

OUR SIN WRECKS GOD'S GOOD CREATION

THE STORY: FALL

BIG TRUTH: OUR SIN WRECKS GOD'S GOOD CREATION

Romans 8:18-22; Genesis 3:17-19; James 1:15; Romans 1:22-23, 5:12; Isaiah 59:2

BIBLE VERSE: GENESIS 3:8-9

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

BIG IDEAS

- Sin wrecks our relationship with God.
- Sin wrecks our relationship with creation.
- Sin wrecks our relationships with others and ourselves.

BIBLE STORY: GENESIS 3:8-24

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, the good creation that God had made was broken. Sin entered the world through their disobedience and nothing was ever the same. Death and sorrow became a part of every person's life and Adam and Eve were separated from God. Our sin wrecks everything.

THE STORY

The Story is the good news of the gospel. All of Scripture tells the Story of God the Father's work to redeem a people from the power of sin through God the Son so that they might live for His glory through the power of the Holy Spirit. During this series we will explore the four main movements of the Story of God, and our response to the life-altering Gospel Story!

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- God is the author, subject, and hero of the gospel story
- Salvation comes by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone



Every child should feel:

- Brokenness over the depth of our sin against God
- Joy in Jesus, our Savior and King



Every child should strive to:

- Describe the gospel message through Creation, Fall, Redemption, and New Creation
- Memorize the Bible verse each week



Every child should want:

- To study the Bible so that they can better understand God's story of redemption
- To share the gospel story with those who are separated from God in their sin

FAMILY DEVOTION: A BROKEN RELATIONSHIP

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, their sin changed their relationship with Him. Because their sin changed the nature of every person, all relationships are a struggle and require a lot of work. Most importantly, every person is born separated from God and their sin leads them away from Him.

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Sin leads to feelings of guilt and shame.

"And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God..."

- Before Adam and Eve disobeyed God, life was perfect in the Garden of Eden. They enjoyed a daily relationship with God and they were free from shame and guilt because they had not broken God's law.
- After they disobeyed God, they were no longer free of guilt. They were the opposite—guilty. They had broken God's law and His creation. Now, because they were guilty, they had to deal with feelings of guilt and shame. We, too, are sinners and break God's law. We have guilt and shame because of our disobedience.

Sin separates us from God.

"...and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees in the garden."

- In the beginning, Adam and Eve were not separated from God. They enjoyed daily fellowship with Him. Their relationship was good and unhindered by sin. After they ate the forbidden fruit, their relationship with God changed. They were separated from Him because of their sin.
- Our sin separates us from God. We are all born sinful and because of this sin, we there is a great divide between God and us. We do not naturally seek God, so as we live, our sin leads us away from Him.

Sin puts us under God's judgment.

"But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, 'Where are you?'"

- After Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit, their eyes were opened and for the first time they experienced the effects of disobedience. They hid themselves from Him, afraid to be in His presence. Before they disobeyed Him, they had not been afraid of Him. Sin changes relationships.
- Our sin puts us under God's judgment. Just as Adam and Eve had to face God's judgment for their disobedience, we all are under His judgment for our sinfulness. Unless we repent and believe in Jesus as our Savior, we will face God's final judgment and be held accountable for our sin.

BIBLE STORY: GENESIS 3:8-24

Consequences of Disobedience

Opening Illustration:

Give each child a map of the world and crayons. Ask the children to color their maps and as they do discuss with them the different things that God created when He made the heavens and the earth. Discuss with the children the way that our sin wrecked God's good creation.

OUR SIN WRECKS GOD'S GOOD CREATION

BIG IDEA: SIN WRECKS OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.¹

Our sin nature separates us from God.

- In the beginning, everything that God made was good and without sin. Adam and Eve had no sin in them until they broke God's law and disobeyed Him in the Garden of Eden. When they ate the forbidden fruit, sin entered their hearts and the world. Their sin changed the very nature of human beings. From then on, every person born after them was and is born with a sinful nature. This means that we are all born with hearts that are enslaved to sin and bent toward sinning.
- Sin separates us from God. There is a great chasm, or divide between mankind and God because of man's sin. God is holy and righteous, and we are not.



Write the following verses on the board: Isaiah 59:1-2, Romans 6:23, and John 3:36. Have the children look the verses up and then read each one out loud. Talk with the children about how our sin separates us from God. Man's sin changed his relationship with God.

Sin changed Adam and Eve's relationship with God.

- Adam and Eve enjoyed an intimate relationship with God before their sin. They were created for that relationship, just as we are created for a relationship with God. Though no one born after Adam and Eve enjoyed the same type of relationship with God, we are all created for that relationship. It is how God made us, creating us in His image to know Him and be known by Him.
- When Adam and Eve sinned, their relationship with God changed. They no longer enjoyed daily walks with God or a relationship free of shame and guilt. They were no longer at peace with God.

Our sin nature leads us away from God.

- Our sin natures lead us to seek our own glory and to pursue our own desires. We naturally reject God and His purposes, forsaking the one true God for our own way. This leads us farther and farther away from God.

How does our sin wreck our relationship with God? (Our sin leads us away from God and causes a great divide between God and man.)

1. Genesis 3:24: Adam and Eve had to leave the Garden and God's daily presence after they sinned.

OUR SIN WRECKS GOD'S GOOD CREATION

BIG IDEA: SIN WRECKS OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CREATION.²

God's creation was perfect in the beginning.

- Only God can create perfect things and He did when He made the heavens and the earth. The world He created was perfect and without sin. Adam and Eve were perfect and without sin in the beginning.
- Everything functioned perfectly because there was no sin in it. This is because God is perfect and all that He does is good and perfect. He cannot sin; therefore, everything He does is without sin.

Man's disobedience caused sin to enter God's good creation.

- Before Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the garden, there was no sin in the world. The world did not know death or sorrow. There was no pain or hurt. Life was good, perfect, and peaceful.
- After Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit, sin entered the world. The future of the world changed in that moment as death, the consequence of sin, entered the world.³

Creation reveals the brokenness of the world.⁴

- The world reveals the evidence of sin through the darkness that now characterizes it. What was once good and perfect is now dark and broken. Once, the world yielded its fruit easily, but now, there are famines, natural disasters, and disease present. The world has continuously decayed as sin pervaded every part of it.
- Man's sinfulness has broken the world's structures. Where once there was harmony and peace, now there is violence and war. Brothers fight brothers and nations war against one another.

How did man's sin break creation? (Man's sin introduced death and sorrow to the world.)



Divide the children into small groups. Give each group index cards and markers. Set a timer. Ask the groups to race one another to see who can write down on index cards the most ways man's sin changed creation. Have them write down one way on each card. Remind them that our sin wrecks God's good creation.

2. Genesis 3:18-19: Creation no longer willingly yielded food for mankind after they sinned. Life would be difficult on earth as a result of sin.

3. Romans 5:12: It is through the sin of Adam that sin and death entered God's created world.

4. Romans 8:19-23: The natural world groans for the return of Christ when He will make all things new.

OUR SIN WRECKS GOD'S GOOD CREATION

BIG IDEA: SIN WRECKS OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS AND OURSELVES.⁵

Sin changes our relationship with others.

- Sin affects every part of our lives. It begins in our hearts, and from our hearts come our thoughts and actions. Adam and Eve lived in harmony with one another, each content to fulfill his or her created purpose. After they sinned, their relationship changed. After sin, living in harmony became difficult and a challenge. They were no longer comfortable with one another.
- Our sin affects our relationship with other people. Friendships and relationships are hard because of our sinfulness. Because we are sinful, we often experience jealousy, strife, and fighting in our relationships. We may not trust others or think the very best of them. Instead, we judge them and think the worst of them.



Help the children come up with a list of ways that relationships with others are difficult. Help them think of ways they are easy. Brainstorm ways for the children to be better friends, siblings, and children to their parents. Remind them that our sin has broken our relationships.

Sin causes brokenness and bitterness in our relationships.

- No relationship is free of strife. Every relationship beginning with our brothers and sisters involves fighting of some sort. Adam and Eve saw this to be true in their own relationship when they were confronted about eating the forbidden fruit. When asked, Adam blamed Eve for giving him the fruit, revealing the first effects of sin on his heart.
- Our earthly relationships are challenging and often riddled with jealousy and bickering. We experience this because the sin in our hearts makes us all self-centered and unwilling to sacrifice for someone else.

Sin leads us to view ourselves incorrectly.

- Before Adam and Eve disobeyed, they lived in submission to God. He was their Father and Creator. They lived in the world as He had commanded, until they sinned. Because of sin, they viewed themselves as equal to God. They desired the knowledge that the forbidden fruit would give and wanted to be wise in their own eyes.
- Sin distorts our view of ourselves. It either makes us think too highly of ourselves or too lowly. It is a challenge to view ourselves correctly and is impossible without the power of the Holy Spirit inside of us.

How does sin wreck our relationship with others? (It leads to distrust, fighting, and strife in our relationships.)

5. Genesis 3:7: Adam and Eve's relationship changed after they sinned.

OUR SIN WRECKS GOD'S GOOD CREATION

HOOKS



KNOW

Changed Forever

Divide the children into small groups. Give each group a blank piece of paper and ask the groups to create a comic strip showing the ways that man's sin has broken God's good creation. Help them brainstorm ways that creation is different than if sin had never entered the world. Talk with them about the ways that our sin has changed creation.



DO

What If...

Write down a list of different scenarios that the children might encounter throughout their week, such as sleeping late, not finishing homework, helping their parents without being asked, etc. Ask the children to describe how each scenario might play out differently if sin weren't a part of our world. Talk with them about how sin changed everything and has broken our relationships with ourselves and with others.



FEEL



WANT