Use Week of:

Sin Entered the World

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 3:1-24

MAIN POINT: Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.

KEY PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 8:6

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law, and sin separates people from God.

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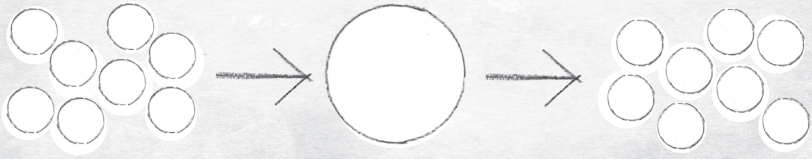

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Leader BIBLE STUDY

Adam and Eve enjoyed all that was good in the garden of Eden. The Lord gave them only one restriction: "You must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil," and the punishment was severe: "You will certainly die" (Gen. 2:17).

Before the fall, Adam and Eve enjoyed a loving, two-way relationship with God. The garden was a true paradise. God filled the garden with good gifts so that they might enjoy them and give thanks to God; this glorifies God. All of that changed when Adam and Eve gave in to the serpent's temptation. Eve believed the lie that leads many of us to sin: Maybe God is holding out on me.

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Adam and Eve desired something more: the wisdom the fruit offered. But when their eyes were opened, they were aware of their nakedness and they felt ashamed. Surely the Lord's heart broke at their act of disobedience and rebellion. Because of their sin, He cast them out of the garden. Though they did not die right away, sin's effect was immediate and thorough. Their lives and their children's lives—and the lives of all of mankind—would be forever affected by their choice.

God did not leave Adam and Eve without hope. He promised that one of Eve's descendants would strike the head of the serpent. (Gen. 3:15) Each generation after Eve hoped that one of their children would be the Promised One—the One who would crush the head of the snake and put an end to the curse over creation.

Sin is a big problem that needs a big solution. At just the right time, God sent His Son into the world, born as a baby. Matthew 1:21 says, "You are to name Him Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins." As the kids you teach become increasingly aware of the bad news—that we are all sinners from birth—rejoice with them over the good news: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Tim. 1:15).



Additional resources for each session are available at *gospelproject.com.* For free training and session-by-session help, visit *www.ministrygrid.com/web/thegospelproject.*

Sin Entered the World

Genesis 3:1-24

God gave the first two people—**Adam and Eve—a beautiful garden to live in.** The garden was full of food they could eat. **God also gave them one command. He told Adam that he could eat from any tree in the garden except for one.** It was called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. **God said that if Adam did eat from the tree, he would die.**

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the animals. One day, the serpent went to Eve. He asked, "Did God really say, 'You can't eat from any tree in the garden'?"

Eve answered, "We can eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. But **God told us not to eat from the tree in the middle of the garden.** He said that **if we eat the fruit or touch it, we will die."**

"No! **You will not die," the serpent said. The serpent told Eve that rather than dying, she and Adam would be like God!** They would know good and evil.

Eve looked at the fruit God had said not to eat. It did look delicious, and the serpent said it would give them wisdom. So she **took some of the fruit and ate it. Eve also gave some of the fruit to Adam, who was with her, and he ate it.**

Then their eyes were opened, and they knew they were naked. Adam and Eve sewed together fig leaves and made clothes for themselves.

That evening, Adam and Eve heard God walking in the garden. They hid among the trees. God called out to Adam, "Where are you?"

Adam said, "I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid."

God asked Adam, "Who told you that you were naked? **Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"**

Adam blamed Eve. "She gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it," he said.

Eve blamed the serpent. "He tricked me," she said.

God said that because of the serpent's trick and Adam and Eve's disobedience, bad things would happen. Eve would have more pain when she had children, and Adam would struggle to work the ground for food. God said that the snake would crawl on its belly and be an enemy to the woman. **But God promised that one of Eve's descendants would destroy the serpent.**

Everything changed after Adam and Eve sinned. Sin separated Adam and Eve from God. God made them clothes out of animal skins and then **sent them out of the garden. God put an angel at the entrance of the garden**. The angel had a sword of fire **to guard the way to the tree of life.**

Christ Connection: Since Adam and Eve, everyone has sinned against God. Our sin separates us from God. God promised that one of Eve's descendants would put an end to sin and death. God sent His Son, Jesus, to live as Adam didn't—perfectly sinless. God the Son came into the world to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God.



WANT TO DISCOVER GOD'S WORD? GET *ADVENTURE!*

Invite kids to check out this week's devotionals to discover that Adam and Eve exchanged the truth—God is good—for the serpent's lie. (Rom. 1:25) Order in bulk, subscribe quarterly, or purchase individually. For more information, check out *www.lifeway.com/devotionals.*

Small Group OPENING

SESSION TITLE: Sin Entered the World

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 3:1-24

MAIN POINT: Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.

KEY PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 8:6

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Why did God create the world? God created the world and everything in it for His glory.

Welcome time

ARRIVING ACTIVITY: Follow my directions

- paper plates
- markers

Give each child a plate and a marker. Ask kids to put the plate on top of their heads. Guide them to draw shapes on the plate while continuing to hold it on their heads. Ask kids to draw a circle, and then a square around it. Continue to add more shapes, but be specific as to where kids should draw them. Ask kids to look at their plates and determine if they drew the shapes correctly.

SAY • No one was able to draw the shapes perfectly. Do you think it is possible to follow all of God's instructions in the Bible perfectly? Only Jesus is perfect. Everyone else who has ever lived on the earth has sinned. ***What is sin?*** We'll find out what sin is today.

Activity page (5 minutes)

- "Fruit Scramble" activity page, 1 per kid
- pencils or markers

Guide boys and girls to complete the activity page.

SAY • What does it mean to be separated from something or someone? **Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.** Today, we'll learn more about sin and what happened.

Session starter (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: Perfectly perfect



- paper balls
- bucket

Ask kids to stand in a straight line. Give the first child in the line a paper ball. Guide him to throw the ball into the bucket that you are holding. Make the game more difficult by moving around the room with the bucket. Continue to allow that child to toss the ball until he misses. Each child must sit down when they miss the bucket. Play until all kids have missed the bucket.

SAY • No one could have tossed the ball into the bucket perfectly every time. Even the best basketball players in the world miss shots. Similarly, no one can live a perfect life (a life without sin). ***What is sin?*** We'll learn about sin today. In our story, **Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.**

OPTION 2: Why trust?



- blindfolds, 1 for every 2 kids
- masking tape

Ask kids to find a partner and stand on one side of the room. Blindfold one partner, and tell the other partner to guide his blindfolded partner to the other side of the room. Tape lines on the floor as obstacles for kids to avoid. Supervise for safety and assist where needed. Play again and allow the partners to swap roles.

SAY • When you were blindfolded, what did you have to do? You probably had to listen to your partner and follow him. You also had to trust him! Adam and Eve chose not to trust God in our story today. This was a sin, and it got them into a big mess. **Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.**

Transition to large group

Large Group LEADER

SESSION TITLE: Sin Entered the World

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 3:1-24

MAIN POINT: Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.

KEY PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 8:6

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law, and sin separates people from God.

Countdown

• countdown video

Show the countdown video as your kids arrive, and set it to end as large group time begins.

Introduce the session (2 minutes)

• wide-brimmed hat
• binoculars

[*Large Group Leader enters with binoculars, wearing a wide-brimmed hat.*]

LEADER • Well hello. How was your trip? Last time I saw you, we were preparing for a trip to get [*put binoculars to eyes*] up close and personal with God's creation. Today, we won't see the beginning of creation or of people. We'll see the beginning of something else. It's actually a sad beginning. Today, we'll see the beginning of sin. Does anyone know what sin is? We'll learn more about that today, but for now, we better get you ready to get on out there to see what's going to happen from a bird's eye view. [*Point to the hot air balloon.*]

Giant timeline (2 minutes)

• Giant Timeline or Big Story Circle
• Main Point Poster

LEADER • Let's review where we've been over the last two sessions. Remember when time began and God created all things? Well, you weren't there, but you've

probably heard about it! Before the earth or animals or birds or bugs existed, there was only God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. God wasn't created, but He actually created all things! He made everything in just six days. **God created everything for His glory.**

When God created people, He didn't create them in the same way that He had created the rest of creation. God had created all things by speaking it into being. To create man, God collected dust from the ground and formed it into a man. He breathed life into what He had created. Then, He created a woman from the man's rib. They were special. **God created people in His own image; God created them male and female.**

Today's Bible story is about when sin entered the world. Since then, nothing has been the same. **Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.**

Key passage (4 minutes)

- Key Passage Poster
- "There Is Only One" song

Show the slide or poster of the key passage, 1 Corinthians 8:6. Lead the boys and girls to read the verse.

LEADER • Thankfully, God had a plan for our sin problem, and this plan was Jesus. In our key passage, we learn that Jesus is the one Lord, and through Him alone we live. Jesus doesn't just give us life on earth, but for everyone who loves and trusts Him, He gives eternal life! Jesus came so that our sins could be forgiven and we could be made right with God and no longer be separated from Him.

Sing together "There Is Only One."

Sing (4 minutes)

- "All Creatures of Our God and King (He Is Our Gain)" song

LEADER • Aren't you glad God sent Jesus to earth to pay for our sins? Jesus was the only One who could save us because He never sinned. Jesus lived the perfect life that neither Adam and Eve nor any of us could live. God created us so that we could be made right with Him and bring glory to Him. He is a great Creator!

Sing together "All Creatures of Our God and King (He Is Our Gain)."

Big picture question (1 minute)

- Big Picture Question Poster

LEADER • A few weeks ago, our first big picture question was, ***Why did God create the world? God created the world and everything in it for His glory.*** God created Adam and Eve and placed them in the garden of Eden. Everything was perfect. Then, things took a turn for the worse. Adam and Eve had to leave God's garden. Listen to the story to see if you can figure out why that happened. Let's also listen for the answer to our second big picture question, ***What is sin?***

Tell the Bible story (10 minutes)

- Bibles
- "Sin Entered the World" video
- Big Picture Question Poster
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Main Point Poster

Open your Bible to Genesis 3. Show the video or tell the Bible story in your own words using the script provided. For a shorter version of the story, read the bolded text.

LEADER • Wow. Sin is a very serious thing to God! ***What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law, and sin separates people from God.*** Adam and Eve faced the consequences of their sin; **Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.** But God still loved them and showed them mercy. Let's review our story.

Ask the following review questions:

1. Where did Adam and Eve live before they sinned? (*the garden God made in Eden, Gen. 2:8*)
2. What one command did God give Adam and Eve? (*They could not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Gen. 2:16-17*)
3. What did the serpent tell Eve about the fruit? (*If Eve ate the fruit, she would be wise like God, Gen. 3:4-5*)
4. Did Eve believe the serpent's lie? (*She did, and she ate the fruit; Gen. 3:6*)
5. What happened when Adam and Eve ate the fruit? (*They realized they were naked so they made clothes for themselves, Gen. 3:7*)
6. What did God say to the serpent? (*He would be cursed, Gen. 3:14-15*)
7. What were the consequences of Adam and Eve's sin? (*Eve would have greater pain when she had children. Adam would struggle to work the ground for food. They also had to leave the garden; Gen. 3:16-24*)
8. How did God show mercy to Adam and Eve before He sent them away? (*He made them clothes from animal skins, Gen. 3:21*)
9. ***What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law, and sin separates people from God.***

Discussion starter video (4 minutes)

- "Unit 1, Session 3" discussion starter video

LEADER • Sin entered the world through Adam and Eve, but this did not surprise God. He is all-knowing, so He knew that they would choose to disobey Him. Have you ever chosen to disobey God? Let's watch this video and see how sometimes we try to cover up our sin.

Show the "Unit 1, Session 3" video.

LEADER • Adam and Eve may have been the first to sin, but they weren't the last. Do you sin? We all sin. Romans 3:23 says that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Not one of us can keep His law perfectly. That's why God sent Jesus! Even before the moment that Adam and Eve sinned in the garden, God's plan to send Jesus was in motion. Through Jesus, our sins can be forgiven!

The Gospel: God's Plan for Me (optional)

Use Scripture and the guide provided with this session to explain to boys and girls how to become a Christian. Assign individuals to meet with kids who have more questions. If this is not possible, encourage boys and girls to ask their parents, small group leaders, or other Christian adults any questions they may have about becoming a Christian.

Big picture question and prayer (3 minutes)

• Big Picture Question Poster

Show the big picture question poster. Read the question and answer together a few times very slowly, in a high pitch, or in a singing voice.

LEADER • ***What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law, and sin separates people from God.*** Can anyone keep God's law perfectly? (*no one but Jesus*)

Before transitioning to small groups, make any necessary announcements. Lead kids in prayer. Praise God for sending Jesus to fix our sin problem. Ask God to help us recognize when we sin so we can confess those sins and turn to Him.

Dismiss to small groups

THE GOSPEL: God's Plan for Me

Ask kids if they have ever heard the word *gospel*. Clarify that the word *gospel* means "good news." It is the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.

 **God rules.** Explain to kids that the Bible tells us God created everything, and He is in charge of everything. Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible. Read Revelation 4:11 or Colossians 1:16-17 aloud and explain what these verses mean.

 **We sinned.** Tell kids that since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)

 **God provided.** Choose a child to read John 3:16 aloud. Say that God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. Read and explain Ephesians 2:8-9.

 **Jesus gives.** Share with kids that Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! Read Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; or 1 Peter 3:19.

 **We respond.** Tell kids that they can respond to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10,13. Review these aspects of our response: Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus.

Offer to talk with any child who is interested in responding to Jesus.

Small Group LEADER

SESSION TITLE: Sin Entered the World
BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 3:1-24
MAIN POINT: Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.
KEY PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 8:6
BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law, and sin separates people from God.

Key passage activity (5 minutes)

- Key Passage Poster
- dry erase board or two pieces of poster board
- markers

Form two teams. Give the first person on each team a marker. The first person on each team will run to the dry erase board or poster and write the first word of the verse. The next person in line will then run and write the next word. Teams will continue until they complete the verse. The first team to finish writing the verse wins! Help any child who might need some assistance in remembering what word comes next.

SAY • Our key passage tells us we have only one God, the Father, and one Lord, Jesus Christ. When we sin, we are saying that we think our plans are better or more important than what God wants us to do. God sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue us from sin and death.

Bible story review & Bible skills (10 minutes)

- Bibles, 1 per kid
- Main Point Poster
- Small Group Timeline
- small dry erase boards, 2
- markers
- scrap paper (optional)

Guide kids to stay in their two teams. Ask teams to sit together in a tight group. Choose one person to be the writer for each team. Give that person a small dry erase board or a few pieces of scrap paper and a marker. Explain that you will ask a question and the team will work together to remember the answer. The writer for each team will write the answer and reveal it when you give the signal. Keep

score to see which team best remembers the details from the Bible story. Use the following questions. Guide kids to use their Bibles to check their answers.

1. Where did Adam and Eve live before they sinned? (*in the garden of Eden, Gen. 2:8*)
2. What one command did God give Adam and Eve? (*They could not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Gen. 2:16-17*)
3. What did the serpent tell Eve about the fruit? (*If Eve ate the fruit she would be wise like God, Gen. 3:4-5*)
4. What were the consequences of Adam and Eve's sin? (*Eve would have pain when she had children. Adam would struggle to work the ground for food. They also had to leave the garden; Gen. 3:16-24*)
5. How did God show mercy to Adam and Eve before He sent them away? (*He made them clothes from animal skins, Gen. 3:21*)
6. Are we able to keep all of God's commands? (*No, we all sin; Rom. 3:23*)
7. What consequences of sin do we face today? (*We are separated from God and we need a Savior; Gen. 3:22-24; 1 Tim. 1:15*)
8. ***What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law, and sin separates people from God.***

SAY • You guys did a great job remembering our story today! **Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.** Since Adam and Eve, everyone has sinned against God. But God is merciful, and He planned to send Jesus to save people from sin. Everyone who trusts Him is forgiven of their sins and made right with God!

Activity choice (10 minutes)



OPTION 1: Truth or lie

Explain that you are going to make some true or false statements. Kids will run to one side of the room if your statement is a truth and they will run to the opposite side of the room if your statement is a lie.

Use the following statements:

- Pizza is the healthiest food on the planet. (*lie*)
- In Sweden, people hold rabbit jumping competitions. (*truth*)
- When a stop light turns red, you may drive forward. (*lie*)
- Canada is the second largest country in the world by land mass. (*truth*)
- Massachusetts is the smallest state in the United States. (*lie*)

SAY • Sometimes it can be difficult to know the truth. The serpent told Eve a lie that made her doubt God's goodness. The serpent lied to Eve, and because of it, she sinned. **Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.** How can we know what is true? (*We can read the Bible, ask God by praying, and so forth.*)

- paper
- markers
- tape

OPTION 2: Restoring the broken

Give each child a sheet of paper. Invite them to draw on the paper with the markers. Then guide them to rip it into three or four pieces.

SAY • God created the world, and everything was good. Then, the serpent tricked Eve into eating the fruit, and Adam ate, too. Sin entered the world, and **Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.** Everything

was broken, like your artwork. God knew that every person would sin, so He planned to send Jesus to pay for that sin by dying on the cross and rising from the dead three days later.

Help each child tape his paper back together.

SAY • God sent Jesus so that we could be forgiven. He came to fix all the brokenness that was caused by sin. Jesus doesn't just tape us all back together, though. He makes us new—as if we've never sinned!

Journal and prayer (5 minutes)

- Journal Page
- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons or markers
- *Big Picture Cards for Families: Kids*

Distribute each child's journal and instruct the kids to draw a picture of a time that they sinned. Writers may make a list of sins. Then, guide them to write *Jesus paid for my sin* below.

SAY • **Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God**, but God sent Jesus so that all who love and trust Him would be forgiven of our sins.

Make sure each child secures this week's sheet in the journal, and then collect them. Keep the journals in the classroom so they will be available every week or as often as you wish to use them.

If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the coloring page provided with this session. Pray, thanking God for sending Jesus to pay for our sin. Pray for each child by name, asking God to help each kid trust Him and turn from their sins.

Give parents the big picture card for this week's Bible story.

Journal Page

God the Creator

Key Passage: 1 Corinthians 8:6

Big Picture Questions: Why did God create the world? God created the world and everything in it for His glory.
What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law, and sin separates people from God.

Session 1: God Created the World
Genesis 1:1-25
God created everything for His glory.

Session 2: God Created People
Genesis 1:26-2:25
God created people in His own image; God created them male and female.

Session 3: Sin Entered the World
Genesis 3:1-24
Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.

Session 4: Cain and Abel
Genesis 4:1-16,25-26
Cain's sin separated him from God and people.

Session 5: Noah and the Ark
Genesis 6:5–9:17
God is holy, and He punishes sin.

Session 6: The Tower of Babel
Genesis 11:1-9
God created people to give glory to Him alone.



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There is one God, the Father. All things are from Him, and we exist for Him. And there is one Lord, Jesus Christ. All things are through Him, and we exist through Him.

1 Corinthians 8:6



There is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.

1 Corinthians 8:6



There is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

1 Corinthians 8:6



There is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.

1 Corinthians 8:6



Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.





Fruit Scramble

INSTRUCTIONS: Fill in the blanks. Write the letters on the **apples** from left to right in the blanks. Then write the letters on the **pears** and then the **oranges**. Last, write the letters from the **bananas**.



DOWNLOAD THE TGP FAMILY APP

KEY PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 8:6

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law, and sin separates people from God.

BIBLE STORY:
SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

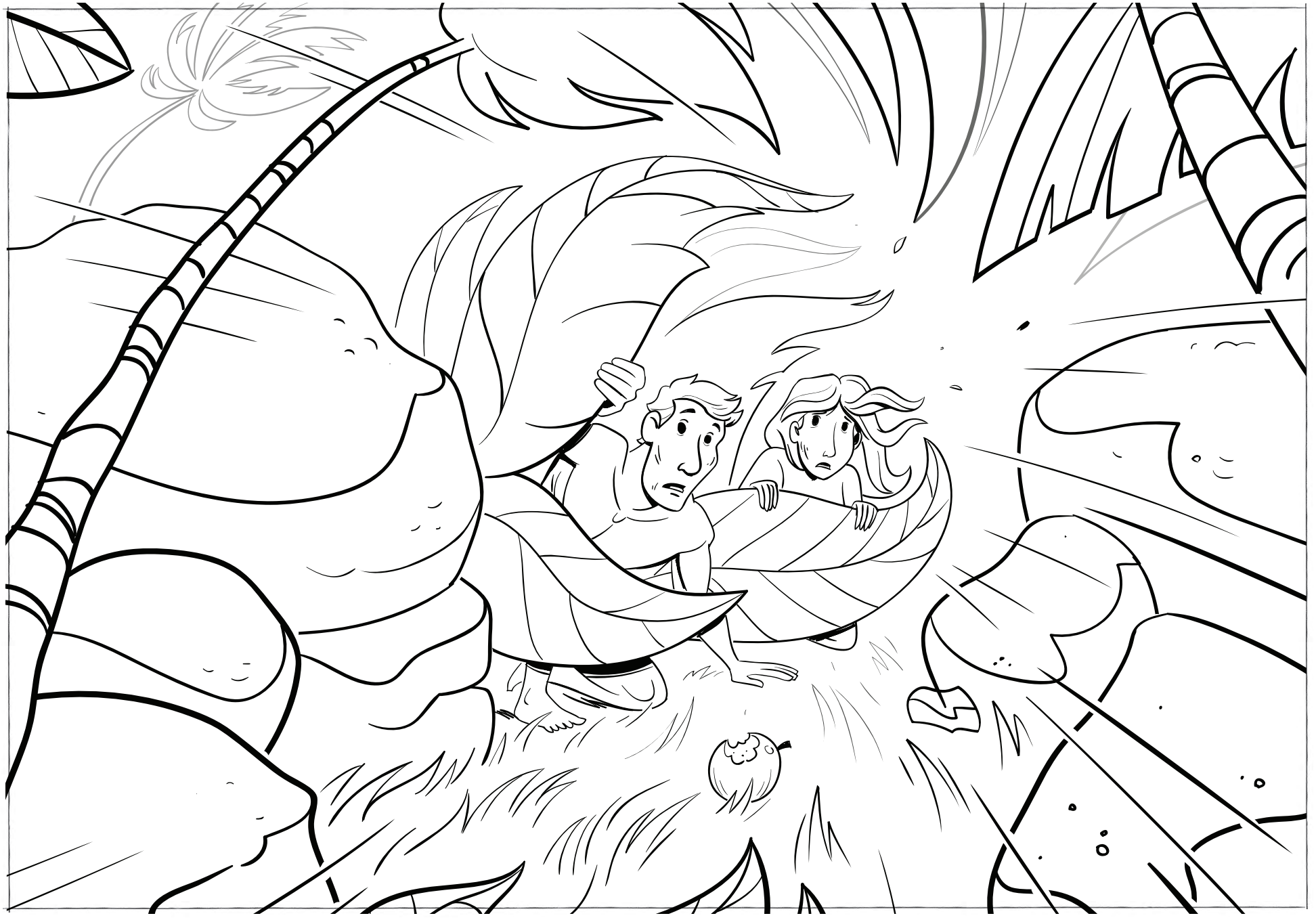
- Adam and Eve sinned by disobeying God.
- People choose to disobey God.
- Everyone is sinful before God.
- Sin separates people from God.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- What were the consequences of Adam and Eve's sin? (See Genesis 3:16-19.)
- What are some ways that you have sinned?
- How does Jesus help us with our sin problem? (*Jesus paid for sin on the cross so everyone who trusts Him is forgiven. He also frees us from sin. The Holy Spirit helps us resist temptation.*)

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

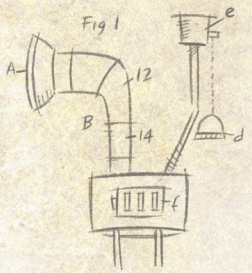
- Each night, discuss what sins you committed during the day. Pray and ask God to help you turn from sin. Thank God for sending Jesus.



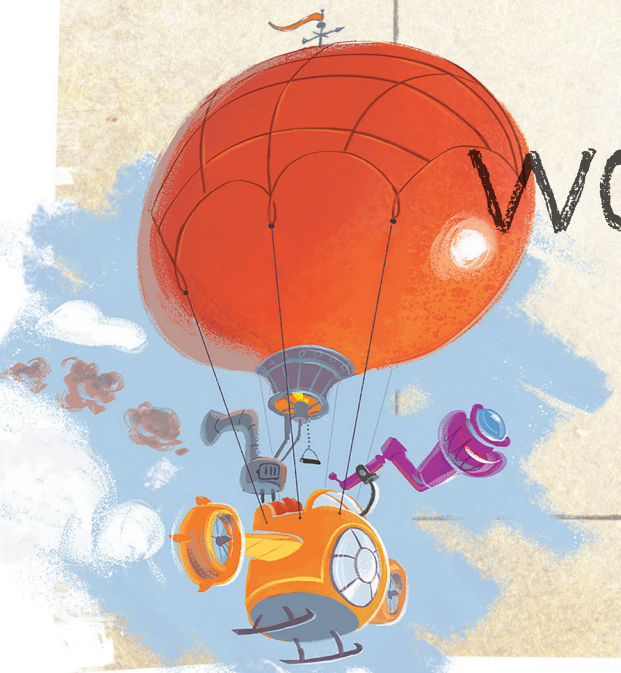
Why did God create the world?

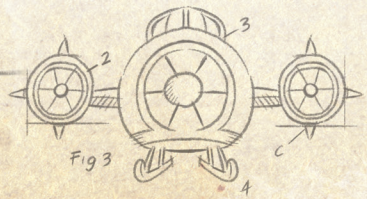


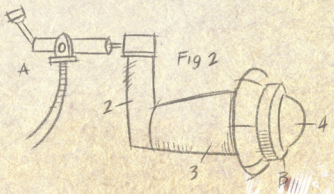
Why did God create the world?

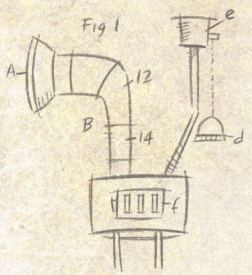


God created the world and everything in it for His glory.



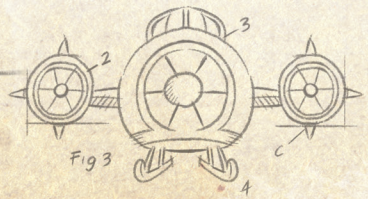


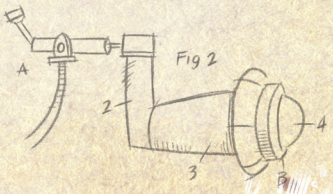




What is sin?







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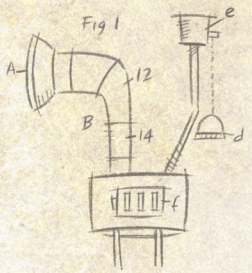

Sin is breaking God's law, and sin separates people from God.



