



ADAM AND EVE | GENESIS 3

LESSON 2

Look Ahead . . .

Here's a look at what you'll be doing to help kids connect to God's EPIC story:

Engaging the Story (10 minutes):

- Ideas for early arrival students
- Small group activity to help kids anticipate the story

Entering & Exploring the Story

(20-25 minutes):

- Large group worship
- Large group Bible story with wondering questions

Experiencing the Story

(10-15 minutes):

- Small group activities to help students personally enter into the story.
- Hands-on, active, "living in" God's EPIC story

Expressing the Story

(10-15 minutes):

- Small group activities to help students think and reflect on what the story reveals about God and us
- Small group activities designed to connect God's EPIC Story into real life today

Praying the Story (5 minutes):

- Purposeful prayer time with the kids

Memorizing the Story

(5-10 minutes):

- Small group activities designed to help kids memorize scriptures from God's EPIC Story found in the Bible

REFLECT ON THE WORD

Today's EPIC story is full of joy and sorrow. We believe that God is omniscient; that He knows all things. God created humankind even though He knew the story we are about to teach. Yes, if God is all knowing, He knew beforehand that Adam and Eve would fail. Yet, He loved His creation so much that He went on with His plan. God did not cause humankind to fail but the Good News of God's redemptive work is that He had a plan in mind to be the remedy for that failure. We see in the unfolding of this EPIC story the fall of people, the compassion of God, the scheming of Satan, and the redemption planned by God for the future.

The story of our original parents is important to the understanding of our spiritual condition. We were made in the image of God, but we turned our back on God and preferred our own image. We are made to be in relationship with God, but we chose to be separated from God and in relationship with ourselves.

It is only when we realize that we have been separated from God that we can see the need to be reunited in relationship with Him. When we recognize our spiritual condition we can accept the plan that God put into motion in the garden that had its fulfillment in the life, death, and resurrection of God's own Son, Jesus Christ.

As you teach this lesson remember the importance that this story holds in preparing the hearts of your students to receive the message of hope found in Christ.

ENGAGING THE STORY

- Every week you will be provided an “Early Arrival Activity” for your small group.
- Each week you will be provided a specific small group activity designed to help kids prepare for and anticipate the EPIC story that they will experience during Large Group.

EARLY ARRIVAL IDEA . . . CREATION’S COLLAGE

Collect supplies and set them on a table. Encourage early arrivers to create a creation collage. Children can choose pictures from nature magazines: plants, animals, insects, fish, etc., and glue them onto the poster board. Each child can add a bit to the collage. This can be left out to work on until the collage is filled in. When it is finished, display the creation collage in your classroom.

You'll need

- Poster board or large sheet of paper
- Magazines (particularly those with images of nature)
- Scissors
- Glue



Supply List (See specific **You'll need** list for each activity)
 Bibles; Poster board; Nature magazines; Scissors; Glue; Paper; Crayons, markers, pens, pencils; Adam and Eve, Lesson 2, Coloring Handout 5; To Obey or Sin, Handout 1, Level 1; Butcher paper, chart paper or newsprint; Broken toys; Torn pictures; Tape; Paper clips; Bible Memory Poster, Handout 2, Level 1



PICTURE CHANGE

Say something like . . . **Last week in our EPIC Bible story we heard about how God created everything out of nothing. When we think about all the different animals, plants, fish and birds, we realize just how creative God is. Using the supplies provided, I want you to create a picture of the most beautiful place in the world that you can imagine. Is it a park? A river? An ocean or mountain?**

Continue this activity until all of the students have had a chance to draw some kind of picture. Ask each student to tell you about the creation picture. After each has shared say . . . **You did a great job on your pictures, and the places you have drawn really are beautiful. Now, I want you to add something to your picture. Something bad. Something ugly. Draw something that changes your picture from a beautiful place to an ugly one.**

Ask the group,

- **What did you add to your pictures?**
- **How did it make you feel when I asked you to mess up your special creation picture?**
- **How do you think it makes God feel when we mess up His creation? Remember this world is God's creation.**

Transition: Say, **Today we're going to hear another EPIC story from the Bible. In that story we'll hear about a time when the first people really messed up God's creation. Let's go to large group and see what happens.**



Copy your choice of Bible story (p. 12 or 15) to tell at this point. Insert it here. We recommend the story for younger children.

AFTER THE BIBLE STORY

- Experiencing the Story
- Expressing the Story
- Praying the Story
- Memorizing the Story



You'll need

- A blank piece of paper for each student
- Markers, crayons or other writing utensils

EXPERIENCING THE STORY (CHOOSE ONE OR BOTH ACTIVITIES)

HIDING ACTIVITY

Set Up . . . Print and copy, Adam and Eve, Coloring Handout 5. Before class hang the picture of Adam and Eve on a wall in your classroom. If desired, make coloring sheet copies for each child.

Say something like . . . **All right, friends, I want you to look around the room and find a picture of the two people we heard about during the EPIC Bible story time in large group.** Give time to search. Then say, **Good job finding it. Who is that a picture of? Right, it is Adam and Eve, the first two people God created. Now, what I want you to do is close your eyes. Keep them closed.** Hide the picture somewhere in the room. Once hidden ask the kids to open their eyes. **All right, Adam and Eve are trying to hide somewhere in our room. See if you can find them.** Once they've found the picture have the kids sit back down. Ask, **I wonder, why do you think Adam and Eve chose to try and hide from God? What do you think they were feeling?**

You'll need

- Adam and Eve, Lesson 2, Coloring Handout 5



Expand the Activity: Feel free to “hide” the Adam and Eve picture several times, giving students the chance to search. If desired, give each child a copy of the picture to color. Encourage them to do the same “hide and seek” activity at home with family.

OBEY OR SIN?

Set Up . . . Print and copy, To Obey or Sin, Handout 1, one for each student. Gather supplies and place them on a table.

Say something like . . . **Adam and Eve disobeyed God. The results of sin are separation from God and other consequences that are not good. But we can be thankful that God is a forgiving God. And He wants to make things right in our lives. Even though God still loved Adam and Eve, they had to leave the garden as a result of their sin. Every day we have opportunities to choose to obey or disobey God, to do right or to do wrong.**

You'll need

- To Obey or Sin, Handout 1, Level 1
- Pens or pencils
- Black and yellow crayons or colored pencils



Distribute the student activity sheet and say, **Let's read the words in the circles. Then I want you to color the ones that are sin with a black crayon. Color the ones that are obedience with a yellow crayon.** This part is for early readers: **Once you've done that, write the correct name on the lines in the Bible Truth box.** As students are working, talk with them about the choices they make each day while reviewing the Bible story.

EXPRESSING THE STORY

JOURNAL OPTION

Open your Bible and help the kids (early readers) open their Bibles to Genesis 3:1-24. Read the text aloud or read the story from your favorite Children's Bible.

Say something like . . . **Let's think together about what happened in today's EPIC story. What pictures do you have in your mind? What is really good? What's really sad? What does our story tell us about God? Share your thoughts and I'll record them for us to remember and look back on.**

You'll need

- Bibles
- Butcher paper, chart paper or newsprint
- Crayons or markers



Group journal by recording words, sentences, phrases, and pictures that the kids share on chart paper, butcher paper, or newsprint. Hang each week's group journal in chronological order around the room. Refer back to them to connect the stories and themes in the kids' minds.

ACTIVE OPTION

Open your Bible and help the kids (early readers) open their Bibles to Genesis 3:8-9. Read the text aloud together. Say something like . . . **When Adam and Eve ate the fruit, God's perfect creation was broken. How do you feel when something special to you gets broken?** (*Pause for responses*) **Tell us about a time when something you had was broken.** (*Allow a few children to share.*) **How do you think God felt when His creation was no longer like He meant for it to be?**

Work together to put the broken toys or torn pictures back together using tape, glue, paperclips (be aware of choking hazard with young threes), or other supplies. Once you've assembled some of the items, ask: **Are these toys [pictures] the same as they were before they had been broken? Could Adam and Eve just pretend like nothing had happened? No, there were consequences to their choices. Did God still want to be friends with Adam and Eve?** (*YES!*)

Let's pretend we are Adam and Eve and let's all say loud together to God, "I'm sorry!"

- **Do you think God will forgive Adam and Eve?** (*Yes*)
- **Do you think God will forgive us if we disobey and do things that are wrong?** (*YES!*)

PRAYING THROUGH THE STORY

Talk about and record requests and praises on your prayer board. If you wish, allow children to say sentence prayers for the requests and praises before you close in prayer.

MEMORIZING THE STORY

Print and copy the Bible Memory Poster, Handout 2, for each small group. Display the poster for your group.

The memory verse for the first four lessons is Nehemiah 9:6. Have the preschoolers and kindergartners learn the underlined portion of the verse. "You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you."

See the Bible Memory Ideas article in the leader's folder for activities to help students learn the Bible verse.

You'll need

- Bibles
- Broken toys (Fast food restaurants may donate toys that they're not passing out any longer. You can break them to use as an example.)
- Torn pictures (pictures from magazines will work fine)
- Tape, glue, paperclips, etc.



You'll need

- Bible Memory Poster, Handout 2, Level 1



ENGAGING THE STORY:

- Every week you will be provided an “Early Arrival Activity” for your small group.
- Each week you will be provided a specific small group activity designed to help kids prepare for and anticipate the EPIC story that they will experience during Large Group.

EARLY ARRIVAL IDEA

Have early arrivals sit in a circle to play a game. Toss the foam ball to someone in the group. That person will answer a question and then toss the ball to another person. That person will answer the same question and toss the ball to someone else.

Ask: **What was the best part of your week?**

After everyone has answered the first question, start over with another question.

Ask: **What was the toughest decision you had to make this week?**

BROKEN PICTURE

Say something like . . . **Last week in our EPIC Bible story we heard how God created everything out of nothing. When we think about all the different animals, plants, fish and birds we realize just how creative God is. Using the supplies provided, I want you to create a picture of the most beautiful place in the world.**

Continue this activity until all of the students have had a chance to draw some kind of picture. Ask each student to tell you about the pictured created. After each has shared say, **You did a great job on your pictures, and the places you have drawn really are beautiful. Now, I want you to add something to your picture. Something bad. Something ugly. Draw something that changes your picture from a beautiful place to an ugly one.**

Ask the group,

- **What did you add to your pictures?**
- **How did it make you feel when I asked you to mess up your creation?**
- **How do you think it makes God feel when we mess up His creation?**

Transition: Say, **Today we’re going to hear another EPIC story from the Bible. In that story we’ll hear about a time when the first people really messed up God’s creation. Let’s go to large group and see what happens.**



Copy your choice of Bible story (p. 12 or 15) to tell at this point. Insert it here.

AFTER THE BIBLE STORY

- Experiencing the Story
- Expressing the Story
- Praying the Story
- Memorizing the Story

Supply List (See specific **You’ll need** list for each activity)

Bibles; Foam ball or stuffed animal; Paper; Crayons, markers, pens, pencils; CD player and CD of kid’s music; One piece of fruit; Numbers, Handout 3, Level 2; Tape; Epic Journals; Epic Journal, Handout 4, Level 2; Butcher paper/chart paper or newsprint; Bible Memory Poster, Handout 2, Level 2

You’ll need

- Foam ball or plush stuffed animal about the size of a volley ball

You’ll need

- Blank piece of paper for each student
- Markers, crayons, or other writing utensils

EXPERIENCING THE STORY (CHOOSE ONE OR BOTH ACTIVITIES)

YOU'RE IN, YOU'RE OUT

Set Up . . . Arrange the children's chairs into a circle, leaving one chair in the far corner of the room. Purchase a piece of fruit for this activity.

Say something like . . . **I want all of us to take a seat on a chair somewhere in the circle. I am going to play some music. When the music comes on, pass this fruit around the circle. The child holding the fruit when the music stops must go to sit in the chair on the far side of the room. The next time someone goes out, the first child out can return to the circle.** Every time a child leaves the circle, teacher, start whispering with the children in the circle. Play for as long as time allows.

Ask, **How did you feel when you were outside the circle and everyone was whispering?** (*Let children respond.*) **Today's story was about being separated from God. I want you to imagine with me, what would it be like to be without God's love?** (*Let children think quietly.*)

As a result of Adam and Eve's sin they were separated from God. I'm thankful that God was not content to leave us alone, separated from Him. Ask, What did God do, later in His EPIC story to help bring people back into right relationship with Him? (*Let children respond.*) **That's right, many, many years after Adam and Eve sinned, God sent His One and Only Son, Jesus, so that we could have our sins forgiven and live in relationship with Him.**

Expand the Activity: Purchase enough fruit to serve as a snack.

You'll need

- CD player and CD of kid's music (or other music device)
- One piece of fruit (such as an apple, orange, or kiwi)

CHOICES, CHOICES

Set Up . . . Print and copy, Numbers, Handout 3. (one set per small group) Tape the number signs in opposite corners of your room.

Say something like . . . **Every day we make choices. Some choices are easy to make, some are more difficult, and some very difficult. I am going to read some choices to you and I want you to tell which one you would choose. If you prefer choice number one, then I want you to go to this corner, where**

the Number 1 is hanging. If you prefer choice number two, then I want you to go to the opposite corner and stand under the Number 2 sign. Begin reading through the choices, one at a time, giving children a chance to listen, decide, and then move. Feel free to add to the list.

When you're finished with the choice list, have the kids sit in a circle on the floor. Ask, **Were there any choices you found to be difficult?** (*Let children share.*) **If you like two things the same amount, how do you make a choice? Don't you want both? Some choices cause us problems. Can you think of a choice that might cause a problem?** (*Let children answer.*)

Say, **In today's Bible story Eve and then Adam were both presented with a choice. Was it an easy choice or not? How did they choose? I wonder, why do you think they made that choice?**

Every day we are presented with options, and that means we have to make choices. Sometimes our choices will bring us closer to God, or at other times our choices, like Adam and Eve's, can move us away from God.

Choices List:

- Attend best friend's birthday party or your cousin's birthday party
- Cookies or ice cream
- Recess or math
- To be yelled at or spoken to nicely
- Video games or do dishes
- Watch your favorite show or listen to your favorite music
- Baseball or soccer
- Do something kind or be mean

You'll need

- Numbers, Handout 3, Level 2
- Tape

Ask, **God hasn't left us all alone to make those kind of choices, what has He given us to help?** (*His Word, the Bible; His Spirit to guide us; Godly friends and family to speak to, etc.*)

EXPRESSING THE STORY

JOURNAL OPTION

Set Up . . . Print and copy the Epic Journal, Handout 4 for level 2, one for each student. Add today's page to the journals. Have extra pages from the previous week for students who were absent.

Say something like . . . **Let's think together about what happened in our story today. What pictures do you have in your mind? What is really cool? What's really sad? What does our story tell us about God? What does our story tell us about us? Share your thoughts by writing or drawing whatever comes to your mind on our large paper.**

Have the kids gather around chart paper, butcher paper, or newsprint to record their thoughts and ideas. Take some time to talk about what the kids wrote and drew and allow them to comment or explain further. Hang each week's group journal in chronological order around the room. Refer back to them to connect the stories and themes in the kids' minds.

After reviewing the chart paper, say something like . . . **Wow, the account of Adam and Eve truly is an EPIC story! There's a lot to think about from today's story. Let's take some time to reflect in our Epic Journals.** (*Give students time to personally reflect on the Bible story.*)

ACTIVE OPTION

Have everyone open their Bibles to Genesis Chapter 3. Ask the students to silently read verses 6-13 to themselves. Then, ask a volunteer (or an adult if you have early readers) to read aloud those same verses.

Ask:

- **Have you ever disobeyed your parents?**
- **How does it make your parents feel when you disobey?**
- **What are the consequences when you disobey?**
- **How did God feel when Adam and Eve did the opposite of what He wanted?**

Play a quick game of "Simon Says." Review the rules and watch to see when someone breaks the rules. If no one breaks the rules, then you should break a rule to show the point that rules help us all enjoy the game. As the game ends gather everyone into a circle again.

Ask:

- **How does it feel to have someone break the rules of the game?**
- **Why do you think God made the rule about the tree Adam and Eve should not eat from?** (*God loved them.*)
- **What do friends do when they hurt each other?** (*Say sorry, forgive*)
- **Have you ever told someone you are sorry? What did you say?**
- **Have you ever told God you are sorry?**
- **Does God forgive us when we do things that are wrong?**
- **Let's practice saying sorry to God.** (*Lead kids in sentences, asking God to forgive*)

You'll need

- Butcher paper, chart paper or newsprint
- Epic Journals
- Epic Journal, Handout 4, Level 2
- Pens, pencils, crayons, markers



You'll need

- Bibles



PRAYING THE STORY

Talk about and record requests and praises on your prayer board. If you wish, allow children to say sentence prayers for the requests and praises before you close in prayer.

You'll need

- Bible Memory Poster, Handout 2, Level 2



MEMORIZING THE STORY

Print and copy the Bible Memory Poster, Handout 2, for each small group. Display the poster for your group.

The memory verse for the first four lessons is Nehemiah 9:6. “You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.”

See the Bible Memory Ideas article in the leader’s folder for activities to help students learn the Bible verse.

ENGAGING THE STORY

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EARLY ARRIVAL IDEA

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Ask: **What was the best part of your week?**

After everyone has answered the first question, start over with another question.

Ask: **What was the toughest decision you had to make this week?**

RULE MAKERS

Say something like . . . **Last week we listened to an EPIC story that reminded us of God’s creativity. Today, let’s start out by tapping into some of that creativity!** Have the students gather around the objects for today’s ENGAGE session, then say, **Here are some objects that you are going to put to use. It’s quite simple. You need to, as a group, create a brand new sport. You must use ALL of these items, and you must give your sport a name and a set of rules. You have 7 minutes to accomplish this, and then we’ll put your new game to the test!**

Give the students 7 minutes to think of a game and rules for it, and then give them 3 minutes to play a quick round of what is sure to be the *next* Olympic sport! After this, say, **When you were making up the rules, you probably weren’t thinking “Man, I sure hope no one breaks these rules.” No, you were probably thinking, “How can I make this game fun and playable?” In fact, that’s what makes it NO FUN when someone breaks the rules, right? It’s like they’re saying that they, the players, know more about the game than you, the creator!**

Transition: Say, **Today we’re going to enter into the part of OUR STORY when man and woman decided that they knew more than the Creator. Let’s go see what we can learn together.**



Copy your choice of Bible story (p. 12 or 15) to tell at this point. Insert it here. We recommend the story for older children.

AFTER THE BIBLE STORY

- Experiencing the Story
- Expressing the Story
- Praying the Story
- Memorizing the Story

Supply List (See specific **You’ll need** list for each activity)

Bibles; Foam ball or stuffed animal; Trash bags; Traffic cones; Hula Hoops; Paper; Crayons, markers, pens, pencils; CD player and CD of kid’s music; One piece of fruit; Numbers, Handout 3, Level 3; Tape; Butcher paper, chart paper or newsprint; Epic Journals; Epic Journal, Handout 5, Level 3; Post-it notes; Bible Memory Poster, Handout 2, Level 3



You’ll need

- Foam ball or plush stuffed animal about the size of a volley ball



You’ll need

- Sheet of paper and pen or pencil
- 3 trash bags
- 4 traffic cones
- 7 pieces of paper
- 2 hula-hoops



EXPERIENCING THE STORY (CHOOSE ONE OR BOTH ACTIVITIES)

YOU'RE IN, YOU'RE OUT

Set Up . . . Arrange the children's chairs into a circle, leaving one chair in the far corner of the room. Purchase a piece of fruit for this activity.

Say something like . . . **I want all of us to take a seat on a chair somewhere in the circle. I am going to play music. When the music comes on, pass this fruit around the circle. The child holding the fruit when the music is turned off must go to sit in the chair on the far side of the room. The next time someone goes out, the first child out can return to the circle.** Every time a child leaves the circle, teacher, start whispering with the children in the circle. Play for as long as time allows.

Ask, **How did you feel when you were outside the circle and everyone was whispering?** (*Let children respond.*)
Today's story was about being separated from God. I want you to imagine with me, what would it be like to be without God's love? (*Let children think quietly.*)

Adam and Eve disobeyed God. The results of sin are separation from God and other consequences that are not good. Even though God still loved Adam and Eve, they had to leave the garden as a result of their sin. Share some examples of consequences students your age receive when they've disobeyed a parent or teacher. (*Allow time for responses.*)

Every day we have opportunities to choose to obey or disobey God, to do right or to do wrong. I'm thankful that God was not content to leave us alone, separated from Him. Ask, **What did God do, later in His EPIC story to help bring people back into right relationship with Him?** (*Let students respond.*) **That's right, many, many years after Adam and Eve sinned, God sent His One and Only Son, Jesus, so that we could have our sins forgiven and live in relationship with Him.**

Expand the Activity . . . Purchase enough fruit to serve as a snack.

You'll need

- CD player and CD of kid's music (or other music device)
- One piece of fruit (such as an apple, pear or kiwi)



ALL CLEANED UP!

Say something like . . . **Adam and Eve chose to disobey God when they took and ate the fruit. That disobedience is called sin. The Bible tells us that we are all sinners. Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." That means none of us are perfect.**

- **What are some ways kids your age can commit sins?** (*Lying, cheating; disobeying parents/teachers, etc.*)

Provide a blank piece of paper and a pencil with an eraser to each student. Ask them to fold the piece of paper in half and tear it into two pieces. Say, **On one of your sheets of paper I want you to draw or write what those sins we talked about earlier might look like. Maybe you want to write or draw how you feel if you mess up and disobey.**

Give your students a few minutes to work and then ask . . .

- **I wonder, how does sinning and falling short of God's expectations make you feel?**
- **So what can you do if you sin?** (*I can ask Jesus to forgive me.*)

God forgave the sins of Adam and Eve, and God can forgive your sins too. God sent His Son, Jesus, to allow us to be forgiven. When we confess our sins and ask Him to forgive us, He does!

Have students erase the pictures or words on their papers. Then ask them to look closely at the papers and compare the erased pieces to the clean pieces.

You'll need

- Blank sheet of paper for each student
- Pencil with an eraser for each student



- Can you tell if anything was on your erased paper? (*Yes, it's still dirty, it's smudged, etc.*)

Even the world's greatest eraser will leave signs of the pencil marks on your paper. Now take a look at your clean sheet. When God forgives us, it's as if our sin never even happened in God's eyes. God only sees us as forgiven, as clean as your clean sheet of paper. If you've disobeyed God, you can confess your sins and ask God to forgive you.

EXPRESSING THE STORY

JOURNAL OPTION

Set Up . . . Print and copy the Epic Journal, Handout 5, for level 3, one for each student. Add today's page to the journals. Have extra pages from the previous week for students who were absent. Print the title "Adam and Eve" on the chart paper.

Say something like . . . **Wow, today's Bible story really was EPIC; full of joy and sorrow, choices and consequences and broken relationships. There's a lot to think about from today's story. Let's take some time to reflect in our Epic Journals. Then I'd like each of you to share one or two of your thoughts by grabbing a post-it note and sticking it on the chart paper that says Adam and Eve.**

After students have a chance to journal, ask them to open their Bibles to Genesis, chapters two and three. Have someone read Genesis 2:15-17 and 3:3-13.

Say, **I want you to share with me some of the rules that you are asked to follow, either by your parents, school teachers, or other authority. Let's make a list on the board of these rules.** After compiling a list, ask your group,

- Why would people (or even you) break these rules?
- Have you ever had to babysit someone and they didn't listen to your rules? How did you feel?
- How do you think God felt when Adam and Eve ignored His rule?
- How do friends stay friends when there has been a break in the friendship? (*Say sorry, forgive*)
- How do we stay connected to God when we do things we know are wrong? (*Ask God to forgive us.*)

Give an example of a prayer to God for forgiveness from your own personal life. Be genuine and specific. Model a sincere prayer that seeks re-connection with God. Be sure to end the prayer by thanking God for His promise of forgiveness found in His Son, Jesus.

PRAYING THE STORY

Talk about and record requests and praises on your prayer board. If you wish, allow children to say sentence prayers for the requests and praises before you close in prayer.

MEMORIZING THE STORY

Print and copy the Bible Memory Poster, Handout 2, for each small group. Display the poster for your group.

The memory verse for the first four lessons is Nehemiah 9:6. "You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you."

See the Bible Memory Ideas article in the leader's folder for activities to help students learn the Bible verse.

You'll need

- Epic Journals
- Epic Journal, Handout 5, Level 3
- Post-it notes
- Chart paper, poster board, or newsprint
- Bibles
- Pens, pencils, crayons, markers



You'll need

- Bible Memory Poster, Handout 2, Level 3

WORSHIP & BIBLE STORY | LESSON 2

ADAM AND EVE | GENESIS 3

ENTERING & EXPLORING THE STORY... FOR YOUNGER STUDENTS

LEAD WORSHIP

Welcome, kids! I'm so glad that you are here today! You and I and God's people all over the world, WE are part of God's EPIC story. Why don't you stand up and we'll say that again. Put motions to this statement. Have the kids hold the hand of a child on their left when you say "You" and a child on their right when you say "I." Then do a big arm circle when you say "all over the world." Say, **You and I and God's people all over the world, WE are part of God's EPIC story.**

We've come here today to learn more about God and His love for us. Let's keep standing and sing together.

Sing: Epic Theme Song

I am so glad that you are here today and that we can share God's story together. Last week we heard the EPIC story of creation, remember? Let's tell each other the story. You can use your hands to tell it as I say the words.

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven—God spoke to create all earth and heaven.

Day one, just begun. (*hold up one finger*)

Day two, sky is new. (*sweep one arm overhead, from side to side*)

Day three, plants and trees. (*hold left hand in "C" shape, and pass right hand through*)

Day four, stars galore. (*"twinkle" fingers*)

Day five, fish alive. (*palms together to swim like a fish*)

Day six, all life clicks. (*snap fingers*)

Day seven, rest in heaven. (*rest head on hands*)

Seven, six, five, four, three, two, one—a wonderful world, where once there was none.

Great job! (*You might repeat the rhyme a couple of times, if time permits, encouraging the children to join in with the words as they remember them.*) This story is really yours! Whenever you count to seven, you can remember God, the CREATOR of the world and everything in it. Let's stand and sing praise for the wonderful world that CREATOR God created.

Sing: Song about creation (Choose a favorite that you have used before)

Things you'll need to present today's EPIC Story:

Song Suggestions

- Epic Theme Song
- Song about creation

Story Props

- Large indoor silk tree for the middle of the room (optional)
- Blanket to unfold and invite the children to sit on (optional)
- Bible (NIV © 2011)
- Video story, Lesson 2, Video 1, with equipment to play and project the story for worship (optional)



That was awesome praise for our awesome God. Will you pray with me? PRAY something like . . . Oh, God, you are amazing. You are our awesome Creator, the One who created everything out of nothing. We ask that you will reveal yourself to us today—show us who you are and help us to know more about you. In your name we pray, Amen.

PRESENT THE EPIC STORY (FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN)

We give praise to the Creator God and tell God’s story through our words and through our songs. Can you think of some other ways to praise our God? *(Suggest clapping, running in place, and encourage children to say things like “God, You’re Great!”)*

I want to tell you more about the world God created and the living things God put in the world. Adam and Eve were the first people. Every day they played in the perfect garden God gave them. In the evening, God would come to take a walk with them. God loved them, and they loved God.

Let’s take a walk to see the garden where Adam and Eve lived. *(Have the children stand and walk in place.)*

Look down at all the pretty flowers! Do you want to pick a bunch? *(Show the children how to reach down and pick flowers. When you’re done, “smell” them.)*

Look up at all the trees! Do you want to climb one? *(Show the children how to climb up in place.)*

I’m hungry! What kind of fruit do you want to eat? *(Encourage children to name a fruit and pick it.)*

Let’s sit down to eat our fruit salad. *(Spread out the blanket. Have a seat and pretend to eat.)*

That was fun! Here comes a kitty—a special pet. *(Make whiskers.)*

And here comes a mouse. *(Cup your hand and “pet” it.)*

Don’t worry! The mouse is safe from the cat. In God’s garden, all the animals get along.

And so do Adam and Eve. They can eat anything they want EXCEPT the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden. If they touch that tree *(Point to the middle of your room), God will be sad.*

Uh-oh . . . look over there. I see a serpent talking to Eve by that tree she’s not supposed to touch. *(Hiss! the S’s in the words.)*

OH NO! She’s reaching for that fruit from the ONE tree she can’t eat from! Don’t do it, Eve! *(Encourage the kids to shout at Eve not to touch it.)*

OH NO! Here comes Adam! No Adam! *(Encourage the kids to shout a warning to Adam.)*

This is BAD, VERY bad... God told Adam and Eve not to touch that tree, and now they’ve eaten its fruit. *(Shake head)*

Listen! God is coming through the garden. Hear His footsteps? *(Pat the floor on each side, like heavy footsteps)*

Listen! Adam and Eve are running through the garden, around the plants, away from God. *(Rub your hands quickly against each other, like running steps.)*

They are hiding. *(Cover your eyes with your hands.)*

But God knows where they are. God always knows where His people are.

(Cup your hands around your mouth and speak in a deep, slow, disappointed voice:)

Oh, Adam. Oh, Eve.

This is so hard to believe.

I made this garden for your fun,

But you must leave, because of what you've done.

(Return your voice to its narrative style.)

Let's fold up our blankets. It's time to go. *(Have children stand and mime folding the blankets.)*

Goodbye, Kitty. Goodbye, Mouse. *(Wave goodbye)*

No more fruit. No more trees. No more garden walks with God. *(Shake head)*

No more flowers. Only hard work on hard ground. *(Kick at the floor, like it is hard)*

Adam is sad. Eve is sad. God is sad. And I'm sad, too. *(Use your closed fists to wipe eyes)*

What will become of Adam and Eve outside the garden? *(Shrug shoulders with palms upraised)*

Adam will work by the sweat of his brow. *(“Wipe” sweat from forehead)*

The garden gate is locked up tight. Can't get in. *(“Shake” the gates)*

Goodbye, Flowers. Goodbye, Trees. Goodbye, God's perfect world. Goodbye. *(Wave)*



OPTIONAL: Show the video lesson 2, video 1, as a review.

You see, friends, Adam and Eve disobeyed God. The result of their sin caused them to be separated from God. Even though God still loved Adam and Eve, they had to leave the garden as a result of their sin. Every day we have opportunities to choose to obey or disobey God, to do right or to do wrong. Let's pray and ask God to help us make choices that would please Him.

Pray, Father, Thank you for allowing us to have a relationship with you. We know that it breaks your heart when we make bad choices. Please forgive us. Help us to remember that you love us and your Son, Jesus, died to make us right with you again. Thank you for loving us. Give us the courage and the strength to make good choices that please you. Amen.

Discuss the following statements and questions with the children. Let them share their ideas and thoughts.

Wonderings . . .

- **What kinds of things would be in your perfect garden? What could we look around and see?**
- **Would you make rules for your perfect garden? What would they be?**
- **Have people who love you told you not to touch some things? Why do you think they don't want you to touch?**
- **I wonder if that's why God told Adam and Eve not to touch the tree . . .** *(This can be the answer to each child's response to the previous question)*
- **What happens when you touch what you are not supposed to touch or do what you are not supposed to do?**
- **What would you say to Adam and Eve if they came to our class?**
- **What do you think Adam and Eve would say to you?**

Dismiss the children to their small groups.

WORSHIP & BIBLE STORY | LESSON 2

ADAM AND EVE | GENESIS 3

ENTERING & EXPLORING THE STORY... FOR OLDER STUDENTS

LEAD WORSHIP

Good morning, friends! I am so glad to see each and every one of you here today. Did you know that there's a story being written, and you have a part in it? It's true. The author: God. He started writing this story long, long ago. And that story continues here today with you and me. This story isn't like any other story. No, it is truly an EPIC story, full of good times and bad times. It's full of ups and downs, highs and lows, but through it all God remains. We've come to hear another EPIC story from God's Word. Let's stand and sing together.

Sing: Epic Theme Song

Last week we heard a story, an EPIC story. It was a story about God. In fact, it was the first story about God. We heard about how God created all that there is. The beautiful things that we see in nature did not come about by chance; everything had a beginning. Last week we learned about how our beautiful world began. Let's stand and sing praise to God our Creator.

Sing: GOD OF WONDERS (or another favorite creation praise song)

PRESENT THE EPIC STORY (FOR OLDER CHILDREN)

Many times, stories start with a riddle. Today our story starts with a riddle and a chance to try to figure it out. The riddle is this: **How long did Adam and Eve live in the garden God gave them? You'll work to find some clues in the Bible.** Have each child decide whether to work alone or with a partner, then give each person or team a portion of Genesis 2-3 to read for clues about how long Adam and Eve lived in Eden. Give them a brief time to explore and report back to the group with any clues they may have found.

Riddles are sometimes a little frustrating even when there are lots of clues, but here's the answer we discover from our Bible clues to the riddle "How long did Adam and Eve live in the garden?" **NOT LONG ENOUGH!** Adam and Eve **COULD** have lived in God's garden forever and never died, but instead, both sin and death entered into the world because of what they did. Let's find out how that happened through retelling this EPIC story from the Bible:

Eden was a beautiful place—more beautiful than any place on earth. Imagine the perfect rose of your favorite color with each petal in place—and it would never get wilted or turn brown. Or imagine a tree filled with your favorite kind of fruit that you could pick without a ladder whenever you wanted, without asking anyone for permission. Multiply that by a million and you might get some kind of idea of how perfect this garden was for Adam and Eve.

The plants and animals worked together in a way that was almost musical. The garden air smelled fresh and clean in the morning and warm and perfumed in the daytime, and then cool and sweet in the evening. The

Things you'll need to present today's EPIC Story:



Song Suggestions

- Epic Theme Song
- Suggested song, God of Wonders

Story Props

- Video story, Lesson 2, Video 1, with equipment to play and project the story for worship
- Enough Bibles for groups of students to read together (or a sheet prepared with Genesis 2 and 3)
- Blank sheet of paper for each student
- Pens or pencils

sun woke them up each day, and the moon was their nightlight. Whenever they were hungry, Adam and Eve had something wonderful to eat. Whenever they were thirsty, there was plenty to drink. When they wanted to swim, there was a safe river with a gentle current. They were comfortable with each other, and comfortable with God. God designed this amazing place for people He loved very much. God was very generous and shared ALMOST everything He had created with Adam and Eve.

In the middle of the garden, though, stood one tree full of fruit that God had told Adam and Eve not to eat—and not even to touch. Everything else was theirs for the taking. So when the most crafty creature God made came to Eve and said, “Did God really say you must not eat from any of the trees in the garden?” Eve laughed and said, “Of course not! God’s given us everything we need. It’s only the fruit from the MIDDLE tree in the Garden we can’t eat. God told us if we eat THAT fruit our lives will be over.”

But the serpent brought Eve close. Maybe he told her to lean into the tree and smell the fruit. He hissed charmingly in her ear *(Add a raspy sort of voice inflection)* “You won’t die. Surely God was just kidding around. That fruit won’t kill you. Really, eating that fruit will make you jussst... like... God!”

Eve thought that sounded really good! The serpent convinced her that the delicious looking fruit from the center tree would make her as wise as God, as powerful as God, as beautiful as God. Who wouldn’t want to be just like God??

She wanted to share the news—and the fruit—with Adam. He came to her and together, they each took a bite and chewed—first slowly, then more and more greedily. I wonder if juice ran down their chins and they laughed at how it tickled. Then they stepped back and looked at each other and for the first time, they felt embarrassed, because they saw each other differently than they ever had before. They ran to find big fig leaves to cover themselves from each other’s stares. Everything had changed. They were uncomfortable, and grouchy, and probably kind of sick to their stomachs—you know, like you feel when you’ve done something wrong and are about to get caught.

Soon, when the cool evening breezes blew, they heard the footsteps of God. Adam and Eve ran for the trees to hide from God. God called to Adam, “Adam! Where are you?” like a game of hide and seek. But instead of staying hidden, Adam called out, “I heard you, so I hid. I was afraid because, well—Lord God—I’m *NAKED!*”

“Naked!” cried the Lord God. “How do you know you are naked?” But it was really not a question. God knew that Adam would not know about being naked unless he had eaten the fruit from the tree in the center of the garden. “Oh, Adam! Did you eat the fruit I told you not to?” But God knew the answer even before He asked the question.

“I just ate what Eve gave me!” said Adam. He looked at Eve.

Eve said, “The serpent tricked me into it, Lord. That’s why I ate it.”



At this point, stop and show the video for Lesson 2, Video 1. Let the students watch and absorb the impact of the pictures and narration. Then continue.

The heart of God was saddened because He knew the consequences that come from eating the forbidden fruit. Pain and suffering had now entered His good world and Adam and Eve had to leave the garden, forever. *(Pause)* But all hope was not lost. You see, God loves His creation too much to just leave us in our own strength. Already, things were put into motion that would one day lead to God walking and talking with His creation once again. That EPIC story will have to wait until another day, but for now, in this story, God lovingly fashioned clothes for his first man and his first woman and they left the garden, never to return again.

Adam and Eve disobeyed God. The result of their sin caused them to be separated from God. Even though God still loved Adam and Eve, they had to leave the garden as a result of their sin. Every day we have opportunities

to choose to obey or disobey God, to do right or to do wrong. Let's pray and ask God to help us make choices that would please Him.

Pray, Father, Thank you for allowing us to have a relationship with you. We know that you are not pleased when we choose our way over yours. Please forgive us for the times we have been like Adam and Eve and have disobeyed you. Help us to remember that you love us and sent your Son, Jesus, to die to make us right with you again. Thank you for loving us. Give us the courage and the strength to make good choices that please you. Amen.

Discuss the following statements and questions with the children. Let them share their ideas and thoughts.

Wonderings . . .

- **I wonder what it would be like if Adam and Eve had obeyed God.**
- **How does that story make you feel? Why?**
- **What do you think was the best thing about living in the garden God created? What do you think was the worst thing about having to leave it?**
- **How do you think God felt when Adam and Eve made the choice to eat fruit from the tree He told them not to eat from?**
- **I think I've felt like Adam and Eve felt when God came looking for them. Think about a time you didn't want anyone to know about something you did. How did you feel? What did you do? How did you try and hide it?**
- **I wonder if that's why Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed the serpent. How do you think blaming worked out for them?**
- **I wonder if God still loved them, even though they had done a terrible thing. Sometimes, I wonder if God loves people who do terrible things today. What do you think? Why?**

Is there anything in the story that shows that God still loved Adam and Eve even when He was sending them from the Garden? (Many scholars have noted God's continued care through God's provision of durable clothing—skins—to replace their temporary fig leaves.)

Dismiss the students to their small groups.

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