



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

- PRE-SERVICE:
 - OPTION 1 STEM Activity: Forever Swing
 - OPTION 2 Interactive Game: "The Longest" Challenges
- Welcome Question: If you could do one thing forever and never stop, what would it be?
- Declaring God's Wonder
- Prayer of Invitation and
- Worship: You Have Overcome, Praise the Lord
- God's Big Story
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- In Awe of God's Wonder
- Responding in Worship: Worthy of it All
- Blessing Your Kids



INVITATION

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

LESSON AT A GLANCE

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

Large Group

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

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Never Gives Up on Us

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WORD OF WONDER: 2 Corinthians 5:17

As kids arrive...

Around 20 minutes before service begins, display series theme loop. Play high-energy music in the background.

LG Leader walks around the room on mic and greets kids by name as they enter the room. Be extra intentional about introducing yourself to new parents and kids.

SLIDE: SERIES THEME LOOP

VIDEO: COUNTDOWN (2min OR 30sec) Start a countdown to begin game 10 minutes prior to service start)

OPTION 1 STEM Activity: Forever Swing

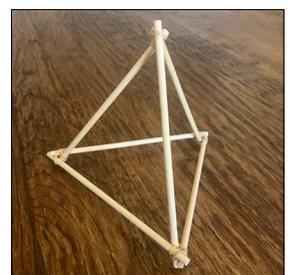
SUPPLIES: 6" wooden dowel rods (6 per station), rubber bands, string (one 8"-10" length per station), circular magnets (1 per station), clear tape (1 roll per station), rectangular magnets (3 per station)

Before kids arrive, prepare for this activity by completing steps 1-2 for each forever swing. If your group is large, set up multiple stations with the supplies for a forever swing (including a prepared wooden frame) at each one. Depending on your space, it works best for 5-10 kids to gather at each station. Assign a leader to each station. Also consider completing a practice run of the entire activity ahead of time.

STEP 1: Create a triangle by overlapping three dowel rods and securing a rubber band around each overlapping corner end.

STEP 2: Connect three more dowels to the existing triangle to form a 3D pyramid. Secure each dowel end to the corners of the base first. Then secure the three dowels together at the top to create a pyramid shape.

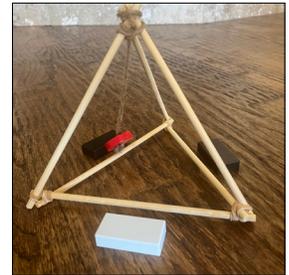
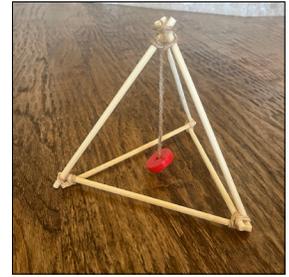
Today, we're going to do a STEM activity and use the force of magnets to create a forever swing. Scientists call the force that keeps the swing moving without ever stopping the Lorentz force. Let's watch it work! Gather the kids around the forever swing. If you've set up multiple stations, assign kids to each station and have leaders complete the steps at each station.



Complete steps 3–4, inviting one or more kid to help you with each one.

STEP 3: Tie one end of the string around the circular magnet and the other end to the top of the pyramid. Secure both ends of the string with clear tape. (Note that the tape will simply wrap around the magnet, to keep it from loosening.)

STEP 4: Place three rectangular magnets at the center of each dowel in the base. Gently lift and release the circular magnet to watch it go! It will bounce back and forth between the three magnetic fields.



Leader Tip: If you plan on having kids gather at multiple stations for this STEM activity, meet with your leaders ahead of time to teach them the steps for this activity, so they feel confident building a forever swing. Youth volunteers make great leaders for this activity!

Because of the powerful force of the magnets, the swing never stops! It just doesn't give up. God's love for us is a little like this forever swing—it never stops!

Display [The Fall Wonder Truth Slide](#). **Our Wonder Truth today is GOD NEVER GIVES UP ON US.**



OPTION 2 Interactive Game: "The Longest" Challenges

SUPPLIES: tape measure, stopwatch, hardcover books (several), whiteboard, dry-erase markers, paper (optional), writing utensils (optional)

Ahead of time, tape one long line on the floor.

Display [The Longest Challenges Slide](#) and gather the kids. **If you could hold any world record in something, what would it be?** Invite kids to respond. **Wow! It's amazing to think about being the best or fastest in the world at something! Let's do some "longest" challenges now! We might not set any world records today, but we can have fun trying!**



Invite kids to try one or more of the following challenges. If your group is small, encourage everyone who is able and interested to try each one. If your group is large or your time limited, invite kids to choose 1–2 of the challenges to try. Focus on having fun and celebrating each kid's participation, not on winning and losing:

- The Longest Reach: Kids stretch their arms out to the side. Use a tape measure to determine the distance from fingertip to fingertip. See whose reach is the longest!
- The Longest Time Holding Your Breath: On the count of three, have kids hold their breath. See who holds it the longest!
- The Longest Time Balancing a Book on Your Head: Have kids place a hardcover book on their head and keep it there as long as possible without using their hands to steady it. See who balances the book the longest! (This challenge can be done standing or sitting.)

- The Longest Time Standing on One Foot with Eyes Closed: On the count of three, have kids balance on one foot and close their eyes. See who is the last person standing on one foot!
- The Longest Word You Can Spell Correctly: Invite kids to write the longest word they know on the whiteboard. See who writes the longest word and spells it correctly! (Alternatively, kids can write their words on paper.)
- The Longest Jump: Invite kids to line up behind the line. On the count of three, have them all jump as far as they can (without getting a running start). See who jumped the farthest!

Make It Inclusive: If kids in your group have physical limitations that affect mobility, lung capacity, etc., limit the challenges to activities that everyone can safely participate in.

Gather the kids. **Wow! I don't think we set any world records today, but you all rose to the challenge and did some impressively long things! Today we're going to learn about something that is longer and higher and deeper than any world record: God's love for us! Display The Fall Wonder Truth Slide. We'll see through the lives of the first two people on earth that, as our Wonder Truth says, GOD NEVER GIVES UP ON US.**



Welcome Question

SUPPLIES: paper, coloring utensils, poster board OR , whiteboard, dry-erase markers (if needed)

SLIDE: WELCOME QUESTION

At service start time, draw kids' attention to the Welcome Question.

Invite kids to write answers on the poster board or whiteboard.

Today we're going to hear in God's big story about how God's love for the first humans never ended and never stopped, even when they turned away from Him. But first, it's time for small group.



Small Group

Introduce small group time. While kids are in small group, consider sitting in the groups for a few minutes each. Engage and interact as is appropriate.

Countdown

After about 15 minutes of small group, give a 5 minute warning and begin the countdown.

VIDEO: COUNTDOWN

"Hey everyone! Welcome to our Large Group Worship time! My name is _____ and I'm excited to take this time to worship God, review what we just read, and talk about ways we can respond to what we are learning about God! We are going to pray as we prepare our hearts to worship God!"

Declaring God's Wonder

Display [The Fall Declaration Slide](#). Read each line boldly and invite kids to repeat after you.

Thank You, God, that You are good! (Kids repeat.)

You made me on purpose, for a purpose. (Kids repeat.)

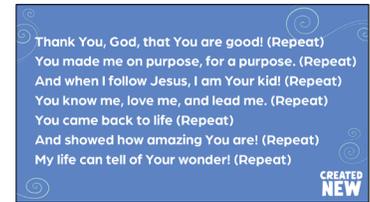
And when I follow Jesus, I am Your kid! (Kids repeat.)

You know me, love me, and lead me. (Kids repeat.)

No matter what I have done or will do, (Kids repeat.)

You will never give up on me. (Kids repeat.)

My life can tell of Your wonder! (Kids repeat.)



Make It Inclusive: Kids who are a regular part of your ministry may have most of the weekly declaration memorized. All kids like to help in meaningful ways! Invite one or two kids with unique needs to help you lead the declaration.

Prayer of Invitation

Lead kids in a prayer of invitation before entering into worship and God's big story: **God, thank You for always being with us. We invite Your Holy Spirit to lead, teach, and show us Your truth today. Remind us that no matter what, You don't give up on us. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Worship

Today we'll hear about how God never gives up on us. Let's praise Him now.

Play songs [You Have Overcome](#), [Praise the Lord](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance as they praise God.

God's Big Story

Display [The Fall Title Slide](#).

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.

Today we are learning about a choice that changed everything and about a God who still cared deeply for His people. Watch how Adam and Eve disobeyed God and how God responded with both truth and kindness. As you watch, think about how God loves us even when we make wrong choices and why we need His help.

Watch [God's Big Story Video](#).

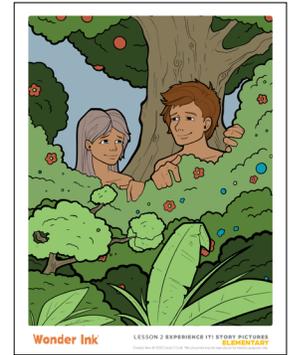


LESSON 2 THE FALL EXPERIENCE IT! SCRIPT

SUPPLIES: Bible, white cardstock, tape, butcher paper (optional), markers (optional)

RESOURCES: Experience It! Story Pictures (1 set)

Before kids arrive, print the Experience It! Story Pictures on white cardstock. Tape the Experience It! Story Pictures around the stage area, where they're easily visible but not in order. Consider drawing a large tree on butcher paper and taping it to the wall in your stage area. Then tape the pictures to the tree as "fruit."



As you tell the story, you'll pause at indicated points for kids to point to the matching picture. Each time, call on a kid to "pick" the picture off the wall (or tree!) and stand on stage holding that picture for the remainder of the story.

In the beginning, God created everything that is. Open the Bible to Genesis and hold it up for kids to see. **The book of Genesis tells us that God filled the universe with planets and stars and filled the earth with living things. What other things did God make?** Allow kids to answer freely.

Next, God made human beings, male and female, in His own image, and commanded them to care for the world and its creatures. In return, God showed that He would never give up on them by promising to take care of them and to provide them with many children and grandchildren and great-great-great grandchildren called descendants.

I'll need your help for the next part of the story. Up here (indicate taped pictures), **I have some pictures of this part of God's big story ... but they're all mixed up!** Describe the pictures so everyone in the room has an idea of what's on the pictures if they can't see them clearly. **When I come to a part of the story that matches a picture, quietly point to the picture. I'll call a few of you up here to grab each picture and hold it for all of us to see.**

God gave the first two human beings, Adam and Eve, everything they could want or need. He placed them in a garden and told them to care for it together and to fill the earth with new people. Does anyone see a picture that matches this part of the story? Of Adam and Eve in the garden?

Choose a kid to come on stage, pick the correct picture, then stand on the stage holding the picture for the rest of the kids to see.

God gave Adam and Eve the freedom to eat and enjoy almost all the fruits of His garden. Only one fruit was off limits—the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God warned Adam that if he ate of it, he "would certainly die" (Genesis 2:17). Does anyone see a picture that shows this tree?

Choose a kid to come on stage, pick the correct picture, then stand to the left of the first kid, holding the picture for everyone to see.

In the garden, the serpent was the sneakiest of all the animals on earth, and the enemy of humankind, Satan, used the serpent to deceive Adam and Eve. Does anyone see a picture Adam and Eve with a serpent?

Choose a kid to come on stage, pick the correct picture, then stand to the left of the previous kid,

holding the picture for everyone to see.

The serpent asked Eve why she and Adam were not permitted to eat from the tree of knowledge. When Eve told the serpent what God had said, the serpent replied, “You will not die! God is holding out on you; He knows that you’ll be just like Him if you eat its fruit.”

Eve saw how beautiful the fruit was and the power it promised, so she took a piece and shared it with Adam, who was with her. Does anyone see a picture that matches?

Choose someone to come on stage, pick the correct picture, then stand to the left of the previous kid, holding the picture for the rest of the kids to see.

Despite everything God had done for them, the first human beings disobeyed His one command. Disobeying God is called sin, and Adam and Eve’s sin hurt their relationship with God. They realized what they had done, and for the first time, they felt fear and shame. They noticed they were naked and sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves. They had never felt these feelings before. In the evening, as God walked in the garden, Adam and Eve tried to hide from Him. Does anyone see a picture that matches?

Choose a kid to come on stage, pick the correct picture, then stand to the left of the previous kid, holding the picture for everyone to see.

When God called to Adam and Eve, they revealed themselves and confessed their fear and shame over their nakedness. God asked them how they knew they were naked, but rather than admit they had done wrong, Adam blamed Eve, and Eve blamed the serpent.

Actions have consequences, and sin always has consequences. God said that the relationship between the man and the woman would change for the worse. He said the woman would experience more pain when she gave birth, and the man would have to work very hard for his food rather than eating freely from the trees of God’s garden. Adam and Eve would have to leave Eden, never to return. Yet God did not give up on them. Instead, He began to show His plan for healing the relationship between Himself and the people He created. God replaced their fig leaves with clothes made from leather. Does anyone see a picture that matches?

Choose a kid to come on stage, pick the correct picture, then stand to the left of the previous kid, holding the picture for everyone to see.

Most importantly, God hinted to Adam and Eve that He would defeat Satan once and for all through one of their own descendants, crushing the head of the serpent. Which picture is left?

Choose a kid to come on stage, pick the final picture, then stand to the left of the previous kid, holding the picture for the other kids to see.

Leader Tip: Consider pausing at this point in the story to ask kids if they know who would be the One to defeat Satan once and for all. (The answer: Jesus!)

People continue to disobey God today, sinning against Him and hurting their relationship with Him. Despite our sins, God loves us and made the way through Jesus to defeat evil and heal our relationship with Him. God never gives up on us.

Thank the volunteers, collect the pictures, and ask kids to return to their seats.

Leader Tip: Lay the pictures in order (or tape them back to the wall in order) and invite kids to retell the story in their own words. It's amazing to see the Bible come to life from a child's perspective!

Connecting the Wonder Truth

Display the Fall Wonder Truth Slide. **Our Wonder Truth today is GOD NEVER GIVES UP ON US. Where did you see our Wonder Truth in the story?** Allow kids to answer freely.



God gives consequences for sin in Genesis 3. But God also makes a promise—one day 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!**

In Awe of God's Wonder

Spend a few moments allowing kids to think about the wonder of God's story.

What is something new you discovered today about God's big story? Allow kids to answer freely. Consider sharing your own answer too!

What do you want to say to God today about what He did in this story? Don't hurry kids' answers. Instead, give them time to think and respond freely. Invite kids to share their ideas first with a friend and then with the whole group.

Leader Tip: This is a great moment to be aware of kids who are ready to take the next steps in their faith journey. Whenever possible, invite their families into the conversations that you have with them. Take a look at the Salvation Path resource for ideas and language to incorporate as you talk with kids.

Responding in Worship

SLIDE: RESPONDING IN WORSHIP

Talk about ways we can respond to what we are learning with next steps such as tithing, prayer, asking questions, and worship. Encourage kids to ask their SG leaders any questions they were wondering during the lesson.

***Introduce this next song and invite kids to respond and participate in worship. See the "Worship Posture Tutorial" on the RBKids Resource Page.

WORSHIP VIDEO: WORTHY OF IT ALL



Blessing Your Kids

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May you always turn to God no matter how big the mess up, how bad the choice, or how much shame you feel. God never gives up on you ... ever! May you always remember that His infinite love covers all things!