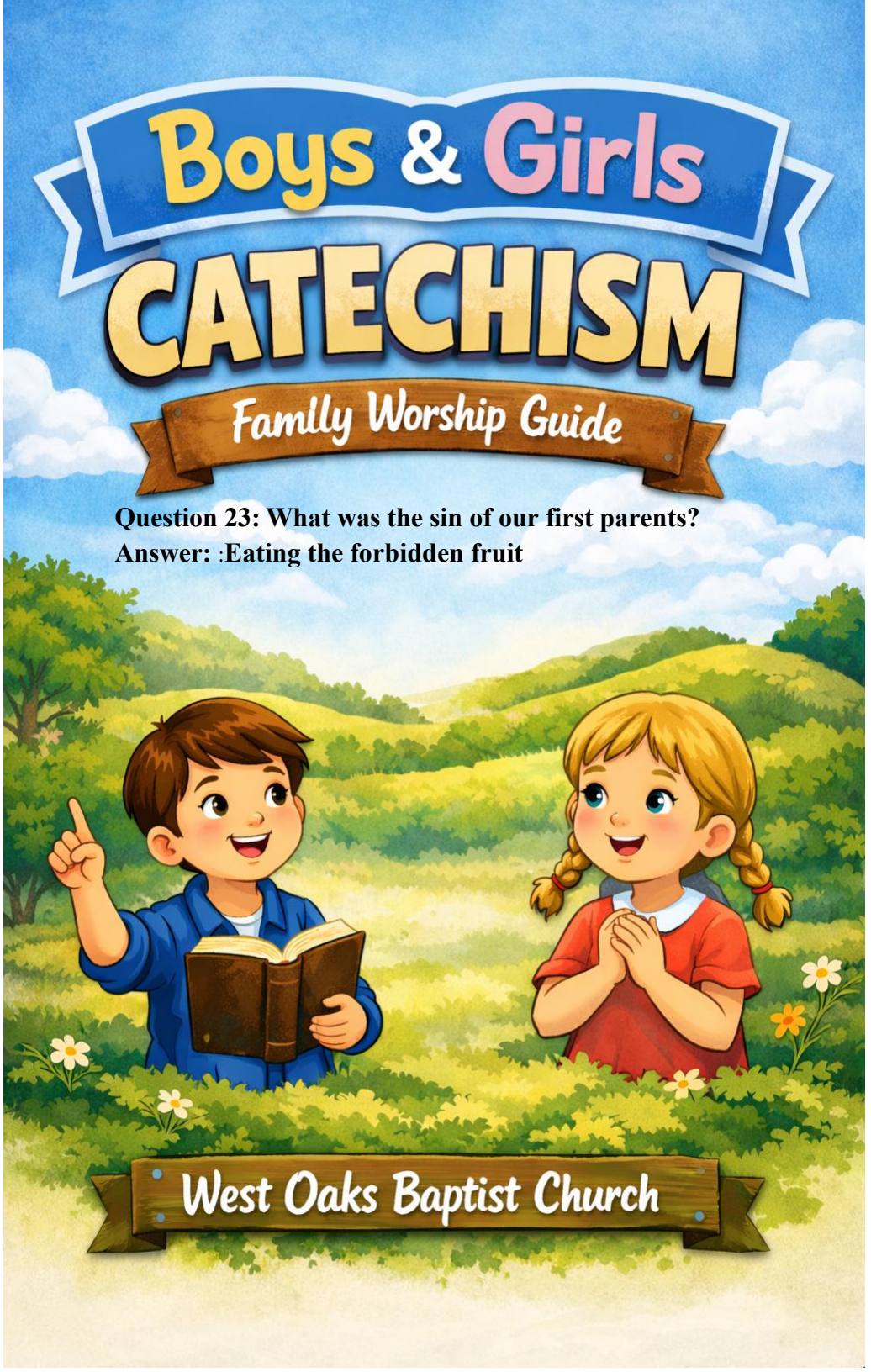
Object Lesson: A dirty mirror that cannot reflect clearly until cleaned.
Ask & Explain: Q: Have we also sinned? A: Yes. We all have sinned and need God's forgiveness.
Go Deeper: Why is recognizing our own sin necessary before we truly appreciate the gospel?

Day 5: Jesus, the Better Adam

Scripture: "The first man Adam became a living being; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit" 1 Corinthians 15:45

How amazing it is to know that Jesus always obeyed God. He never sinned once and never allowed temptation to take root in His heart. How great is our Savior, Jesus Christ! Only He could rescue us from the bondage and slavery of sin and from the judgment and death that sin deserves. Jesus did not have to die for us. He could have remained in heaven and allowed us all to receive the judgment we deserved. But because of His great love, He willingly gave Himself upon the cross, which was made from the wood of a tree. Jesus, in a garden, cried out to God the Father, "Not my will, but Yours, be done" (Luke 22:42), because Adam and Eve disobeyed God in a garden. And just as sin entered the world through a tree, our redemption came through the tree where Christ died for us. Through Jesus' perfect obedience and love, we have eternal salvation and the promise of everlasting joy with Him. One day, we will perfectly trust and worship our God forever, fulfilling the purpose for which He created us: to love Him, glorify Him, and enjoy Him forever. Whoever hears this, turn to Jesus and find everlasting life, forgiveness, and joy in Him alone.

Object Lesson: Compare the cross to the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. One tree represents our disobedience, and the cross reminds us of Christ's perfect obedience and love for us
Ask & Explain: Q: Who rescues us from Adam's sin? A: Jesus Christ obeyed perfectly and died for sinners so we may have eternal life.
Go Deeper: Why does Paul call Jesus the "last Adam," and what does His obedience accomplish that Adam's disobedience destroyed.



Day 1: God Gave Adam and Eve One Command?

Scripture: *And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat[a] of it you shall surely die." Genesis 2:16-17*

When God made Adam and Eve and placed them in the Garden of Eden, He gave them one command: they were not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God told them that on the day they ate from it, they would surely die. Why did God give this command? Why would God create mankind and then keep something from us? Those are good questions—too big to answer fully in a short children's catechism! But one helpful way to understand God's command is to understand His desire for us to trust Him. Trust means believing that God is good, wise, and always intends what is best for us. God made us to have a relationship with Him, and every healthy relationship is built on trust. In the same way, as you learn to obey your parents' commands, your trust in them grows, and your relationship with them becomes stronger. If your parents never asked anything of you, there would be very little opportunity to learn trust through obedience. Likewise, God gave Adam and Eve a command not because He wanted to keep good things from them, but because He wanted them to trust Him, love Him, and know Him more deeply.

Object Lesson: *Place two snacks on the table. Tell the children they may eat one snack but not the other until the lesson is over.*
Ask & Explain*: Q: Why did God give Adam and Eve a command? A: So they would trust, love, and obey Him.*
Go Deeper*: Why does obedience begin with trusting God's goodness rather than merely following rules?*

Day 2: The First Sin Began with Unbelief

Scripture: "He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" Genesis 3:1

Mankind fell into sin because of our first parents, Adam and Eve. But what was the root of their sin? It was unbelief, which is the root of all sin. God created us to love, worship, and trust Him. Trust means believing that God is good, truthful, and worthy of our complete confidence. Whenever we sin, we are failing to trust God in some way because unbelief has taken root in our hearts. When we steal, we show that we do not believe God will provide for us. When we lie, we show that we do not trust God to care for us or protect us if we tell the truth. There are many other examples, but there is another important part of Adam and Eve's first sin. Who tempted them? The serpent, who is Satan, the devil. Satan lied about God and tempted them to doubt His goodness. We should remember that we also have an enemy who seeks to tempt us and draw us away from God. But God loves us. Through His Word and by the conviction of the Holy Spirit, He continually calls us to trust Him, resist temptation, and faithfully follow Jesus Christ.

Object Lesson: If you have a rotten fruit or food, explain how when Eve was deceived by unbelief to eat the fruit that it was a rotten deception to not trust God
Ask & Explain: Q: What was the first sin really about? A: Adam and Eve chose to believe Satan instead of trusting God.
Go Deeper: Why is unbelief at the root of every sin we commit?

Day 3: Sin Brings Death

Scripture: "Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men[a] because all sinned" Romans 5:12

When Adam and Eve fell into sin, we all fell with them. They were the best of us—the only people ever created without sin—and yet they still disobeyed God by eating the forbidden fruit. Because Adam was our representative, his sin affected every person who would come after him. From the moment we are conceived, we inherit a sinful nature and stand guilty before God. And on top of Adam's sin, each one of us adds our own sins by choosing to disobey God every day. Because of this sinful nature, we are born separated from God, and sin brings death. That is why every person dies. As Romans 5:12 says, "sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned." But God, in His great mercy and love, did not leave us without hope. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins and rise again. Whoever trusts in Jesus is forgiven, receives eternal life, and though their body may die, they will live forever with Him.

Object Lesson: Knock over a row of dominoes. Explain that the dominos provide a picture of the spread of sin throughout mankind.
Ask & Explain: Q: What happened because Adam sinned? A: Sin and death entered the world and affected everyone.
Go Deeper: How does understanding Adam's fall explain the brokenness we see throughout the world?

Day 4: Sin Brings Death, Christ Gives Life

Scripture: For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive." 1 Corinthians 15:22

Now we know that because of our first parents, Adam and Eve, and their sin, we have all inherited a sinful nature. This is shown in our own lives and in the brokenness of the world because none of us has kept God's law as we ought. This sinful nature leads to death, and it is the reason the world is filled with suffering, sorrow, and sin. But this death is not the end of the story, because God has provided His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior. Jesus, through His perfect obedience, died for us so that the penalty of sin—death and hell—would not be experienced by those who believe in Him. Instead, they would be restored to the purpose God originally created mankind for: to love Him, worship Him, and obey Him forever. In the same way that Adam's disobedience brought sin and death into the world, Jesus' obedience brings life to all who trust in Him. Apart from Christ, we do not have the ability to truly obey God because our hearts are enslaved to sin. But when we trust in Jesus, God gives us the Holy Spirit, who changes our hearts and empowers us to live in obedience to Him.