



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: Jesus makes us new. —from 2 Corinthians 5:17

- Play Stations:
 - Garden Exploration
 - Eat This, Not This
 - The Fall Coloring Sheet
- Curiosity Activity: Dancing Fruit Experiment
- God's Big Story: The Fall
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- Word of Wonder: From 2 Corinthians 5:17
- Circle Time: "Fruit" Hot Potato
- LARGE GROUP
- Craft: He'll Never Give Up!
- Responding in Worship: Breath Prayer





LESSON 2 FOR LEADERS

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: From 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!



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

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: From 2 Corinthians 5:17

Play Stations

SUPPLIES: shallow bin, dirt or soil, fake trees and plants, small rocks, small bins or baskets (2), toy food, various non-food objects (such as a rock, ball, cotton ball), note cards (2), marker (prep only), coloring utensils, small tarp or towel (optional)

RESOURCES: [The Fall Coloring Sheet](#) (1 per kid)

Greet the kids warmly and briefly explain the play stations to them. Invite them to play at any of the stations.

Welcome to church! While we're getting ready to start, you can play at any of these stations to help you get ready for our lesson today. Do you have any ideas about what we'll be learning today?

Play Station: Garden Exploration

Set up: Set out a shallow bin and fill with dirt or soil, fake trees and plants, and small rocks. A small tarp or towel can help contain the mess.

Play: Let the kids play in the pretend garden. Ask them what else might be in a garden (such as flowers or water). Allow the kids to explore by feeling the dirt and moving the rocks around in the bin. They can also create paths or decorative areas around the plants and trees with the rocks.

Play Station: Eat This, Not This

Set up: Set out two small bins or baskets, toy food, and various non-food objects (such as rocks, a ball, cotton ball). Use a note card and marker to make a sign that says, "Eat This" and another sign that says, "Don't Eat This." Set out the bins or baskets side by side. Place one sign by each bin or basket. Or, for non-readers, make a happy face and a sad face on the cards.

Play: Tell the kids what each sign says. Let the kids sort the items into the bins, according to things they can eat and things they can't eat.

Play Station: The Fall Coloring Sheet

Set up: Ahead of time, print one copy per kid of the coloring sheet and set out coloring utensils.

Play: Let the kids color. The kids can also turn over their sheet and draw a picture of their favorite fruit on the back.

Curiosity Activity: Dancing Fruit Experiment

SUPPLIES: handful of grapes or raisins, large clear glass (or vase or pitcher), seltzer water (enough to fill the vase or pitcher $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way)

After God created the whole world, He gave the garden and everything in it for Adam and Eve to enjoy. It was a good place, with no sin. How do you think Adam and Eve felt about the garden? Pause for answers. Maybe they were happy or excited. Sometimes when we're excited, we might jump up and down. Let's watch these grapes (show the handful of grapes) move up and down now.

Fill the large clear container $\frac{3}{4}$ full of seltzer water. Place a handful of grapes into the water. The grapes will sink to the bottom, but after a few moments, the bubbles from the water will cause the grapes to rise to the top. Some bubbles will pop and send the grapes back to the bottom where they'll attach to new bubbles to continue "dancing."



God loved and cared for Adam and Eve! In today's story, we'll hear how something sad happened in the garden. But God never gave up on Adam and Eve. God never gives up on us!

Word of Wonder

SUPPLIES: Bible, orange

WORD OF WONDER

Jesus makes us new.

—from 2 Corinthians 5:17

Our Word of Wonder for the Created New series is from 2 Corinthians 5:17. Let's practice saying the Word of Wonder together.

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **JESUS**—Point fingers from left hand into right palm, then right hand into left palm (sign language for "Jesus").
- **MAKES US**—Both hands over your heart.
- **NEW.**—Bring both arms out in front of you and down to your sides.
- **FROM 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17**—Hold your hands together as if opening a book.

What did Adam and Eve eat that brought sin into the world? Allow the kids to respond. **That's right—fruit from the tree that God told them not to eat from. Even though we all sin, Jesus forgives us and makes us new! Let's remember this truth while we say our verse as we pass some fruit to one another.**

Have the kids sit in a circle while you roll an orange to someone. Whoever gets the orange will say the first word of the verse, then roll it to someone else, who will say the next word. Continue until the kids have said the entire verse.

God sent Jesus to save us from our sins when He died on the cross. Then He came back to life, and He can forgive our sins! When we ask Him, God will forgive our sins and take them all away! He gives us a new start. This is how Jesus makes us new! We can become like Him, with the help of the Holy Spirit inside us.

Gather kids to discuss these questions:

- Sin messed up everything in the world, including the relationship between God and people. Who did God promise to send to make all things new? (a Savior—Jesus)
- How does it make you feel to know that Jesus can fix all things and make us new?

God's Big Story: The Fall

SUPPLIES: [My First HandsOn Bible](#) (2-3 year olds; [Laugh and Grow Bible](#) (4-5 year olds) [Bible Story Picture](#) (1/SG)

Bible Time Rhyme

Say the Bible time rhyme (with motions) each week before the Bible story to remind kids that what they're about to hear is part of God's big story.

I open my Bible, and what do I see? (Hold your hands together, then open your palms, as if opening a book.)

God's big story, waiting for me! (Point to yourself.)

Hold up a Bible and show the kids. Tell them today's story comes from the Bible. Open a Bible and show them where the story is found in Genesis, which is the first book of the Bible.

For 2-3 year olds: Read pages 16-21 from the [My First Hands On Bible](#)

For 4-5 year olds: Read pages 18-23 in the [Laugh and Grow Bible](#)

****If you have a mixed group: Read from the suggestion for younger.

Circle Time: "Fruit" Hot Potato

SUPPLIES: apple or orange

RESOURCES: upbeat songs from the [Created New Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Invite the kids to sit in a circle. Hold up the apple or orange. **Have you ever been tempted to eat something you weren't supposed to eat? Like someone else's treat or a dessert before dinner?**

Allow the kids to respond. **We've all done things we shouldn't do. We have all sinned.**

When Adam and Eve ate the fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, sin came into the world and made more bad things happen for Adam and Eve and the whole world. Sin always messes things up. Sin messed up God's relationship with people and made life harder for everyone. Adam and Eve had to leave the garden. They could never go back. But God didn't give up on Adam and Eve. God still took care of them. And He doesn't give up on us because He loves us. Let's pass around an apple (or orange) to help us remember this!

Use the apple or orange as a hot potato and pass it around the circle while you play upbeat songs from the [Created New Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#). Stop the music at various times. Whoever is holding the fruit when the music stops will answer a question.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **What did God tell Adam and Eve they were not allowed to do?** (eat the fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil)
- **What lie did the serpent use to trick Eve?** (eating the fruit would make Adam and Eve like God)
- **What did Adam and Eve do after they sinned?** (hid from God)
- **What did God do for Adam and Eve?** (made them leave the garden; provided food and clothes for them; promised to send a Savior)
- **What is one way we can remember God will never give up on us?**
- **How does Jesus help us with our sin?**
- **What does this story and Wonder Truth show us about God?** (If kids need help, offer ideas such as: He is loving; He forgives; We can trust Him; He wants to be close with us.)

Because of sin, hard things still happen in the world, but God promises to love and care for us no matter what. God will never give up on us! Let's go to Him now in prayer to thank Him for always loving and forgiving us.

Invite kids to share prayer requests and praises and to pray for each other. Some kids may not be comfortable praying out loud. That's OK! Encourage them to pray silently and thank God for hearing us and caring about us. God hears all our prayers!

Craft: He'll Never Give Up!

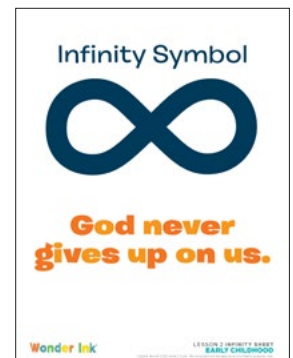
SUPPLIES: pipe cleaners (1 per kid), pony beads (5–10 per kid)

RESOURCES: [Infinity Sheet \(4/SG\)](#)

Ahead of time, print the Infinity Sheet. Set out pipe cleaners and pony beads.

Today we're learning about how God will never give up on us. Forever is a really long time! This symbol (point to the image on the printable) **is called an infinity sign. Can you say infinity?** Pause for kids to respond. **That means forever. When something goes on for infinity, it will never end! We're going to create an infinity sign together! First, pick out a pipe cleaner.** Give each kid a pipe cleaner.

Now pick out a few of your favorite beads and string them onto the pipe cleaner. Hold a pipe cleaner and string a few beads onto it to demonstrate. Encourage kids to leave some space without beads so they have space to twist the ends together.



Now we're going to twist the ends together to form a circle. Ask volunteers to help you assist the kids in twisting the ends, so they don't come undone. Hold up your circle to show the kids as you twist it into an infinity sign. **Grab opposite ends of your circle and twist it so that the middle comes together! Give it one more good twist, and now you have an infinity sign that will remind you God will always care for you. His love goes forever and ever!**



Responding in Worship: Breath Prayer

Invite the kids to sit on the floor. **When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, sin entered the whole world. For every person who would be born after (that's us!), God promised to send Jesus to die for all sin. And He did! Because God doesn't give up on us, we can always trust Him.**

Let's try breathing together. When I breathe in through my nose (take a big breath in through your nose), **you breathe in too! When I breathe out** (exhale loudly out your mouth), **you breathe out with me. Are you ready? Watch me!** Breathe in slowly, then breathe out through your mouth. Breathe in again, then breathe out through your mouth. Take one more deep breath.

Excellent! Now try breathing in as I lift my hands up (lift both hands up and take a big breath in) **and breathe out when I put my hands down!** Exhale through your mouth as you put your hands back down. **Great job!**

Now, we'll put words with our breaths. As we breathe in (raise your hands and breathe in), **I will say "God, You will never," and as we breathe out** (exhale and lower your hands), **I will say "give up on me."** Breathe with me as I say this prayer!

God, You will never (Lift both hands up.) ... **give up on me.** (Put both hands down.)

God, You will never (Lift both hands up.) ... **stop loving me.** (Put both hands down.)

God, You will never (Lift both hands up.)... **leave me.** (Put both hands down.)

God, You will never (Lift both hands up.) ... **forget about me.** (Put both hands down.)

Whenever you need a reminder that God is on your side, take a big deep breath and whisper this prayer to yourself: God, You will never give up on me.

Leader Tip: To make the prayer personal, go around the room and insert each kid's name into the breath prayer. You would say, "God, You will never give up on [name]." Finish it with your own name. God will never give up on you either!