#### Lesson 3:

#### First Sin

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:

Genesis 2 and 3

MEMORY WORK:

Genesis 1:1

Days of creation

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

God has given us rules to live a happy life, and He expects us to obey them. He has also given each of us the ability to make right choices. If we choose to disobey, there will be consequences for our actions.

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| **LESSON STARTS HERE** |

INTRODUCTION:

What are rules? Rules are limits to what we are supposed to do. Why do we have rules? If you have a new puppy, Mommy and Daddy have rules about what he can and can’t do (e.g., he can’t chew up daddy’s shoes or run around the neighborhood without a leash, etc.). Your loving parents and teachers have rules for you, too (e.g., you can’t eat too many sweets, can’t watch TV until homework is done, can’t run down the halls at school, etc.). Those rules are for your own good, to keep you safe, healthy, and happy.

God is our Heavenly Father, and He knows even better than our parents and teachers what we need to be safe and happy. God’s rules are written down in His Word, the Bible. Just as we are punished when we break a rule at home or school, God will punish us for choosing to disobey His rules. Breaking God’s rules is called “sin.” Today we will talk about what happened when Adam and Eve sinned against God.

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. On the sixth day of the Creation Week, God created the first man, Adam, and the first woman, Eve. (Review the meanings of their names.) He created a very special place for them to live, called the Garden of Eden. He wanted Adam and Eve to be happy in a perfect world with no problems—no sickness and not even any weeds. God wanted Adam and Eve to have a perfect home with everything they needed. God “saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good” (Genesis 1:31).
2. What was the Garden like? It had beautiful plants and trees that were not only pretty to look at but also had fruit that was good for food. (According to Genesis 1:29-30 and 9:3, both man and animals were instructed to eat only plants until after the Flood.) All kinds of animals—which Adam had named—lived in the Garden. God told Adam he had the special job of taking care of the Garden. And, best of all, Adam and Eve were very close to God in the perfect place that He had created for them to enjoy.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Genesis tells us that there was one great river that flowed toward the Garden and split into four rivers: the Pishon, the Gihon, the Tigris, and the Euphrates. The first two rivers no longer exist, and it is impossible to know if the Tigris and Euphrates on modern maps run in the same courses today, especially considering the changes that took place on the Earth after the Great Flood of Noah’s time. So, it is impossible to know exactly where the Garden of Eden was located. We do know that for thousands of years these two rivers helped form the Fertile Crescent of Mesopotamia, which is often called the “Cradle of Civilization.”

**RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS:** See the articles “[**The World Before**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/apcontent.aspx?category=11&amp;article=436)[**Sin**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/apcontent.aspx?category=11&amp;article=436)” and “[**How Long Were Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden?**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=11&amp;article=157&amp;topic=82)” on the Apologetics Press Web site for further study on those subjects and a response to the theory that Adam and Eve could have been in the Garden for millions of years before the first sin.

1. God created Adam and Eve and knew exactly what would be best for them so that they could live long, healthy and happy lives. God loved them very much, so He gave them rules to follow so they would know exactly what they should do to be healthy and happy. Giving them rules meant that He also gave them the ability to decide if they would follow His rules or not—to make choices between right and wrong. If they made good choices, He promised to bless them. If they made bad choices, they would suffer the consequences and be punished.
2. There were two very special trees in the Garden: the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God told Adam and Eve that they could eat the fruit from any tree in the Garden— except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If they ate from that tree, they would no longer live forever. They would die.

**NOTE:** It is clear that the tree of life—a special anti-aging, anti-entropy tree—was able to keep Adam and Eve alive forever as long as they ate from it. When they were evicted from the Garden, they no longer had access to the tree of life, and therefore, they would no longer have its continual life-sustaining effects.

1. One day in that perfect place, the most imperfect creature appeared—Satan, or the Devil. It seems that the Devil could make himself look like other creatures, and that day he took on the form of a tricky serpent (snake). The Bible says he was “crafty,” which means he was tricky, deceitful, and a liar. (In John 8:44, Jesus called the Devil “the father of lies.”)

**RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS:** See the article “[**Why Didn’t Adam**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/apcontent.aspx?category=13&amp;article=797)[**Die Immediately?**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/apcontent.aspx?category=13&amp;article=797)” by Eric Lyons on the Apologetics Press Web site for further study on that subject. See the article “[**Could There Have Been Any Death Before the Fall?**](http://apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=11&amp;article=5321&amp;topic=75)” by Jeff Miller for a study about the nature of the tree of life and the possibility of animal death prior to the Fall. See the article “[**Adam and Eve, Good and Evil**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/AllegedDiscrepancies.aspx?article=2728)” by Eric Lyons for a response to the question, “How could God punish Adam and Eve for an evil action if they did not know what evil was until they ate from the tree of knowledge of good and evil?” See also the article “[**Why Did God Create the Tree of the Knowledge of Good**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=114&amp;article=1530)[**and Evil?**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=114&amp;article=1530)” by Moises Pinedo.

1. What sort of lies did the Devil tell Eve? (Read Genesis 3:1-5 with older children. Summarize for younger children.) Eve was willing to listen when Satan told her that God was lying to her; she would not die if she ate the fruit, he said. What should Eve havOhe said to the Devil when he told her to do something that God had told her not to do? She should have said, “**No**!” and called on God for help. Instead, she saw, she took, she gave the fruit to Adam, and they ate. (1 John 2:16 describes all sin as including the “lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.” Eve did all three of these things.) What should Adam have done when Eve offered the fruit to him? Did Adam have to disobey God just because Eve did? **No**! He listened to the bad advice of someone very close to him, and he chose to disobey God just as Eve had done.
2. As soon as they had eaten the fruit, Adam and Eve knew they had disobeyed God. They knew they had broken God’s rules; they had sinned. They were ashamed of what they had done and covered themselves with leaves that they had sewn together. They heard God and were afraid; they tried to hide among the trees of the Garden.

**RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS:** See the articles “[**Was Eve Created**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=6&amp;article=2799&amp;topic=82)[**Perfect?**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=6&amp;article=2799&amp;topic=82)” by Kyle Butt and “[**Did God Create Us with a Desire to Sin?**](http://apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=12&amp;article=5048&amp;topic=95)” by Jeff Miller on the Apologetics Press Web site for further study on that subject.

1. Even though God already knew the answer, He asked Adam what he had done. Adam tried to blame his wrong choice on Eve. When God asked Eve what she had done, she blamed the serpent, the Devil, for her bad choice. But God did not listen to their excuses; they were responsible for their own choices. God punished them by sending them both out of their perfect home and put **cherubim** with a flaming sword at the entrance of the Garden so they could never return.

**Cherubim:** Spiritual winged creatures sent from God. Golden cherubim were also used on the Ark of the Covenant (Exodus 25:14-22).

1. There was another part to Adam’s punishment. Adam was already working in the Garden, but in the less-than-perfect world outside the Garden, Adam had to deal with weeds and thorns. He would have to grow what he would eat and the work would be very hard. There was another part to Eve’s punishment as well. She would now have a lot of pain when she had her babies. The first man and the first woman had committed the first sin. Their perfect world of no pain, no sorrow, and having everything they needed, was gone. Worst of all, from that time on, Adam and Eve began to age and God told them they would eventually die.
2. We have to make choices about right and wrong almost every day. The older you get, the more choices you will have to make. We can make bad choices in the same ways that Adam and Eve did. We see things that we want and should not have, and sometimes we take those things. If we aren’t careful, we can even cause other people to sin when we make bad choices.

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL VISUALS (note disclaimers):

##### Betty Lukens’ felt pieces

* ABeka Flash-a-Card Series (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, not the lesson book)
* Free Bible Images – Saved on flash drive. Can be presented on classroom tv. Script included in lesson file.
* Sensory box – This lesson can be “acted out” with the Garden of Eden sensory box. Place a plastic tree in the middle of the garden with fruit on it. Fruit could be made with some type of clay. Use a plastic snake and dolls for Adam and Eve.

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS:

**“Days of Creation”**

Author: Unknown/ Day 6:LeAnn Jones

Day 1, Day 1, God made light when there was none (2xs)

Day 2, Day 2 God made sky and oceans blue (2xs)

Day 3, Day 3, God made land and flowers and trees (2xs)

Day 4, Day 4,Sun, and moon and stars galore (2xs)

Day 5, Day5, God made birds and fish alive (2xs)

Day 6, Day 6, God put animals and man in the mix (2xs)

Day 7, Day7, God rested up in Heaven (2xs)

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“**Oh be Careful Little Eyes What You See**

Oh be careful little eyes what you see (2x’s)

For the Father up above is looking down in love,

So be careful little eyes what you see.

Oh be careful little ears what you hear (2x’s)

For the Father up above is looking down in love,

So be careful little ears what you hear

Oh be careful little mouth what you say (2x’s)

For the Father up above is looking down in love,

So be careful little mouth what you say.

Oh be careful little hands what you do (2x’s)

For the Father up above is looking down in love,

So be careful little hands what you do.

Oh be careful little feet where you go (2x’s)

For the Father up above is looking down in love,

So be careful little feet where you go.

 SUNDAY

LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

* “[The Situations Activity](http://www.apcurriculum.com/dcirfol/1-1-3-8Situations%20Activity.pdf)” (provided in activity sheets)
* Review game: Draw a tree on one side of dry erase board and label it “Before Sin.” Draw a tree on another side and label it “After Sin.” Put magnetic tape on the trees. Make enough fruit cutouts for every child in the class to have at least one. Put magnetic tape on each one. On the fruit cutouts, write things about what Adam and Eve’s lives were like before sin and after sin (examples: walked with God; had to work hard among weeds; felt pain; were happy, etc.). Call on the children individually, let them choose a fruit, and then have the teacher read what is written on each one. The student then decides on which tree to put his fruit.
* Have children finger paint or color a picture of a tree on white construction paper. Let the children

paint “fruit” on the tree. Then help them wrap a brown pipe cleaner “snake” around the tree. Write

“The first sin—Adam and Eve’s wrong choice” on their papers.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review Sunday’s lesson. (See [Review Questions](http://www.apcurriculum.com/dcirfol/4-24-32RQ.pdf) for example questions.)
2. Talk more about choices that need to be made. With younger children, discuss obeying parents, telling the truth, etc. Bring a variety of delicious fruits to class and discuss how the Bible does not tell us what type of fruit that Eve ate. Discuss how beautiful it must have looked and how delicious it must have tasted. Explain that Satan makes sin look exciting and fun—even beautiful—so that we will want to do wrong. Encourage discussion by giving examples. After the discussion, the children may select a fruit to eat in class.

LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

* Oriental trading – Garden of Eden Mini Sticker Scene. This is in the lesson file, but has been discontinued. Something similar could be reproduced if you could find fruit stickers and snake stickers.

### Review Questions

### Where did Adam and Eve live?

###  In the Garden of Eden

### What was the Garden like?

### It was beautiful, with plants and trees with all kinds of fruits and things for them to eat.

### What was Adam’s job in the Garden?

###  He was to take care of the Garden.

### Could they eat from every tree in the Garden?

### No. They could eat from every tree except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God had told them if they ate of that tree, they would die.

### Did God come and visit with them in the Garden?

###  Yes. He came and walked with them in the Garden and knew their every move.

### Who came into the Garden and talked Eve into eating of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?

### Satan

### What form did Satan take?

### a snake

### What did Eve do after she ate of the fruit?

### She took some to Adam to eat.

### What happened after they both ate of the fruit?

### They knew they had disobeyed God and tried to cover their bodies with fig leaves and hide from God.

### What did they tell God when He asked them what they had done?

### They both tried to blame it on someone else: Eve, on the devil and Adam on Eve.

### What was their punishment?

### They were expelled from the Garden never to return. Adam would have to work hard for a living; Eve would have pain in childbirth.

### What did God put at the entrance to the Garden to keep them out?

### Angelic beings with a flaming sword

### Did Adam and Eve have to make the choice they made?

###  No. they could have told Satan, “No.”

### Additional Notes / Activities Performed & Curriculum Feed Back

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