

SIN LEADS TO DEATH, BUT GOD RAISES THE DEAD TO LIFE

FOUNDATION: GOD IS CREATOR - GOD GIVES LIFE

BIG TRUTH: SIN LEADS TO DEATH, BUT GOD RAISES THE DEAD TO LIFE

Romans 5:10; Ephesians 2:1-5; Colossians 1:21-22; James 1:15

BIBLE VERSE: EPHESIANS 2:4-5A

But God... even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ

BIG IDEAS

- God is the author of life, and joy is found in Him alone.
- Adam and Eve chose to sin by rejecting and disobeying God.
- Sin leads to death, and everyone has sinned.
- God raises the dead to life through the promised Son.

BIBLE STORY: GENESIS 2 & 3

God, the author of all life, created man in His own image. The first man and woman, Adam and Eve, chose to trade the truth for a lie and sinned against God. This sin introduced a sin nature to all of mankind. Though man sinned against God, He made a way to save them. Though their sin introduced death into the world, God raises the dead to life through the promised Son.

FOUNDATION: GOD IS CREATOR—GOD GIVES LIFE

Everything that is and that has ever existed was created by God. All of creation He created from nothing. He created everything for the purpose of bringing glory to His name, and after He created all things, He declared everything He made to be good. Since God is creator, it is He who gives life to all things, including us. Our lives and the purpose for our lives is found in Him.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- God is the creator of all things
- All life comes from God



Every child should feel:

- Awe that God made everything out of nothing



Every child should be able to:

- Point out things in their daily lives and acknowledge that they were created by God



Every child should want:

- To trust God their Creator

FAMILY DEVOTION:

GOD RAISES THE DEAD THROUGH HIS PROMISED SON

After God created the first man and woman, they chose to sin against Him. Their sin separated them from God and introduced death into the world and they were cursed to return to the dust of the earth. God, in His great mercy and grace, made a way for man to be raised to life again through His promised Son.

EPHESIANS 2:4-5A

But God... even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ

Our sin makes us dead.

- When mankind disobeyed God and sinned against Him, we became separated from God.
- God is the author of life, and He is the only one who can give life.
- When we are separated from God, we are dead and do not have life.
- Because our sin keeps us separated from God, we are dead in our sins.

God is the one who makes us alive.

- When we are dead in our sins, we cannot do anything to save ourselves, or to make ourselves alive.
- We need a Rescuer and a Savior, and God is the one who is that Savior.
- God is the one who comes after us when we are dead and who gives us new life.
- God makes us alive when we are dead.

God makes us alive with Christ.

- God sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sins so that we could have new life.
- Because Jesus died and rose again from the grave, we are able to have rescue from our sins.
- When God makes us alive, he gives us a new life in Christ.

SIN LEADS TO DEATH, BUT GOD RAISES THE DEAD TO LIFE

BIBLE STORY: GENESIS 2 & 3

God Created Life & Sin Broke Creation

Supporting Scripture: Genesis 1:1-11

Teacher Introduction:

God is the author of all life and the giver of true joy. He created Adam and Eve and placed them in the Garden of Eden. Because He loved them, He gave them boundaries and guidelines to follow, but they disobeyed Him. Satan, who sought to destroy God's creation, tempted Eve with many lies, specifically that God was deceitful. Though God had only shown love and truthfulness to Adam and Eve, they traded the truth for a lie and sinned against Him. Yet, God in His great mercy, sent them away from the garden and made a way to right their wrong by sending His promised Son.

Teaching Guide:

The guide below is provided to help you teach the narrative: *God Created Life & Sin Broke Creation*. The four points are the Big Ideas that should guide your lesson as you share from Genesis 2 & 3 and teach the narrative: *God Created Life & Sin Broke Creation*. Footnotes are provided for further study of the text and God's interaction with His people. Throughout the lesson questions are placed to help you guide the preschoolers to think about and process the narrative: *God Created Life & Sin Broke Creation*.

Opening Illustration:

Bring in a pitcher of water. Make sure the pitcher is clear so the children can see the water. Dirty the water by placing dirt or some other substance in it, such as liquid food coloring.

- How did our pitcher of water start out? (It was clear and clean.)
- What happened to it? (It's dirty now; it's not clear.)
- How did it get dirty? (We put dirt in it or food coloring.)
- This is what happened to God's creation. It was perfect and clean at first, but then sin dirtied it up.
- God's creation was broken because of sin.

BIG IDEA: GOD IS THE AUTHOR OF LIFE AND JOY IS FOUND IN HIM. (GENESIS 2:1-7, 15-17)

God designed and created man.

- God is the great designer of life, all life.
- God revealed His great creativity in His design of man's life.
- He fashioned man with His hands, creating him in His very own image.
- God chose to create man differently than the rest of creation, which He merely spoke into existence.
- Man was different and God chose to create man with His hands using the dust of the earth.

God breathed life into man.

- Man was further distinguished from the rest of creation when God breathed life into his lungs Himself.
- God set man apart as special and of great value by so intimately creating him.¹
- God gave man purpose by breathing life into him and taking great care to create him.
- God's creation of man was very good because God is good and perfect.
- God's good purpose for creating man was to create someone with whom to have a relationship, not because God needed a relationship, but because He wanted a relationship with man.²

Man finds joy in God alone.

- God gave Adam and Eve a perfect home---the Garden of Eden.
- He gave them purpose and jobs. He placed them in charge of the Garden, asked them to care for it, and gave them one restriction—do not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
- The fruit of this tree would give Adam and Eve an understanding of good and evil, but it would also lead to death.
- God knew that He was enough for them. They did not need to understand good and evil to find true joy.
- True joy is found in God alone.³

Who is the author of life? (God is the author of life.)

From whom do we get joy? (God is the source of true joy for all of mankind.)

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13: Solomon understood the chief of mankind was to obey God's commands, to serve the one, true God with all our hearts, minds, and souls.

2. 1 Chronicles 16:9-10: Man's chief purpose is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. Throughout scripture we're told to meditate on the words of God, to ponder who He is and all that He has done. We are to sing praises to Him, rejoice in His great works.

3. Nehemiah 8:10: Nehemiah's task of rebuilding the walls around Jerusalem was not an easy one. He faced many obstacles, but found his strength in the joy of the Lord. He understood that God is the giver of all things, including joy.

BIG IDEA: ADAM AND EVE CHOSE TO SIN BY REJECTING AND DISOBEYING GOD. (GENESIS 3:1-11)**God gave Adam and Eve instructions on how to live for Him.**

- When God created Adam and Eve and placed them in the garden, He did not leave them to fend for themselves.
- He gave them instructions on how to live for Him and how to be perfectly happy.
- They were given authority over the animals and placed as caretakers of God's perfect garden, yet they didn't listen to God.
- They were tempted by Satan's lies.⁴



Play a game of "Hot Potato" with the children. Use a soft ball as the potato. Pretend the "potato" is the temptation to sin and we want to resist the temptation to sin quickly. Remind them that Satan tempts us to sin just like he tempted Adam and Eve. We should move away or get rid of the temptation as quickly as we can like the "hot potato".

Satan tempted them with lies.

- Satan is cunning, more cunning than any other beast that God made.
- He is in rebellion against God and wants to tempt all people to reject God.
- He began his temptation in the garden against Eve.
- He made her question God's truthfulness when he questioned God's instructions to Adam and Eve.
- Satan tempted her with the lie that there is something better than a relationship with God, that the grass is greener on the other side.

They chose to disobey God and in doing so, they rejected Him.

- They believed the lies of Satan.
- The lie that God was not telling them the truth.
- The lie that there was something better than what God had given them.
- The lie that God was not enough for them.
- Satan tempted them with the pride of life---the desire to be in charge and in control of their own lives.
- They chose to believe Satan's lies and they rejected and disobeyed God introducing sin into every heart of every man and woman born after them.

How did Adam and Eve disobey God? (They ate of the fruit that He told them not to eat.)

4. 2 Corinthians 11:3: God does not tempt His children. Temptation is a product of Satan and his lies. Eve was tempted by Satan to disobey God.

SIN LEADS TO DEATH, BUT GOD RAISES THE DEAD TO LIFE

BIG IDEA: SIN LEADS TO DEATH AND EVERYONE HAS SINNED⁵. (GENESIS 3:19-24)

Adam and Eve's sin introduced death into the world.

- They came from dust and now, since they sinned, they would return to dust.
- Their sin introduced sin into the heart of every man. No one is without a sin nature.
- Because of their disobedience, they now had knowledge of good and evil.
- Their understanding was increased, yet it would yield them death and destruction.

Human nature was changed when Adam and Eve sinned.

- No one is exempt from the consequences of the sin of Adam and Eve.
- All have sinned because all are born with a sin nature.
- When God first created man and woman, they were perfect.
- They did not have sin in their hearts. They had perfect fellowship with God.
- When they chose to disobey God and believe Satan's lie, sin entered their hearts.
- Human hearts were forever changed by their disobedience.

Eve is the mother of all human life.

- Eve is the first woman, the first mother.
- All life stems from her; therefore, all life inherits a sin nature.
- The payment for sin is death, in part because it is a rejection of God and in part out of His great mercy.⁶
- God cast Adam and Eve out of the garden and condemned them to die, not because He stopped loving them, but rather because He loved them so much.
- He did not desire that they or their generations of children should live forever in their sinfulness.
- He had a rescue plan already set in action. He would win them back.

What does sin lead to? (Sin leads to death.)

Who has sinned? (All have sinned, every single person.)



Give each child a black piece of paper. Tell them that when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, sin entered their hearts and the hearts of every person born after them. The black paper represents our hearts before Jesus. Next, give each child a white piece of paper. Help them tape or staple the white sheet over the black sheet. The white sheet is Jesus. When we believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths that Jesus died for our sins, our hearts are made new and clean.

5. Romans 3:23: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God because Adam and Eve first sinned. Their sin introduced sin into the heart of every man.

6. Romans 6:23: The wages of sin or payment for sin is death. Sin always leads to death. There are no exceptions.

BIG IDEA: GOD RAISES THE DEAD TO LIFE THROUGH THE PROMISED SON.**God cast Adam and Eve out to save all of mankind.**

- When God made Adam and Eve leave the garden, it was not to harm them or because He didn't care for them anymore.
- He cast them out in order to save all of mankind.
- If they had stayed in the garden and received no curse for their sin, they would have lived forever with their sinful hearts.
- This life would not have been good for them or anyone after them.
- God had a plan to save all of the world and it required that He send Adam and Eve away and condemn them to die.



Read Romans 3:23-24 and 6:23 with the children. Give them each some paper money that has the word "death" written on it. Tell them that their wages, or cost, for our sin is death, but Jesus gives us new life and raises us from the dead with His sacrifice on the cross. Give them a cross with the words "Jesus gives life" written on it.

God promised to send the one who would defeat Satan and sin.

- When He cast Adam and Eve out, He did not send them away without first giving them hope.
- He promised there would be One who would crush Satan and defeat sin and death.
- This promised One was His Son, who would come to earth and die for the sins of all of mankind.

God introduced the idea of the Promised One when He made the first sacrifice in the garden.

- Before God sent Adam and Eve away, He killed animals in order to make clothes for them out of the animals' skins.
- This was the first death in the world God had created and it symbolized the death of the One who would come to save all of mankind.
- Though all of humanity was condemned to die because of Adam and Eve's sin, all of humanity would be raised to new life through the death of God's Son, the promised Rescuer.⁷

How are people given new life? (Through Jesus, the promised Son.)

7. Romans 6:4: We all are buried, killed by our sinfulness, but raised to a new life through Christ.

HOOKS

**God is the Author of All Life**

Bring in dirt to class. Pour a little dirt in clear, plastic cups and give one to each child. Ask the children to create something from the dirt. Ask them to create a person from the dirt.



- Can you create a real, live person from the dirt? (No, we cannot create a person from the dirt.)
- Did God create a person from the dirt? (Yes, He created Adam from the dirt.)
- God created man from the dirt after He created the dirt, itself!
- After He created man, He breathed life into him.
- God is the author of all life. He is the creator of everything.

**Every Person Has Sinned**

On the board or a large piece of paper, help the children make a list of the ways they obey their parents. Then help them make a list of the ways they disobey their parents.



- Is it easy to obey your parents? (Sometimes and sometimes it's not.)
- Do you know when you obey your parents, you are obeying God because He tells us in the Bible to obey our parents?
- Do you sometimes choose to disobey your parents? (Yes, sometimes we make the choice to not obey.)
- Adam and Eve chose not to obey God. They chose not to listen to Him.
- When they chose to disobey, they sinned and that meant that everyone after them has sinned.

God Raises the Dead to Life Through the Promised Son

Give each child a picture of the outline of a superhero cape. Help them make a list of what they think a hero is like. Allow them to decorate their capes in ways they feel best describe what they think a hero is. Lead them in a discussion of God's Promised Rescuer---Jesus Christ. He is mankind's hero because He came to earth to save us from our sin.

- Do you know who is the greatest hero of all? (Jesus is the greatest hero of all.)
- Jesus died for our sins and when He did, He rescued us from death and raised us to new life. We must repent and believe in Him to be rescued.