



# Corruption: Sin Enters the World

## Key Themes

- God judges sin.
- God's plan of redemption was in place before time.

## Key Passages

- Genesis 2:16–17, 3:4, 3:6; 1 Peter 3:18a

## Lesson Focus

- Adam and Eve sinned. We all sin.



## Lesson Overview



### Come On In

Students will color and add fruit to the trees drawn on the newsprint covering the tables.



### Circle Time

**Prayer**—Using the Prayer page of the Flip Chart, discuss prayer and give each child the opportunity to pray after determining what type of prayer you will offer today.

**God's Word**—Students will hear that sin first occurred in the garden when Eve was deceived and she and Adam disobeyed God. Because of this sin entering the world, we also all sin.

**Song**—Students will sing about our wonderful God in the creation song, "God Created!" They will then learn a new song—"Sin Entered In"—about what happened after God created.



### Activity 1: Follow the Leader

Students will follow directions of the leader to illustrate that Adam and Eve did not follow God's directions.



### Activity 2: The Serpent!

Students will make a paper chain snake to remind them that the serpent lied to Adam and Eve about God. We need to listen to and obey God.



### Memory Verse Review/Snack

Children will review the memory verse while enjoying the snack for the day. You may want to use the snack as incentive to recite and/or repeat the memory verse.

# Lesson Preparation

## WHAT YOU WILL DO

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED



### FOR THE TEACHER

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.

- Student Take Home Sheets



### COME ON IN

- Draw some simple tree outlines in various sizes onto the newsprint and cover each table in the room before class.

- Newsprint to cover each table
- Optional: Tree and fruit stickers to add to the newsprint
- Crayons



### CIRCLE TIME

- Bring in different types of fruit to use during the lesson.
- Practice the songs on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.

- Different types of fruit
- Stuffed animal
- Lesson Flip Chart



### FOLLOW THE LEADER

- Print one Follow the Leader Idea sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for your use.

- Follow the Leader Idea sheet



### THE SERPENT!

- Print the Snake Tongue and Eyes Pattern from the Resource DVD-ROM onto red or white construction paper and cut out one set of eyes and one tongue for each student.
- Bring in other materials listed to the right.
- Complete a serpent craft to show the children.

- Green construction paper cut into strips (see Activity 2 for details)
- Snake tongue and eyes cut out for each student
- Transparent tape, glue, or stapler
- Optional: wiggly eyes
- Completed serpent craft



### MEMORY VERSE REVIEW/SNACK

- Prepare and bring snacks.

- Lesson Flip Chart for memory verse review
- Snacks



## Prepare to Share

### SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

To prepare for this week's lesson, read Genesis 3; 1 Peter 1:20–21; Romans 3:23, 5:19, 6:23.

God created a perfect universe—one that He Himself called very good (Genesis 1:31). So when and how did sin enter the world? Because the creation was perfect, we know there was no sin. We can then conclude that Satan sinned against God and was cast out of heaven sometime after the seventh day of creation and before he tempted Eve. Satan's temptation of Eve marked the point that changed God's perfect creation to a world filled with death, disease, and decay—all a result of sin.

In the account of the temptation and fall into sin from Genesis 3, Satan, more cunning than any beast of the field, challenged the authority of God and deceived Eve into eating the forbidden fruit (Genesis 3:4–5). Adam, who was with her, also ate of the fruit (Genesis 3:6). This first sin was not just the eating of some fruit; it was disobedience toward a holy God.

As they ate, their eyes were opened and they knew they were naked (Genesis 3:7). They felt shame for their nakedness and tried to fashion clothing from leaves to cover their shame. These coverings were not adequate to conceal their sin from God. Nor were they able to hide from Him when He came to the garden (Genesis 3:9). God now had to punish the sin and disobedience of Adam, Eve, and Satan (Genesis 3:14–19). How quickly and easily they fell into the “blame game.” Take note that Eve quickly blamed the serpent (Genesis 3:13) and Adam, in turn, blamed Eve. Sadly, Adam ultimately cast the responsibility of his sin onto God (Genesis 3:12).

God's justice requires that He punish any disobedience of His commands, but His mercy allows many to avoid that punishment. The sin that plagues every human entered the world through Adam and was consequently passed to all of his descendants. The doctrine of original sin (demanding God's justice) and redemption (displaying His mercy) is present throughout the Bible and is presented concisely in Romans 5:17–21. It seems unfair that all of us would pay the consequence of one man's sin—but the Bible tells us that our hearts are deceitful and desperately wicked (Jeremiah 17:9). And if we honestly examine our hearts, we know this to be true. Praise God for His immeasurable grace through Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:7). For it is only by His grace that we can be

freed from the wages of our sin—death and eternal punishment (Romans 6:22–23).

Adam and Eve's rebellion did not take God by surprise. God is omniscient—He knows all things. And He did not leave Adam and Eve in despair, but offered them the hope of the promised Savior—the Seed—who would crush the head of the serpent (Genesis 3:15) and bear the sins of the world on the Cross. This preordained plan for redemption was in place before the foundation of the world and would perfectly exhibit God's mercy to sinners who, through Jesus Christ, believe in God (1 Peter 1:20–21).

### APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

Today many people want to discount the book of Genesis, the account of Adam and Eve, the biblical age of the earth (about 6,000 years old), and the effects of sin on all of mankind. We know that the universe God created during Creation Week was very good (Genesis 1:31). Any very good creation of God's could not include disobedience, death, or suffering, and there were none of these in the garden at Creation. The environment was perfect—even the animals lived peacefully with each other. God had commanded the animals to eat only vegetation (Genesis 1:30).

Adam and Eve were to tend and keep the garden. They were free to enjoy every good gift that God had given them (Genesis 1:28–29). God did prohibit them from eating the fruit of one tree—the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Eating from this tree would bring death (Genesis 2:16–17).

But, they could not resist the lies of the serpent, and they disobeyed God. They immediately recognized their nakedness, sewed leaves together to cover themselves, and hid from God in shame (Genesis 3:7–8). Their leaves were not sufficient to cover their sins. God had a more appropriate covering—tunics from the skins of animals He must have slain Himself (Genesis 3:21). In this act, the first death is recorded in Scripture. This death provided the coverings for the first sin against God. It was a foreshadowing of the sacrificial system revealed to Moses for the atonement of sin and later the death of Jesus Christ on the Cross for the forgiveness of sins. Scripture tells us that, “without the shedding of blood there is no remission” of sin (Hebrews 9:22). The first blood had been shed—it pointed forward to the blood of the coming Savior.

This glorious account of God's intervention in covering the sins of Adam and Eve gives us solid scrip-

tural grounds to refute evolutionary thinking. Since we understand from Scripture that there was no animal death before sin entered the world, any fossilized remains of dead animals cannot be dated before Adam and Eve. Evolutionary thinking cannot be partnered with a biblical worldview. Anyone who says the rock layers and fossils are billions of years old are accepting death, disease, and suffering before sin when, in fact, they are a consequence of the first sin in the garden (Romans 5:21; 1 Corinthians 15:21–22). Animals could not have been dying millions of years before sin entered the world since, according to God’s Word, they started dying after Adam’s sin about 6,000 years ago. When we determine to maintain our biblical worldview by the plain reading of Scripture, we can confidently answer the questions the world presents.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Considering the history of sin entering the world, we realize Adam and Eve succumbed to the deceit of Satan shortly after their creation. Although Scripture does not specifically tell us how long Adam and Eve lived in the perfect creation before sinning, we can determine a definite range from a thorough reading of the text. Very little time passed before the Fall. God commanded Adam and Eve to “be fruitful and multiply” (Genesis 1:28) and, because of their perfect bodies, conception would have occurred quickly. But we know that Cain was not conceived until after they were sent from the garden (Genesis 4:1).

So, how many days was it until the Fall? It couldn’t have happened on the seventh day of creation since God sanctified and blessed that day (Genesis 2:3). Some commentators suggest it could have been as early as the tenth day. Understanding the sinfulness of our own hearts, this timeframe is not hard to imagine. As we consider the scope of history, virtually all of it has occurred in a cursed universe under the influence of sin. It is all we have ever known, but we have the hope of the new creation to come when the earth will be restored to its original “very good” condition (Revelation 21:4).

For more information on this topic, see the Online Resource Page.



## BEFORE THE THRONE

Merciful God, I come before your throne to ask for understanding. Help me to understand sin and redemption so well that I can communicate them clearly to the students in my class. Thank you for your Word that tells us of the perfection of creation, the ugliness of sin, and the beauty of your salvation. I pray you will soften the hearts of my students and draw them to the truth of your glorious plan of redemption and the forgiveness, hope, and joy it can bring through faith in you alone.



## COME ON IN

As children arrive . . .

- They will color the trees and add fruit to the newsprint covering the tables. Optional: supply stickers of trees and/or fruit to be used to further decorate the newsprint.

During this time you should be at the door welcoming the children as they come in and directing them to sit down at the tables and begin the activity. Have an aid/helper ready to engage the children with the activity.



## REVIEW

Using the Flip Chart, quickly review the previous lessons with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class. Remember, children learn by repetition and review.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the lesson pages from the Flip Chart. Remind the children of each lesson's focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds, and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



## Circle Time

*In an orderly manner, have the children assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.*

*Bring your stuffed animal, Bible, Flip Chart, different types of fruit, Follow the Leader Idea sheet, completed serpent craft, and any other props you brought or prepared for this lesson.*

### PRAYER

*This prayer time is designed to get children to begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to get them to understand that they can pray. Use a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—or appropriate object to pass around the circle as each child gets his/her turn to pray. Only the child with the stuffed animal is allowed to pray or speak during this time. Using the same stuffed animal or other object all year will add continuity and structure to this time.*

**We start our Bible Study with prayer. Let's pray.** *Turn to the prayer page in the Flip Chart. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there. Then determine which type you want the children to pray today.*

- I love you prayers—Adoration
- I'm sorry prayers—Confession
- Thank you prayers—Thanksgiving
- Please prayers—Supplication

*Today Supplication is suggested. You might proceed this way:*

**Today let's say prayers of supplication—and ask God for His help.**

*The prayers you begin with should be specific to your needs. This will model to the children that you believe God does care about all the details of your life and you pray to Him about these things. Your example will increase their confidence in praying to God.*

➤ Prior to making your transition to circle time, we suggest you take time for restroom breaks and hand washing.

➤ Preschoolers need to move. This is a good opportunity to get them to move. Make an orderly transition to the circle time. You can have carpet squares if you want to sit on the floor, or help them to move their chairs into the circle.

I'll start. Dear God, thank you that you promise to supply all of our needs. I pray today, Lord, that you would . . . *(insert personal prayer)*.

*Pass the stuffed animal around the circle giving all the children an opportunity to say a prayer of supplication. Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away and we'll get into God's Word.*

## GOD'S WORD

*These first four questions will be repeated each week. The repetition of these questions will help to solidify these simple but foundational truths in the children's minds at a young age.*

? Before we begin, what is this? *Hold up your Bible. The Bible!*

? What is in this Bible? *God's holy Word!*

? What does the Bible tell us? *Everything we need to know!*

? And all God's Words in this Bible are what? *True!*

Today we are going to read about a very sad day in history. This day happened just a little while after God finished creating everything including Adam and Eve. I am going to read out of Genesis. *Open Bible to Genesis and show them.*

There are four different characters in this part of Genesis. They are the serpent, the woman (Eve), the man (Adam), and God! *Open the Flip Chart to Lesson 9.*

This happened in the Garden of Eden, the beautiful garden God had created! The garden was full of beautiful trees with all kinds of delicious fruit. *Bring out different fruit to look at: strawberries, apple, peach, grapes, etc.*

I am going to read something to you from God's Word. I want you to tell me what God told Adam in the Garden. *Read Genesis 2:16-17.*

? What did God tell Adam? *Repeat the verse. Allow answers.*

God told Adam he could eat of ALL the different, beautiful fruit trees except one. There was one tree Adam was NOT allowed to eat from. Just one.

? What did God say would happen to Adam if he ate from that tree? *Reread Genesis 2:17 emphasizing "you shall surely die." He would die.*

That's right. God said he could eat all the fruit except from one tree. That doesn't seem like it would be too hard, does it? But if he ate from that one tree, he would die! Well, this is where the serpent comes in. Listen to this and tell me what the serpent said to the woman. *Read Genesis 3:4 emphasizing "you will NOT die."*

? What did the serpent tell Eve? *She wouldn't die!*

The serpent told Eve a lie! The serpent was tempting Eve to disobey God! Let me read to you what Eve did! *Read Genesis 3:6 emphasizing "she ate and gave it to her husband."*

► As you teach, refer often to the Flip Chart picture to keep the children engaged.

Genesis 2:16-17

Genesis 3:4

Genesis 3:6

? What did Eve do? *She ate the fruit and gave some to Adam.* They both sinned! They both disobeyed God. This was a very sad day. Adam and Eve believed the serpent's lies instead of believing what God said. They did the one thing that God told them not to do! They ate the fruit from the one tree God told them NOT to eat from. Sin entered into the world. And because they sinned, we ALL sin!

? Did you know you have sin in your heart? *Yes.*

? What do I mean by sin? *Allow for answers.*

When I say sin, I mean anything that goes against what God wants us to do. Now God wants you to always obey your parents and your teachers. When you don't obey, it is sin! God wants all of us to be very kind to each other. When we aren't kind, it is sin. Anything we do that is not pleasing to God is sin! Adam and Eve sinned and we ALL sin.

God had to punish Adam and Eve for their sin. He did punish them. He sent them out of the Garden and they were separated from God!

God has to punish ALL sin—even ours. God has to punish sin because He is holy. That means He can't sin and He hates sin. So, we deserve God's punishment. But God made a way for us so we could be forgiven of our sins and NOT be punished!

I am going to read something to you. I want you to tell me what God did for us so we might not be punished and forever separated from God. *Read 1 Peter 3:18a emphasizing "Christ suffered for sins to bring us to God."*

1 Peter 3:18a

? What did God do? Who came to suffer and die for sins? *Jesus.*

Adam and Eve sinned and we ALL sin. God must punish every sin. But, God sent Jesus to take the punishment for sins. Jesus died on the Cross. Whoever believes in Him and trusts Him will be forgiven and will not be separated from God anymore.

The Bible tells us that when Adam and Eve sinned, they brought sin into the world. Since then all people are born with sin in their hearts. God knows it is easy for us to sin and do the wrong things. But He loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to make a way for us to be saved from sin. Isn't that wonderful? What a wonderful God we have!

## SONG

OK. Now God created Adam and Eve. When God first created everything it was all very good. There was no sin in the world. Let's stand up and sing about our wonderful, Creator God. *Turn to Flip Chart song page. Sing the "God Created!" song using instruments and/or clapping.*

Great job! Things were great then. But it wasn't long after God created everything that the serpent came to tempt Adam and Eve. They

► Turn to the Flip Chart song page during this part of the lesson.

disobeyed God, sinned, and now we ALL sin. But, God has provided a way for our sins to be forgiven. That is through His Son Jesus, who died on the Cross so that everyone who believes in Him will go to heaven. Jesus took the punishment sinners deserve on the Cross.

I have a song to teach you about that. Let's sing it. It's called "Sin Entered In." Sing "Sin Entered In."

*Lyrics to the songs can be found on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.*



## Follow the Leader

After God created everything it was all very good. God told Adam and Eve NOT to do something. Who remembers what that was? Reread Genesis 2:17 if necessary. Don't eat the fruit off of one tree.

? Did Adam and Eve listen to God? *No!*

? What did they do? *They ate the fruit.*

They did not follow God's directions. Today, we are going to play "Follow the Leader" and see how hard it is to follow someone's directions.

### MATERIALS

- Follow the Leader idea sheet

### INSTRUCTIONS

*Line the children up. You can begin by being the "leader." Have the children do what you tell them to do. As they get the hang of it, you can allow different children to be the "leaders."*

### CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

You did a good job of following directions! Adam and Eve did not follow God's directions. They ate the fruit from the one tree He told them NOT to eat from. They disobeyed and sinned against God. Ever since that very first sin, ALL people sin. We ALL have a hard time following God's directions. We all sin. God doesn't like sin. God must punish sin. So we should all be punished.

? Who did God send into the world to take the punishment for sinners? He died on a Cross! *Jesus.*

Yes. Jesus lived a perfect life. He did not sin. And when He died on the Cross He took the punishment for the sins of everyone who would believe in Him.

Now let's quietly go back to the tables. We are going to make a serpent that looks like this. *Show the completed serpent craft.*



## The Serpent!

? What was it that talked to Eve, lied to her, and tempted her to sin? Do you remember? If necessary, reread Genesis 3:4 so the children can get the answer.

It was a serpent. We are going to make a paper snake to remind us of that serpent and the lies he told to Adam and Eve about God. We need to listen and believe what God says. We need to obey only God!

### MATERIALS

- Green construction paper cut into strips about 1.5–2 in. wide and 10–12 in. long—each “snake” may have 8–10 rings depending on your class and the time available
- Snake Tongue and Eyes sheet printed onto red or white construction paper and cut out for each student
- Transparent tape, glue, or stapler
- Optional: wiggly eyes

### INSTRUCTIONS

Help students assemble their “serpent” snake. Take the first strip of construction paper and make it into a ring. Tape, glue, or staple it together. Slide the remaining strips one at a time into the previous ring. Tape, glue, or staple each ring until you have all the rings assembled. Now give the children the tongue and eyes you have already cut out. These can be taped or glued to the “head” of the serpent.

### CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

There was a serpent in the Garden of Eden. This serpent lied to Eve about God and tempted her to sin. Eve should have believed God and not the serpent. But instead she disobeyed God and because of Adam and Eve’s very first sin, sin entered the world. Now we ALL sin. And the world is not the wonderful place God first created.



## Memory Verse/Snack

**Genesis 2:16–17** Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat.

After thanking God for your snack, review the memory verse with the children while enjoying the snack for the day. You may want to use the snack as incentive to recite and/or repeat the memory verse.

Use the Memory Verse page in the Flip Chart. Explain the verse to the children as you go over the verse together. Say the verse and point at each picture several times. Ask the children if anyone wants to try and say it on their own.

➤ A snack of fruit would be appropriate today. Use the fruit you brought in to show during the lesson.



# Applying God's Word

## WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

Adam and Eve ate the fruit from the one tree God told them NOT to eat from. They disobeyed and sinned against God. Ever since that very first sin, ALL people sin. We ALL have a hard time following God's directions. We all sin. God doesn't like sin. God must punish sin. So we should all be punished.

? Who did God send into the world to take the punishment for sinners? He died on a Cross! *Jesus.*

Yes. Jesus lived a perfect life. He did not sin. And when He died on the Cross He took the punishment for the sins of everyone who would believe in Him.

## GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

It is hard to follow God's directions perfectly at all times. Just like Adam and Eve, we get tempted to do what is wrong. We get tempted to sin. When that happens, we should pray that God would help us know Him better and obey Him.

Now let's take some time to thank God for loving us even when we sin.

► Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.



## Group Prayer Time

- Thank God that even though we are sinners, He loves us.
- Thank God that He sent Jesus to take the punishment for sinners.
- Ask God to show us how to follow His direction and obey Him.

**Do you still have more time? Review the past quarters using the Flip Charts, add another coloring page, recite and review the current and past memory verses, sing more songs, bring out play dough. Keep the children occupied with intentional, God-centered activities until their parents come to pick them up.**

# Song Sheet

## **GOD CREATED!**

*(To the tune of "This Old Man")*

*Hold up 1 finger for Creation Day 1.*

God made day, God made night,  
*(This old man, he played one,)*

God made everything in sight.  
*(He played knick-knack on my thumb.)*

So let's stand up, turn around,  
*(With a knick-knack paddywhack,)*

Thank God for His grace.  
*(Give a dog a bone.)*

With a big, happy smile on our face!  
*(This old man came rolling home.)*

*Hold up 2 fingers for Creation Day 2.*

He made the air, the blue sky too.

He knew exactly what to do.

So let's stand up, turn around,

Thank God for His grace,

With a big, happy smile on our face!

*Hold up 3 fingers for Creation Day 3.*

He made the plants and the land,  
From the hardest rock to the softest sand.

So let's stand up, turn around,

Thank God for His grace.

With a big, happy smile on our face.

*Hold up 4 fingers for Creation Day 4.*

He made the stars, the moon, the sun.

Exploring the sky is so much fun.

So let's stand up, turn around,

Thank God for His grace.

With a big, happy smile on our face.

*Hold up 5 fingers for Creation Day 5.*

He made the fish, the birds that fly;

We see them daily in the sky.

So let's stand up, turn around,

Thank God for His grace.

With a big, happy smile on our face.

*Hold up 6 fingers for Creation Day 6.*

All the animals that roam the land,

He even created woman and man.

So let's stand up, turn around,

Thank God for His grace.

With a big, happy smile on our face.

## **SIN ENTERED IN**

*(To the Tune of "This Old Man")*

God created Adam and Eve.

*(This old man, he played one,)*

They walked with God in the Garden light.

*(He played knick-knack on my thumb.)*

He said, "Don't eat this fruit;

*(With a knick-knack paddywhack,)*

Don't take a single bite."

*(Give a dog a bone.)*

"Obey me," He said, "and do what's right."

*(This old man came rolling home.)*

The serpent came and told a lie,

"Taste this fruit; give it a try!"

So they ate the fruit and sin entered in.

We disobey God and we all sin.

God must punish our sin; it's true,

But He offers a plan for me and you!

He'll forgive the sins of everyone,

Who believes on Jesus, His own Son.

