



LESSON 2
THE FALL

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Never Gives Up on Us

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 3

GOD'S BIG STORY: Adam and Eve disobey God, believing the serpent's lie over God's truth. Still, God calls to them, cares for them, and promises that one of their descendants will someday defeat Satan once and for all.

WORD OF WONDER: When anyone lives in Christ, the new creation has come. The old is gone! The new is here! —2 Corinthians 5:17

- Welcome Question: If you could do one thing forever and never stop, what would it be?
- Curiosity Questions
- Word of Wonder Activity
- God's Big Story
- Discussion Questions for Elementary Kids and Preteens
- Small Group Prayer Time
- LARGE GROUP
- Elementary Responding in Worship: A Bigger Love
- Preteen Responding in Worship: In inity Knot Bracelets



INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

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WONDER TRUTH: God Never Gives Up on Us

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 3

WORD OF WONDER: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Have you ever seen a toddler throw a tantrum? After a long day of fun at a theme park, my three-year-old fell apart because I would not buy her another sweet treat. I tried to explain to her that it wasn't good for her, but she screamed and refused to accept not getting her way. So I took her to a nearby bathroom to take a time-out, to allow her to calm down. She sat on that disgusting floor and threw the biggest tantrum. Although it felt like the longest three minutes of my life, she eventually calmed down and apologized. She was ready to trust and believe that I wanted only the best for her.

As we read the story of the fall of Adam and Eve in Genesis 3, I wonder why the enemy didn't directly command Eve just to go and eat the fruit. Did you catch his brilliant tactic? What lies has the enemy told you about God? Do you truly believe that God will take care of you as He promised?

One of the toughest realities of the Christian walk is the fact that we have all fallen. And one of the most joyous realities is that the Father—our perfect parent—doesn't give up on us. He will pursue us patiently until we surrender, soften our hearts, and believe God can be trusted.

—Catherine Hwang-Jin

Children's Pastor

Contributor to Wonder Ink

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

It was the serpent who encouraged Adam and Eve's fall into sin. This is the first time we see God's enemy disguised as one of God's good creatures, encouraging people to disobey. Revelation talks about the coming defeat of Satan, "that ancient serpent" (Revelation 20:2 NIV).

WHAT?

Sin changed everything in God's good world. Adam and Eve turned away from God and disobeyed His command. From then on, all of us do the same. We choose to follow our own way, and it breaks our relationship with God and separates us from Him.

WHERE?

Adam and Eve lived in the garden of Eden, located somewhere in southern Iraq. After the fall, Adam and Eve were forced to leave the garden and can never return. Eden has never been found—the Bible says the entrance is guarded (Genesis 3:24).

WHEN?

We don't know the exact date this took place, but this first sin changed everything in God's good world. From the first people until now, humanity has been in rebellion against God and His way. This happened long ago, but it continues to affect us today.

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY:

God gives consequences for sin in Genesis 3. But God also makes a promise—a snake crusher will reverse the curse of sin (Genesis 3:15). As we read God's big story, we're on the lookout for the One who will make everything right—Jesus!

LESSON 2 ELEMENTARY & PRETEEN

Small Group

Spark curiosity and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Never Gives Up on Us

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 3

WORD OF WONDER: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Pre-Service Connection (15–20 min)

RESOURCES: whiteboard, poster paper, or butcher paper, writing utensils, board games or games

[Games & Activities Guide](#)

Small group leaders should be seated in place in their small groups 20 minutes prior to service time. Have activities ready to keep children occupied and engaged WITH you. This time is important to build relationships, welcome new kids, and keep structure in the room - you should be an active participant with them! Learn the kids names, and make sure they all know yours too!

As kids arrive ...

Warmly welcome new friends, and introduce them to your group.

Use the Welcome Question and the following "I'm Curious" questions to engage kids. Say "I'm curious.." before each question and give kids an chance to think before answering each one. After each question, consider having kids share their ideas with a neighbor before you call on one or two of them to share with the group.



Consider having a whiteboard or poster for kids to write or draw answers to any of the questions:

- **Do you know what the world record is for the longest race completed on foot? Longest hug? Longest time on a swing?**
- **Can you think of anything that goes on forever?**

Once kids have guessed at the world records, share these records with them:

- Longest race done on foot: 3,100 miles
- Longest hug: 36 hours, 36 minutes, 36 seconds
- Longest time on a swing: 36 hours (set by a 12-year-old boy!)

Word of Wonder Activity

WORD OF WONDER

When anyone lives in Christ, the new creation has come. The old is gone! The new is here!
—2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIRV)

SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid), colored pencils or crayons

RESOURCES: *Word of Wonder Infinity Sheet NIRV (1 per kid)*

Before kids arrive, print a copy of the Word of Wonder Infinity Sheet NIRV for each kid.

Open your Bible to 2 Corinthians 5:17. Invite kids to read 2 Corinthians 5:17 several times together.

Distribute Word of Wonder Infinity Sheets and colored pencils or crayons. **In math, this symbol—which looks like an 8 taking a nap—represents infinity, or a number or line that doesn't end. God's love for us is infinite. It goes on forever! And there's nothing you can do that would cause His love for you to stop. God never gives up on us ... ever!** Invite kids to trace the verse inside the infinity symbol with a colored pencil or crayon, using a different color each time. Challenge kids to say the verse out loud as they trace. Repeat the entire verse together at the end.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid)

Briefly explain that today's story comes straight from the beginning of the Bible, God's Holy Word, and can be found in the first book of the Old Testament called Genesis. Have kids open their Bibles to Genesis 3. Encourage your volunteers to help kids find the passage.

In this passage, we see the first time humans disobeyed God. Adam and Eve listened to the serpent instead of trusting what God had said. Their choice brought brokenness into the world, but we also see God's care when He provides clothing for them. As you read, think about what this story shows us about sin, consequences, and God's continued love for people.

Read Genesis 3:1–7, 21–22. Ask kids to place a finger on the word “God” as they follow along.

Elementary Questions

- **What did God tell Adam that he and Eve could do in the garden? What did He tell them not to do?** (God told them to care for the garden and gave them the freedom to eat and enjoy almost all the fruits. God told them not to eat fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.)
- **Instead of listening to God, who did Eve listen to while Adam also stood by?** (Eve listened to the serpent, which was being used by the enemy, Satan, to deceive Eve and Adam.)
- **Adam and Eve disobeyed God. This is called sin. What were the consequences for Adam and Eve's sin?** (The relationship between the man and the woman became worse—the woman would experience more pain when she gave birth, the man would have to work hard for his food, and they had to leave Eden forever!)
- **What did God do to take care of Adam and Eve after they sinned? What did God promise them?** (God called to them and replaced their fig leaf clothes with leather clothes. He also promised that one of their descendants would defeat Satan and crush the head of the serpent once and for all!)
- **What do God's actions toward Adam and Eve and His promise show us about what God is like?**
- **God never gives up on you! What can you do to remember this?**

When we sin, God still loves us and desires to be with us. He never gives up on us! Jesus is the One God promised who would defeat Satan once and for all. Through Jesus, our sins can be forgiven, and we can be with God forever! Let's talk with God now in prayer!

Preteen Questions

- **What clear instructions did God give Adam? What did God tell Adam that he and Eve could do in the garden? What did He say they couldn't do?** (God told them to care for the garden and to fill the earth with new people. God gave them the freedom to eat and enjoy almost all the fruits. God told them not to eat fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.)
- **Instead of listening to God, who did Eve listen to while Adam also stood by? What things (or people) in our world do you sometimes listen to instead of God?** (Eve listened to the serpent, which was being used by the enemy, Satan, to deceive Eve and Adam.)
- **After Adam and Eve sinned, what did they feel for the first time? (fear and shame) What did they do next?** (They sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves, and they hid from God.)
- **While Adam and Eve were hiding, God called out to them: "Where are you?" Do you think God knew where they were? Why do you think God called to them? What might this tell us about what God is like?**
- **What did God do to take care of Adam and Eve after they sinned? What did God promise them?** (God called to them and replaced their fig leaf clothes with leather clothes. He also promised that one of their descendants would defeat Satan and crush the head of the serpent once and for all!)
- **God didn't give up on Adam and Eve, and He never gives up on us! When have you experienced God's love and forgiveness even after you did something wrong?**

When we sin, God still loves us and desires to be with us. He never gives up on us! Jesus is the One God promised who would defeat Satan once and for all. Through Jesus, our sins can be forgiven, and we can be with God forever! Let's talk with God now in prayer!

Leader Tip: If needed, explain that shame is a deep feeling of embarrassment or self-dislike for what we've done.

Small Group Prayer Time

Invite kids to a safe and quiet place where they can share prayer requests, including situations that are difficult. Invite them to share praises and things they're grateful to God for. Some kids may not be comfortable praying out loud. That's OK! If they feel led, encourage them to pray with one another.

Elementary Responding in Worship: A Bigger Love

SUPPLIES: posterboard or butcher paper (red or pink, if possible), scissors (prep only), sticky notes (1 per kid), writing utensils (1 per kid), tape, whiteboard (optional), red or pink crayon (optional)

RESOURCES: [Created New Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

Ahead of time, cut a giant heart out of posterboard or butcher paper and set it aside. (If possible, use red or pink posterboard or butcher paper or color the heart red or pink.) In this activity, kids will place sticky notes on a whiteboard or blank section of wall. The giant heart must be large enough to cover all their sticky notes. Decide where on the wall or whiteboard kids will stick their notes.

We heard in God's big story today about the difficult moment when sin entered the world. Sins are the wrong things we say and do that separate us from God. The Bible tells us that all of us have disobeyed God and done wrong things (see Romans 3:23). The hard truth is that our sin hurts us and others, and it hurts our relationship with God.

Give a sticky note and a writing utensil to each kid. **Let's spend a few moments thinking quietly about something we've said or done that was wrong. As you think of that sin, I invite you to draw either a large "X" or a sad face on your sticky note.** Pause as kids think quietly and write/draw on their sticky notes. Consider modeling a quiet, humble attitude of confession by participating in the activity alongside the kids.

Leader Tip: Confessing our sins to God is both sacred and deeply personal. This activity may stir up hard emotions for some kids, and others may seem distant or disconnected. Give kids space and permission to process while letting them know you're here for them. Your presence and no-strings-attached love will give them a glimpse of how Jesus feels about them!

God, who always loves us no matter what, invites us to confess our sins to Him. Confession means simply that we admit that what we did was wrong and ask for forgiveness. Let's hold our sticky notes in front of us as we pray a prayer of confession. You can repeat each line after me:

God, (Kids repeat.)

I confess that I have sinned against You (Kids repeat.)

in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. (Kids repeat.)

I have not loved You with all my heart. (Kids repeat.)

I have not loved other people as I love myself. (Kids repeat.)

I am truly sorry. (Kids repeat.)

Please forgive me. (Kids repeat.)

Let's pause in our prayer to imagine that our sticky notes represent the wrong things we've done, our sins. Let's stick them to the wall (or whiteboard) as a symbol of releasing our sins to God and asking Him to forgive us. Invite kids to stick their notes to the wall or whiteboard. All the notes should be clustered pretty close together.

As kids write on their sticky notes and place them on the wall or whiteboard, play songs from the [Created New Elementary Spotify playlist](#).

The good news is that God didn't give up on Adam and Eve when they sinned, and He doesn't give up on us! Hold up the giant paper heart. God created us and loves us. He sent Jesus so that our sins could be forgiven and we could be in relationship with Him forever. God's love is bigger and greater than all our sin! Invite kids to help you tape the giant heart directly over all the sticky notes, so the notes are no longer showing. If it feels natural, lead kids in a round of clapping and cheering because the heart—God's love—is bigger than our sins!

Let's finish our prayer now. Invite kids to repeat after you:

God, (Kids repeat.)

Because of Your Son Jesus, I am forgiven! (Kids repeat.)

Thank you for never ever giving up on me! (Kids repeat.)

I accept Your big, amazing love! (Kids repeat.)

Help me to walk with You in Your ways (Kids repeat.)

all the days of my life! (Kids repeat.)

Amen. (Kids repeat.)

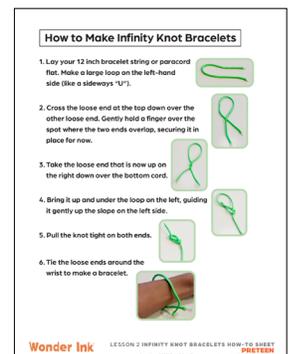
Keep the heart up (and the sticky notes covered) for the remainder of the lesson.

Preteen Responding in Worship: Infinity Knot Bracelets

SUPPLIES: bracelet strings or paracords in various colors (one 12" length per kid)

RESOURCES: [Infinity Knot Bracelets How-To Sheet \(1/ SG\)](#), [Infinity Knot Bracelets How-To Video](#) (optional), [Created New Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

Ahead of time, practice making an infinity knot with a bracelet string or paracord so that you feel ready to demonstrate it for the kids. Print the Infinity Knot Bracelets How-To Sheet or watch the [Infinity Knot Bracelet How-To Video](#) for step-by-step instructions.



We heard in God’s big story today about the difficult moment when sin entered the world. Sins are the wrong things we say and do that separate us from God. The Bible tells us that all of us have disobeyed God and done wrong things (see Romans 3:23). The hard truth is that our sin hurts us and others, and it hurts our relationship with God.

God, whose love for us is infinite, invites us to confess our sins to Him. Confession means simply that we admit that what we did was wrong and ask for forgiveness. Let’s pray a prayer of confession together. As we pray, think about one or two specific sins in your life and imagine yourself letting go of them. Demonstrate holding your hands out in front of you with palms down and open as though letting go of something. **Then imagine yourself receiving God’s love and forgiveness like you would receive a gift.** Demonstrate holding your hands in front of you with palms up and open as though receiving a present. Model these actions again during the prayer.

Leader Tip: Confessing our sins to God is both sacred and deeply personal. This activity may stir up hard emotions for some kids, and others may seem distant or disconnected. Give kids space and permission to process while letting them know you are here for them. Your presence and no-strings-attached love will give them a glimpse of how Jesus feels about them!

Invite kids to repeat each line after you:

I confess that I have sinned against You (Kids repeat.)
in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. (Kids repeat.)
I have not loved You with all my heart. (Kids repeat.)
I have not loved other people as I love myself. (Kids repeat.)
I am truly sorry. (Kids repeat.)
Please forgive me. (Kids repeat.)
Because of Your Son Jesus, I am forgiven! (Kids repeat.)
Thank you for never ever giving up on me! (Kids repeat.)
I accept Your big, amazing love! (Kids repeat.)
Help me to walk with You in Your ways (Kids repeat.)
all the days of my life! (Kids repeat.)
Amen. (Kids repeat.)

God didn’t give up on Adam and Eve when they sinned, and He doesn’t give up on us! God’s love for us stretches to infinity—it never ends! Let’s make bracelets that we can wear as a reminder that God’s love for us is infinite. Give a bracelet string or paracord to each kid. If you have various colors of string, invite kids to choose their favorite.

An infinity knot is a special kind of knot that has no beginning and no end—it’s goes on for infinity, like God’s love for us! Demonstrate how to make an infinity knot. (Refer to the Infinity Bracelet How-To Sheet or [Video](#) for guidance.) Then invite kids to try tying an infinity knot with their bracelet strings. Once they’ve tied the knot, encourage them to help one another tie their bracelets loosely onto their wrists (using regular knots!). As kids make their bracelets, play songs from the [Created New Elementary Spotify playlist](#).

Leader Tip: Feeling a bit unsure about showing kids how to make an infinity knot? Consider showing them the [Infinity Knot Bracelet How-To Video](#).

Make It Inclusive: Be available to tie infinity knots for kids who struggle with dexterity or simply feel frustrated and need a little help.

Once all the kids are wearing their infinity knot bracelets, gather them together. **Every time you see your infinity knot bracelet on your wrist, remember that God’s love for you is infinite—it never ends! Let’s end this time by learning a simple breath prayer we can say every time we remember God’s infinite love.**

Explain that a breath prayer is a word or phrase we repeat in a single breath with one part on the inhale and the other part on the exhale. Teach kids this simple breath prayer and say it several times together. (Kids might want to touch the infinity knot on their bracelets as they pray.)

Inhale: **Thank You, God ...**

Exhale: **for never giving up on me.**