luke 10:18; 1 Corinthians 15:24; Colossians 2:15*).

To the woman, God said she would experience great pain in childbirth and that the marriage relationship would now be marked by struggle and conflict (*Genesis 3:16*). Sin distorted the loving unity God designed in *Genesis 2:24*.

To Adam, God declared that the ground itself was cursed because of his sin. Adam would now work hard, fight thorns and thistles, and eventually return to the dust from which he was made (*Genesis 3:17–19*). Physical death—and far worse, spiritual death—entered the world (*Romans 5:12*). The harmonious world of Eden was gone.

Yet in the midst of judgment, God showed grace. As an act of hope, Adam named his wife Eve, “the mother of all living” (*Genesis 3:20*), trusting that life—and the promised Redeemer—would come

through her. Then God Himself provided garments of animal skin to clothe Adam and Eve (*Genesis 3:21*). This required the first death in Scripture—the shedding of blood to cover their shame. It foreshadowed the future sacrificial system and ultimately the perfect sacrifice of Jesus, whose blood covers our sin completely.

Because of Adam's sin, every person since (except Jesus) is born with a sinful nature (*Romans 5:12*). Humanity inherited both physical and spiritual death, and the world became broken in every way. Yet from the very beginning, God planned a Redeemer—Jesus Christ—who would come to crush the serpent, rescue His people, and restore all that sin destroyed.

The fall is the turning point of Scripture: everything broken in Genesis 3 is restored in Jesus. The story begins with rebellion and ruin, but it ends with hope—hope fulfilled in Christ, who conquers sin, defeats Satan, and restores us to fellowship with God forever.

TELL THE STORY

Genesis 3

After God made Adam, He placed him in the Garden of Eden to work it and watch over it. God commanded him, “You can eat from any tree of the garden, but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die.”

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals God had made. One day, he asked Adam's wife, Eve, “Did God really say, ‘You can't eat from any tree in the garden’?”

Eve said, “We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. But God said we must not eat the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden. He said, ‘You must not eat it or touch it, or you will die.’”

“No! You will certainly not die,” the serpent said. “In fact, God knows that when you eat it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Eve saw that the fruit looked good, and she wanted to be wise like God, so she took some of the fruit and ate it. She gave some to



Adam, who was with her, and he ate it too. As soon as they ate the fruit, their eyes were opened, and they knew they were naked. They made clothes for themselves by sewing together fig leaves.

In the evening, Adam and Eve heard God walking in the garden, so they hid. God called out to Adam, “Where are you?”

Adam replied, “I heard You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.” God asked Adam, “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

Adam immediately blamed Eve and said, “She gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

Eve blamed the serpent and said, “He deceived me, and I ate.” God cursed the serpent by making him crawl on his belly. Adam and Eve also had consequences for their disobedience. Life would be hard and painful, all because of sin. The ultimate consequence for humanity’s disobedience to God is death. But God promised that one of the woman’s descendants would destroy the serpent.

God was merciful to Adam and Eve. He made clothes for them out of animal skins before He sent them out of the garden. God put angels and a sword of fire at the entrance of the garden to guard the way to the tree of life.

Adam and Eve sinned when they rejected God’s good plan and disobeyed His command. Sin separates people from God, but God didn’t leave them without hope. God sent His Son, Jesus, to live as Adam didn’t- perfectly sinless. God the Son came to earth as a man to rescue people from sin.

REBUILD THE STORY

1. What responsibility did God give Adam in the garden, and what does this show about humanity’s role in God’s creation?

Genesis 2:15

2. What specific instructions did God give Adam and Eve, and why do you think God included both freedom and boundaries?

Genesis 2:16–17



3. Who approached Eve in the garden, and what does this tell us about how temptation often begins? *Genesis 3:1*
4. What lie did the serpent use to challenge Eve's trust in God, and how did that lie twist what God had said? *Genesis 3:4-5*
5. Where was Adam during this moment of temptation, and how did he respond when Eve ate the fruit? *Genesis 3:7*
6. What immediate changes did Adam and Eve experience after eating the fruit, and what does this reveal about the effects of sin? *Genesis 3:7*
7. How did Adam and Eve react when God came into the garden, and what does their reaction show about guilt, shame, and broken relationships? *Genesis 3:8*
8. What promise of hope did God give even in the middle of judgment, and how does this promise point forward to Jesus? *Genesis 3:15*
9. Why do you think Adam and Eve chose to listen to the serpent's voice instead of trusting God's goodness—and how does that same struggle show up in your life?
10. What are some ways we still "hide" from God or shift blame when we sin, rather than taking responsibility and coming to Him honestly?
11. How does knowing that Jesus came to defeat sin, restore what was broken, and fulfill God's promise in *Genesis 3:15* give you hope today?

GOSPEL EMPHASIS

Today's lesson shows us the very first time the good news—the Gospel—is mentioned in the Bible. God created a perfect world from nothing and had a close relationship with Adam and Eve, who were made in His image. He gave Adam the responsibility to lead his family and care for creation, but Adam and Eve chose to disobey God and committed the first sin when they decided to do things their own way instead of God's way.



Even though their sin brought consequences that still affect all people today—things like death, sadness, brokenness, and fear—God already had a rescue plan in place. He showed grace to Adam and Eve and protected them, and He promised that one day a child from Eve's family would defeat the serpent, overcome sin and darkness, and make a way for God to be with His people again.

The promised Rescuer is Jesus—the Savior God planned from the very beginning.

WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TEACH US ABOUT GOD?

Use your Attributes of God poster as a guide.

PRAYER PROMPTS

God, we are sorry for the times we sin and choose our own way instead of Yours. Please forgive us and help us follow You in everything we do. Thank You for sending Jesus to forgive our sins and make it possible for us to have a relationship with You. Amen.



THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READING

Genesis 4