

Adam and Eve

CONSEQUENCES

GENESIS 2:4-25; 3:1-24

What's happening in this story?

This passage narrates the beginning story of the Bible. It was most likely part of the oral tradition of storytelling that predates (and later becomes) the written scriptures. This story explores the purpose of humanity, the origin of sin, and the reason humans are still not in a perfect relationship with God. Something happened, once upon a time, that changed the human relationship to self, God, and world.

What does this story mean for kids?

This story points to the importance of making the best choices. Discussion about long-term effects or unseen consequences, such as loss of trust or loss of friendship, might be explored. It will be important among all ages to clarify that God provides us instruction and guidance to strengthen our relationship, not to teach punitive results of disobedience.

Why this theme?

Kids know that choices have consequences. However, they may also have the interesting perspective of having seen someone (adult or kid) make deceitful or even cruel choices without seeing an immediate consequence take place. This theme allows kids to explore how the Bible deals with this issue.

TEACHING TIP

Making the right choices can be difficult for young kids because they are prone to making impulsive, emotional decisions and testing boundaries. Remind them that there are consequences for their behavior, but also that God loves them always and will never leave them.



GENERAL SUPPLIES

- Construction paper (purple)
- Glue sticks
- Pencils

LESSON SUPPLIES

- Play dough
- Play dough tools
- Pennies (1 per kid) — game tokens
- Dice (1 pair per 2 kids)
- Bell

WHIRL SUPPLIES • WHIRL KIDS STORY BIBLES • WHIRL KIDS STUDY BIBLES • DVD • LEAFLETS

WELCOME 15

Do some kids arrive early? Try this.

Set out containers of play dough and play dough tools, and invite kids to create their own Garden of Eden.

Circle up with kids for an opening conversation.

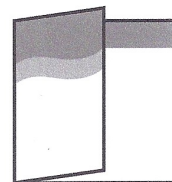
After God created the world, God made a man and a woman to live in a garden called Eden. God gave them one very important rule. What are some rules you are expected to follow? What happens when you break them? Give kids time to respond. When we choose not to follow rules there are consequences. Consequences are the results of an action or choice, like getting in trouble when you don't follow a rule. Consequences can also be good, like when you choose to help a friend clean their room, it gets done faster! Every choice we make has a consequence.

Pray together: ~~Dear God, thank you for loving us no matter what. Help us make good choices and learn to do better when we mess up. Amen.~~

Be still and know that I am God

Pass out leaflets and pencils.

~~The very first people God created were named Adam and Eve. They lived in the Garden of Eden, and God gave them an important job—to name all the animals. How do you think they came up with names for all those animals? I wonder what other name ideas they might have had. On the left side of your leaflet are pictures of animals, and on the right, there's a list of goofy animal names. I'll read the list out loud and you can draw a line connecting the animal to their alternative name. (Octopus-Sea spider; Porcupine-Poke rabbit; Snake-Nope rope; Sheep-Cloud dog; Sloth-Hangy bear; Skunk-Stink cat) Collect their leaflets until Respond.~~



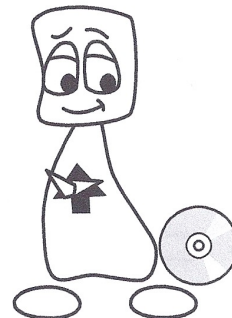
Gather kids around the screen where you'll watch the video.

Today Ada and Victor are supposed to be responsible, but they don't handle that responsibility very well. Look for consequences of their choices.

View Episode 1, "Reptile Repercussions," on the Year Blue Fall DVD. (4 min, 30 sec)

Ask kids these questions about the video:

- How does Victor convince Ada to go to the Reptile House?
- Why does Ada go with Victor?
- Why is Ada so upset on the bus ride home?
- What's the important thing about making a wrong choice?
- What lessons have you learned after making a wrong choice?



HEAR ¹⁵

Open your Whirl Kids Story Bibles and Whirl Kids Study Bibles.

Have older kids find a younger buddy. Invite them to find "Adam and Eve" on page 6 of the Whirl Kids Story Bible. God created a beautiful world filled with plants and animals, water and land, day and night, and bugs! But God knew the world needed people too. God made Adam and Eve and gave them an important job to do and a big rule to follow. But Adam and Eve were curious, and they broke God's one rule.

In the story we're about to read, we will hear that God made Adam and Eve out of dirt. Pass out a small amount of play dough to each kid. Encourage them to hold it, squish it, and mold it while you read the story. Even though there were consequences to the choice that Adam and Eve made, God loved them anyway. God loves us too, even when we make mistakes.

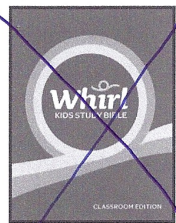
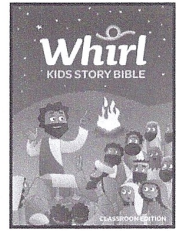
Read Ada and Otto's questions and comments on each page. Then read Genesis 2:4b-5 and what Leo says about that passage on page 6 of the Whirl Kids Study Bible.

Ask these questions after you read the story:

- What rule did God give Adam and Eve?
- What did the snake tell Eve?
- What happened when Adam and Eve ate the fruit?
- What rules does your family have?
- Why is it important to have rules?

Play together!

We're going to stand up and form a circle. In the story, it says that God took a deep breath and breathed life into the dirt and created the first person. We'll each take a turn tossing the ball to someone in the circle. As they are throwing the ball, we'll all take a deep breath, and when we exhale, we'll say, "God created (name of the person catching the ball)." Demonstrate with the first kid, and let the group continue. Make sure everyone gets a turn to toss the ball and to be named.



BIBLE BIT

While the Garden of Eden isn't a physical place in today's world, some scholars believe the inspiration for it is where the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers pour into the Persian Gulf in Iraq.

WATCH IT AGAIN

If you watch the video again, count all the creatures released from the Reptile House.

OUR CHURCH

Look for ways your class could help take care of your church's outdoor space. Help with a garden, pull weeds, or just pick up trash and enjoy the beauty of God's creation together!

RESPOND 10

★ Pass out leaflets, pennies, and dice.

Unfold and tear off leaflet square.

1. Ask younger kids to choose an older kid to be their buddy. **This is a game of consequences. The goal is to move your penny from the Start space to the Finish space, while talking about right and wrong choices.**
2. I'll read a line about a situation where you need to make a decision. Then one buddy will roll the die. If you roll an even number, tell your buddy a right choice you could make, then move forward that number of spaces on your board. If you roll an odd number, tell your buddy a wrong choice you could make, then move that number of spaces backward on your board. If you roll an odd number on your first turn, stay in the Start space.
3. Once you've told your buddy your choice, your buddy will tell you what a real-life consequence might be.
4. **Older kids roll first.** Read these situations aloud one at a time while kids take turns rolling. If kids are struggling, brainstorm as a group what some consequences might be for each wrong choice.
 - Your brother has a whole pack of gum, but you have none.
 - Your sister hit you.
 - Your friend is saying mean things about another friend.
 - Your teacher tells you to line up, but you're still working.
 - You're done with your pop can and the garbage can is nearby, but the recycling bin is on the other side of the room.
 - Your parent is calling you from downstairs, but you're in the middle of a video game.
 - Your dog needs to be fed, but you're busy.

LAUNCH 10

Circle up with kids for a quick review.

Today we read the story about the creation of people, and about how our wrong choices can lead to big consequences, but God still loves us. What can consequences teach us?

~~Pass out leaflet panels, pencils, purple construction paper, and glue sticks.~~

~~Inside the fruit, write or draw a mistake you have made. No one else needs to see it. The purple construction paper represents God's love. Tear and glue the purple paper to fill in the fruit, covering your mistake with God's love.~~

~~Send kids out with a blessing.~~ → Help + Thanks

~~Circle up with kids. God blesses all of us. And that means me (place a hand on your chest). And that means you (place your other hand on the shoulder of the kid next to you). Each kid passes the blessing by repeating those words and actions. When the blessing makes it back to you, say, Go and bless the world.~~

~~Thank kids for coming today. Remind them of the Family Square on the other side of the leaflet.~~