

Adam and Eve Disobey God

Overview

Materials You'll Need

- pinwheel pattern
- construction paper
- scissors
- paper fasteners
- pencils with eraser tops
(one per student)
- markers
- glue



Scriptures

Gen 2:15-17, 3:1-24

Bible Truth Objective(s)

Adam and Eve disobeyed God and they were driven from the Garden of Eden; God knows everything

Behavioral Objective(s)

To obey God's word by praying to Him and listening to our parents

Memory Verse

"We will obey." (Ex 24:7)



Bible Knowledge

Satan

Satan at one time was an angelic being who rebelled against God and was thrown out of heaven. As a created being, Satan has definite limitations. Although he tempts people and leads people away from God, God promises that Satan will be destroyed.

Disguised as a crafty serpent, Satan came to tempt Eve. Satan tempted Eve by getting her to doubt God's goodness. He implied that God was strict, stingy, and selfish for not wanting Eve to share His knowledge of good and evil. Satan misled Eve and told her that she could become more like

God by defying God's authority, and deciding for herself what was best for her life.

Self-exaltation leads to rebellion against God. As soon as we begin to leave God out of our plans, we are placing ourselves above Him. This is exactly what Satan wants us to do.

Garden of Eden

The Garden of Eden is also referred to as the "garden of delight" (in Hebrew, *adan* means "delight"). Therefore, many people also call this garden a place of paradise. Although there are specific references to rivers and regions (Gen 2:8, 10, 15; 3:23, 24; 4:16), only the Euphrates and Tigris can be identified with certainty. Therefore, the exact location of the garden is unknown.



Understanding Your Students

Disobedience is a very serious sin for grown Christians, for it is a willful challenge against God's commands. However, for young children, disobedience may be a rather normal display while they learn how to relate to those around them. God

gave us His commandments out of His love for us so that we may prosper within His limits and stay away from danger. Likewise, children need boundaries and rules to feel cared for and safe. Nevertheless, as a child gains more understanding, it is very likely that he will want to test the limits the adults set for him. He may question what would happen if he did not listen. Or, he may sim-

ply disobey on purpose just to see what will happen. It is crucial for you, his RE teacher, to know what to do in such a situation. Follow God's example while dealing with Adam and Eve's disobedience. 1) Let the students realize that he has done something wrong. Teach your students the meaning of repentance and asking for forgiveness from God. 2) Allow a chance for restitution. If at all possible, let your students repair the damage they have done (i.e. clean up the mess, put a bandage



Vocabulary

Satan

God's enemy; Satan wants us to not listen to God

Tempt

when Satan tries to make us do something bad

on the person who got hurt, say sorry, etc.). 3) Apply appropriate punishment. Let the students know the consequence of disobedience ahead of time (rules and consequences need to be communicated often) so that they know why they are being punished. Be sure to keep your anger in check at all times. It is important for teachers to remain calm. Keep your eyes open and use every opportunity as a window for precious learning.

Naked

not wearing any clothes

Obey

to listen to someone else, to follow the rules

Curse

to say that something bad will happen

The tree of the knowledge of good and evil

Adam and Eve could not eat from this tree because God told them they would die



Before You Teach

In Genesis, God tells Adam and Eve that they can eat from any tree in the garden except for one, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The Bible doesn't record what kind of fruit tree this tree of knowledge was; only that it was planted in the "midst of the garden" and by eating the fruit, it would bring about death. It is uncertain exactly what kind of knowledge its fruit brought forth. It could have been moral judgment, sexual understanding or even worldly knowledge. But the most important function of this tree was to test Adam and Eve's obedience to God. Ultimately, they failed the temptation and were cast out of the Garden of Eden.

Similarly, not much is known about the tree of

life until it is mentioned in Genesis 3:22-24. In fact, it is mentioned only after Adam and Eve sin. This means that Adam and Eve had access to eternal life all along, but they did not realize it until it was too late. They were eventually driven out of the garden for their disobedience.

Today, we are also called to obedience. Like Adam and Eve, we only need to follow God's commands and perform His work. This is the same as eating from the tree of life. It is actually a very simple, black and white concept. If we obey, we have eternal life. This is God's promise. Unfortunately we tend to complicate our lives and create many gray areas of living. This is what Satan wants for everyone. He is constantly tempting us to sin, so that we may have no part in God's heavenly kingdom. Let us remember to obey God's word so that we may forever eat from the tree of life.



Bible Story

The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil

Adam and Eve were happy living in the Garden of Eden. It had everything they needed. There were beautiful mountains to climb and flowers to smell. They had cool water to drink when they were thirsty and to splash in when they were hot. There were many animals to care for. They could see the

stars twinkle in the sky at night. But most of all, Adam and Eve enjoyed walking and talking with God. He was their friend.

God said to Adam, "You may eat fruit from any tree of the garden, except for one. You can not eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, the tree that is planted in the middle of the garden. If you eat it, you will die." When Adam and Eve heard God's words, they obeyed and did not eat from the tree.

The Snake Tempts Eve

One day, Eve was walking in the garden, looking at all the beautiful trees and plants. Can you guess what she saw as she was walking? She saw a snake. Now this was not just any snake. It was Satan disguised as a snake.

The snake asked Eve, "Did God really tell you not to eat any of the tasty fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden?"

Eve answered the snake and said, "God said we can eat from any tree in the garden except for the tree in the middle of the garden. He said if we do, we will die."

The snake said to Eve, "Eat some fruit from the tree. It is tasty."

Eve thought about it for a moment but then said, "No, God told us that we will die if we eat the fruit from the tree."

But the snake lied to Eve saying, "No, you will not die! If you eat the fruit, you will become smart, just like God."

Eve looked at the tree. Oh, how beautiful the fruit looked! She wanted to become smart like God, so Eve listened to the snake. She picked a fruit from the tree and ate it. It tasted delicious. So she took down another fruit and gave it to Adam. Adam also ate the fruit.

Adam and Eve Sin

After Adam and Eve ate the fruit, their eyes were opened and they knew they were naked. Before they ate the fruit, they were happy in the garden. They did not mind that they did not have any clothes on because that was how God made them. No one laughed at them and they did not laugh at themselves. But after they ate the fruit God had told them not to eat, they looked at themselves and knew they had no clothes on. So they sewed fig leaves together to make clothes.

Adam and Eve Are Afraid

Not very long after they ate the fruit, Adam and Eve heard God walking in the garden, and they were afraid because they had disobeyed God. They quickly went to hide. What do you think happened next? Do you think they could hide from God? (Let students respond.) It is hard to hide from God because God knows everything. He knew that Adam and Eve had done something wrong and were hiding. He knew they were afraid because they ate the fruit

that God had told them not to eat.

God called out to Adam, "Adam, where are you? Why are you hiding from Me?"

Adam was scared but he said to God, "I was afraid because I heard you coming."

So God asked him, "Did you eat the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden? I told you not to eat the fruit."

How do you think Adam answered God? He did not say he was sorry. He did not say he disobeyed. Instead, he said, "The woman gave me the fruit to eat."

When Eve heard this, she was also scared.

God asked her, "What have you done?"

Eve said to God, "The snake said it was okay and so I ate some."

God said, "You have not listened to my words. You have eaten the fruit that I told you not to eat. You can not stay in the Garden of Eden anymore. Both of you will have to leave. You will have to work very hard all your life so that you may have food to eat."

Then God made some clothes for them out of animal skin and sent Adam and Eve away from the garden.

God Curses the Snake

As for the snake, God said, "Because you lied and caused Adam and Eve to be driven out of the Garden of Eden, you will crawl on your belly forever and you shall eat dust from the earth."

Listen and Obey

Adam and Eve were sad that they could no longer live in the Garden of Eden. They loved it there and were very happy. They were sad that they had eaten the fruit they were not supposed to. But now it was too late. God had already sent them away and they would never be able to go back to their garden home. Wouldn't it have been wonderful if they had obeyed God and not eaten the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? Then they could stay in the garden forever. Now, they had to work hard every day because there was no longer all sorts of food for them to eat outside the garden.

God gives us rules to follow because He knows what is best for us. We need to listen to His words and obey what He teaches. If we obey, God will be with us all the time. Let us pray to God to help us obey Him and listen to what He wants us to do.



Check For Understanding

1. **What did God tell Adam and Eve about what they could and could not eat?** (They could eat all the fruit except the fruit from the tree of knowledge of good and evil.)
2. **Who talked to Eve and told her to eat the fruit?** (Satan disguised as the snake.)
3. **What did Satan say to Eve?** (If you eat the fruit, you will become smart just like God.)

4. **What did Eve do after she ate the fruit?** (She gave some to Adam.)
5. **Who was very angry at Adam and Eve?** (God)
6. **What did God say to them?** (God told them they had to leave the beautiful garden because they did not obey His words.)
7. **How do you think Adam and Eve felt?** (Sad)
8. **What did God say to the snake?** (It had to crawl on its belly and eat the dust of the ground because it tricked Adam and Eve.)
9. **What can we do to obey God?** (Allow students to answer.)



Life Application Story

The Dessert

One evening, Benjamin Lim was doing homework in his room. Mr. Lim came home with a big box. As Ben ran out to give him a hug, he asked, "What's in the box, Dad?"

"A surprise!" said Mr. Lim. "Since you've been so obedient these past few weeks I bought a yummy dessert for tonight."

"Mmmmm ... delicious!" said Ben. "Can I have a little taste?"

Mr. Lim laughed. "Sorry, Ben. This has to be saved for after dinner. But I had a feeling you might be a bit hungry, so I brought home some fresh strawberries and blueberries. You can have some of these first."

Ben shrugged. "Oh, all right ... I guess I can wait until after dinner to have some dessert."

Mr. Lim smiled. "Thanks, kiddo," he said. "Well I've got to go over to Aunt Marilyn's house for an hour. She needs help with her new dishwasher. But I'll be home before dinner. Help set the table for dinner and make sure you tell Mom about the dessert when she gets back in a little bit."

"I will," promised Ben as Mr. Lim left.

Ben drew pictures and read some books as he munched on some strawberries and blueberries in

the kitchen. He felt a little thirsty so he went to get a glass of milk. As he drank it, the pretty dessert box caught his eye. He walked over to it. "A little peek wouldn't hurt ... and Dad will never know," he thought to himself as he opened the lid.

And there sat a magnificent cake. There were three rich layers of vanilla cake, covered in chocolate icing and topped with whipped cream. Ben's mouth watered. He was so hungry and the cake looked so good.

If he snuck a little piece from the bottom, no one would notice. A little voice in his head told him it was wrong. He had promised his father he would save the cake for them to enjoy together, but another voice told him to just take a small bite. He was hungry and that cake just looked so good!

So he carefully took a little piece and put it in his mouth. It tasted better than it looked. That one little piece turned into two pieces, which turned into three, and before he knew it, he had eaten almost half of the cake.

Soon, Mrs. Lim came home. She called out to Ben.

"Ben, I'm home. Where are you?"

There was no answer. Then Ben's dad came through the door and he heard someone groaning in the kitchen. The first thing Mr. Lim saw was the opened box, smudged with chocolate, and the half eaten cake. Then he noticed Ben, with his head on the table, moaning and groaning some more. Mr. Lim lifted Ben up.

Both Ben's mom and dad spoke at the same time, "What happened Ben?"

"I'm sorry Dad!" Ben moaned. "I shouldn't have eaten the cake, but I was so hungry. I thought you wouldn't know if I just had a small bite but it was so delicious that I had a few more bites. And now my stomach is hurting!" Mr. Lim just sighed.

"Remember when Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden? God forgave them, just as I am forgiving you now," he said, eyeing Ben. "But Adam and Eve had to deal with the consequences of not listening to God. They could no longer live in the beautiful garden. Even though you had taken some cake and enjoyed it for a while, now you have a terrible stomachache, and will probably be in bed for the rest of the evening. And you are also going to lose your computer time for the rest of the week because you did not listen."

Ben didn't argue. He knew this could be a lot worse. So that night, he went to bed with a sore tummy, but of course, not before praying to God, and asking Him to forgive him for disobeying his

dad.

Questions to Think About

1. **What was the special treat that Ben's dad brought home?** (A cake for dessert.)
2. **What did Mr. Lim ask Ben not to do?** (Eat the cake, to save it for later.)
3. **What did Ben do after his dad left?** (Ate some cake.)
4. **Why was that wrong?** (He promised his dad he wouldn't but he ate some, thinking no one would find out.)
5. **What happened after he ate the cake?** (He got a stomachache.)
6. **Was Ben's dad mad after he found out?** (Yes, but he forgave Ben.)
7. **How do you think Ben felt afterward?** (Still had stomachache, felt sorry, prayed to God to forgive him.)
8. **Why do we need to listen to our parents?** (Let students answer.)



Activity 1

Adam and Eve Disobey God

Look at the pictures. Look at how happy Adam and Eve were when they obeyed God's word. Then look at Adam and Eve when they disobeyed God. God was so angry that He asked them to leave the garden. What did we learn from Adam and Eve's story? (Let the students trace the letters to spell out "Listen and obey.") Be sure to talk about what it means to listen and obey.



Activity 2

Who is Obeying God?

Tim always obeys his parents. Read about how he obeys his parents. Put a check mark next to the pictures that you also do, to show that you obey your parents and God.

1. He obeys his parents by putting his toys away.
2. He obeys his parents by brushing his teeth.
3. He obeys his parents by doing his homework.
4. He obeys his parents by praying to God before he goes to sleep.



Activity 3

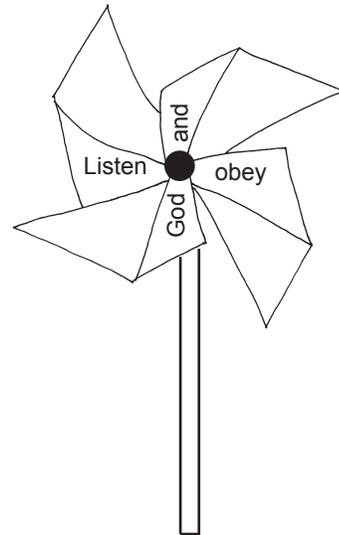
Listen and Obey Pinwheel

Materials:

1. pinwheel pattern
2. construction paper
3. scissors
4. paper fasteners (brads)
5. pencils with eraser tops (one per student)
6. markers
7. glue

Directions:

1. Trace the pattern onto construction paper.
2. Children can color the pattern.
3. Cut the square out and cut along dotted lines, leaving the middle of the circle uncut.
4. Glue the labeled corners (A, B, C, D) to the middle of the square. Let glue dry.
5. Push a fastener through the middle of the wheel and into the top of the pencil (eraser). Make sure there is enough space between the paper and eraser for the wheel to spin when blown.
6. Write the words "Listen and obey God" on the front of the wheel.
7. Encourage the students to obey God and listen to their parents as they spin the pinwheel.



Adam and Eve Disobey God

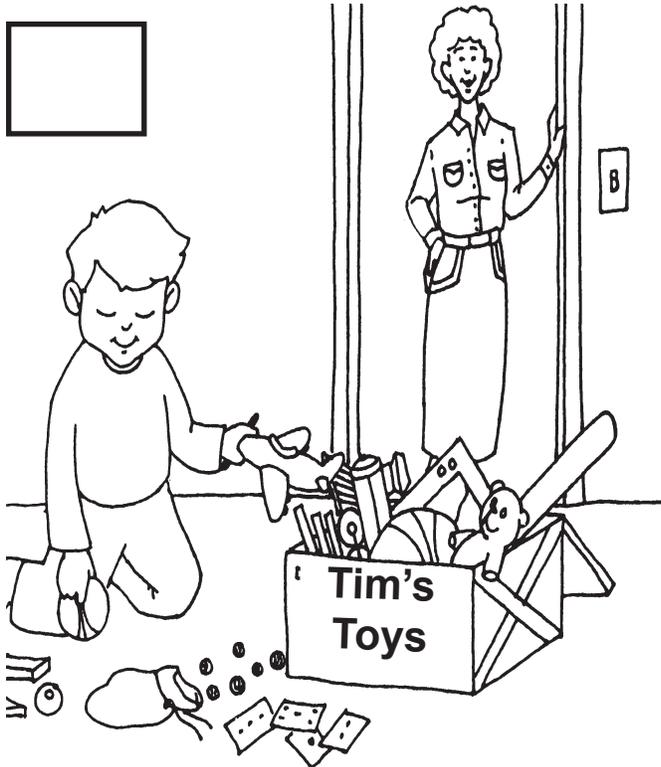


What did we learn from Adam and Eve?

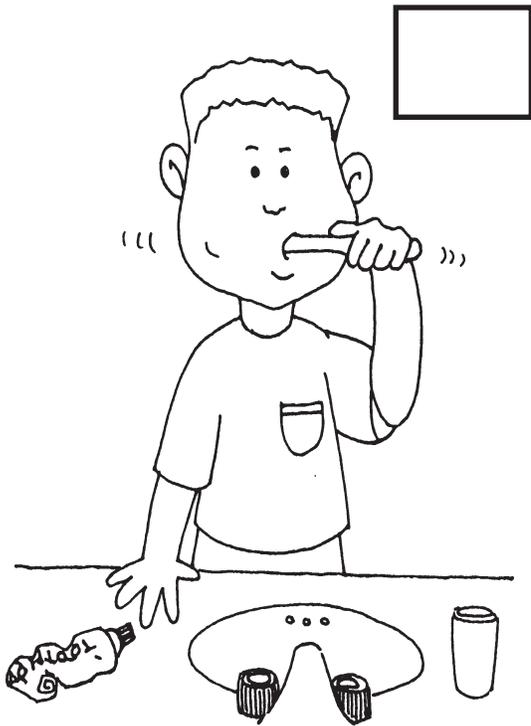
listen and obey

Activity 3:2

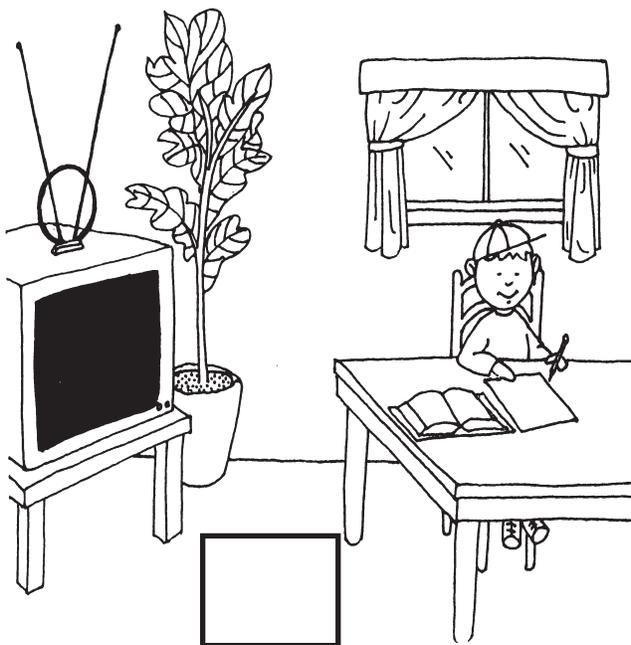
Who is Obeying God?



1. Tim obeys his parents by putting his toys away.



2. Tim obeys his parents by brushing his teeth.



3. Tim obeys his parents by doing his homework.



4. Tim obeys his parents by praying to God before he goes to sleep.

Activity 3:3

Listen and Obey Pinwheel

