

Guide your children through the last story. You will probably need to ask guiding questions

Tell the Story *(Don't just read it—know it and bring it to life!)*

One day, Satan went to Eve disguised as a snake. He asked Eve, *"Did God really say you can't eat any of the fruit in the garden?"* Eve told him, *"No, we can eat from any tree in the garden. It's only the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil that we are not allowed to eat from—or even touch, or we will die."*

Trying to trick Eve, the snake said, *"You won't really die! God knows that when you eat the fruit from that tree your eyes will be opened and you will become just like him! You will know everything, both good and evil."* When Eve saw how delicious the fruit looked, she thought, *"We will know everything!"* Then she took some of it and ate it. She also gave some to Adam, who was with her, and he also ate it. They chose not to believe God and to believe the lie.

As soon as they ate the fruit, they realized they were naked – they were already naked before but now they were ashamed of their nakedness. They picked fig leaves and put them together around their hips to cover their nakedness.

Toward evening, they heard God walking in the garden, so they hid themselves in some trees. God called to them, *"Where are you?"*, and Adam answered, *"I heard you coming and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid."*

God answered, *"Why are you ashamed of being naked? Did you eat the fruit I told you not to eat?"* Adam said, *"It was the woman you gave me. She gave me some."* Then God said to Eve, *"How could you do this?"* Eve replied, *"The snake tricked me into eating the fruit."* So God said to the snake, *"Because you have done this, you and your kind are cursed to crawl on your belly and eat dust the rest of your life. You will be the enemy of women and her sons. You will bite his heel, but he will crush your head."*

God's heart was broken because they disobeyed him – they didn't believe that God loved them and wanted what was best for them – and He had to do something about it. Remember, God always does what is right and true and he also cannot let disobedience just go. So God punished Adam and Eve by throwing them out of the Garden—outside of his care and protection.

Because Adam and Eve did not follow God's ways, they were now going to get sick, feel pain, and eventually die. God told them, *"Now because of what you have done your life will not be easy – you will have many problems and feel pain, then you go back to the ground where you came from."*

But God still loved Adam and Eve. He even created clothing for them out of animal skins so they would be covered outside of the Garden. After removing Adam and Eve from the garden, God stationed powerful angels outside of the entrance to the garden. A flaming sword flashed back and forth, guarding the way to the Tree of Life.

Humans would no longer be able to eat from the Tree of Life and live forever.

Retell the Story

This may seem redundant, but it helps you remember and own the story. You will want to help them retell the story by giving them leading questions like: *So, where did the story begin? What did the snake say to Eve? What did Adam and Eve do after they ate the fruit?*

Dialogue

These questions are a good start to draw out observations about the story.

- **What do we know about this snake? What did he try to do? How?**
 - » He was bad - evil
 - » He tried to make them not believe what God had said
 - » He lied about what God had said by telling Eve that the fruit would make her like God.
 - » Where have we seen this before?

- **Why was it a bad idea for them to eat from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil?**
 - » God told them not to
 - » They would get punished for it – they would have pain and die
 - » They wanted to be God and be able to determine what is right of wrong instead of God.

- **What happened to their relationship with God and each other because of their disobedience?**
 - » They were now afraid of God and embarrassed with each other
 - » They were kicked out of the garden where they would live close to God

- **Why do you think God punishes them for their disobedience?**
 - » Because God is perfect and good and holy, He will never allow evil to remain in his presence.
 - » His holiness requires that sin be punished.

- **What do we learn about people in this story?**
 - » People can be deceived into believing wrong things.
 - » People can choose God's ways or their own.
 - » When people sin they tend to hide and blame.

- **What do we learn about God in this story?**
 - » God knows all things. He knew Adam and Eve had eaten from the tree.
 - » God punishes sin – the snake's head would be crushed by man; the man and woman would experience pain and death
 - » God keeps His promises – He said they would die if they ate of the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil and eventually they would
 - » God is gracious – He still took care of them – He made clothing for them out of animal skins.

Application (Optional questions that also work well in smaller groups)

- What's your favorite part of this story?
- How are we like Adam and Eve?

Scripture Memory Verse

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23