



CREATION AND THE BEGINNING OF HUMAN HISTORY

#25 – The Consequences of the Fall Genesis 3:14-24

PICTURES NEEDED

- 25-1 Adam and Eve leaving the garden
- 25-2 Salvation chart

REVIEW (Before Teaching Lesson)

- **Journal Review:** Ask students to share an important truth that they learned from their journal readings at home that week. Share some of your own insights.
- **Previous Lesson Review:** (Use the visual from the last lesson to aid in review)
How did Satan get Eve to eat the fruit? What happened to Adam and Eve after they ate the fruit? What is sin? What was Eve's first step into sin?
- **The Big Question Review: What causes us to sin?**
Let the students give their answers to the question.
- **Bible Verse Review: James 1:14-15**
If we want what is wrong, we will sin.

(Each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin); and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

LESSON CONTENT

Note: The Bible verses included in the lesson are from the NIV 1984 edition. The wording of the questions is derived from that version. If another version of the Bible is used, questions may need to be adapted.

Once Adam and Eve sinned and ate the forbidden fruit everything about God's creation changed. Sin has inescapable consequences. What was the first thing that happened to Adam and Eve after they disobeyed God? Once they sinned Adam and Eve recognized that they were naked, they lost their innocence and were ashamed so they tried to hide from God. Their perfect relationship with their Creator was broken. There are consequences to sin and God gave a punishment to everyone who was involved in the Fall.

Genesis 3:14-15

¹⁴So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. ¹⁵And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

What did God say would happen to the serpent? The serpent himself was cursed by God, his position was made lower than all other animals and he was forced to crawl along the ground. Also, in the curse of the serpent God put enmity between the serpent and mankind.

What is enmity? Enmity is hatred or mutual hostility. The offspring of the woman (Jesus our Savior) would eventually crush the serpent's head, but not before being injured by Satan's bite (hung on the cross). With the Fall man's great struggle with sin began and it ushered in man's need for a savior.

Genesis 3:16

¹⁶To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

What did God say would happen to Eve? That which was meant to bring delight and happiness to the woman, giving birth to children, would be filled with pain. Also, her relationship with her husband was changed. There would be struggle in the marriage relationship, something that God didn't intend when he gave Eve to Adam as a helper.

Genesis 3:17-19

¹⁷To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. ¹⁸It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

What did God say would happen to Adam? Although God didn't curse Adam he did curse the ground. Instead of being able just to tend a garden like he did in the beginning Adam would have to work hard to get the food needed to live. In cultivating the ground some of the plants would cause him endless trouble (thorns and thistles, i.e. weeds), instead of the good God intended.

Also, at this point God said that Adam would return to the ground. What does that mean? That meant Adam would die and that his physical body would break down into the elements it was made from. He was made from the elements in the dust and through death he would be buried and his body break down and become dust.

Genesis 3:20-24 (picture 25-1)

²⁰Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

²¹The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

²²And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." ²³So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. ²⁴After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

How did God demonstrate that death had entered the world? He killed an animal and took its skin to cover Adam and Eve's shame (nakedness). This foreshadows the death of Jesus to cover our sin and shame.

What does foreshadow mean? To foreshadow means to give an indication of what will occur in the future.

What does it mean to banish something? Banish means to force out or remove someone from a particular place.

Why did God banish the man from the garden? Man's nature was now fallen and perverted. Before Adam sinned he had only known God and what was good but he had come to know evil. His relationships with God, his wife, and his environment were broken and changed. God had created man to live forever in a perfect place but because of the Fall he couldn't allow this. God had to banish Adam from the Garden of Eden so he wouldn't eat from the tree of life and live forever.

What would happen if sinful men were allowed to live forever? Because of Adam's sin, all people are born with a sin nature so Adam's offspring are sinners too. Sin doesn't get better over time, it gets worse. If sin isn't overcome, people become slaves to it. If sinful people were able to live forever, they would commit unspeakable evil. God's good creation was no longer perfect and he wanted to limit the damage people could do to it and to one another.

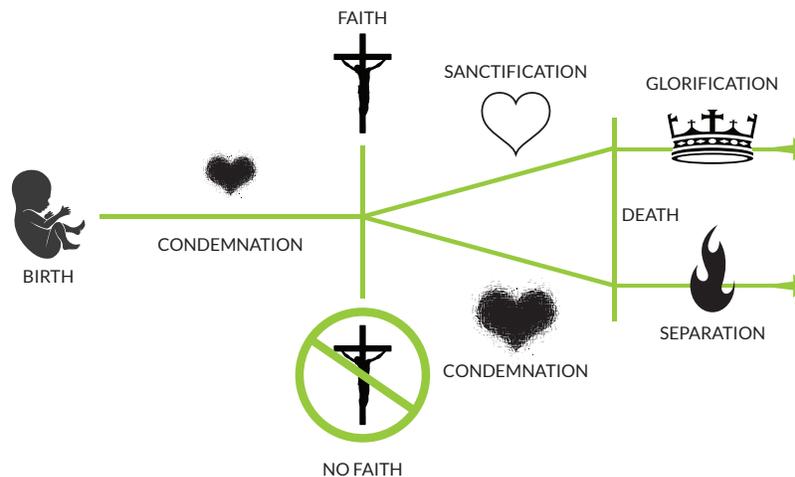
God designed people to live in an eternal relationship with him and he still desires to have that relationship with people. Jesus came to restore man's relationship with God and make a way for people to gain eternal life and overcome the power of sin in their lives.

Romans 5:18-19 says, *¹⁸Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. ¹⁹For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.*

What does this passage say? Adam and Eve brought sin into the world. Jesus, by dying on the cross, crushed Satan's head and provided a way for each of us to become right again. We become right (justified) when we put our faith in the work Jesus did on the cross when he paid the penalty for our sin.

Explain the milestones in a person's life. (Use the visual.) (picture 25-2)

- o Birth brings physical life. We are all born into a state of condemnation because of Adam's sin. We are born with a sin nature which means we are inclined to do wrong.
- o Faith brings spiritual life. Once we put our faith in Jesus and his sacrifice on the cross we are saved. That means we are justified and delivered from the penalty of our sin. It also means that the Holy Spirit begins to do a work in us delivering us from the power of sin and making us holy. We are given a new nature so we can choose to do what is right. If we don't believe in Jesus we continue in our sin, separated from God.
- o Death ushers a person into eternal life. For all eternity we will either dwell with God in glory in heaven or be separated from God and damned to hell. In hell there is no presence of God. That is what makes it hell.



LESSON WRAP-UP

- **Overview Questions:** What happened to the serpent because he deceived Eve? What happened to Eve because she ate the fruit? What happened to Adam because he listened to Eve? Why did God banish them from the garden?
- **Thought Questions:** Why did God have to punish Adam and Eve for their sin? Why didn't God just forgive them for what they had done? What happens if there aren't bad consequences to doing bad things? Why is everyone born a sinner? What do we have to do to be made right again?
- **Prayer:** Thank Jesus that because of his death on the cross to pay the penalty for your sin you can be in a right relationship with him. Thank him that when you suffer the consequences of your sin you see how much you need a savior.
- **The Big Question: What was the consequence of the Fall?**
Let the students give their answers to the question. Share the memory verse. Ask how it answers the question.

- **Memory Verse: Romans 5:18-19** Adam made us sinners; Jesus died to make us right.

¹⁸Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. (¹⁹For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.)

Questions: What happened to all men because of Adam's sin? What did Jesus do for men?

ACTIVITIES (Completed after the lesson)

Any age appropriate activity can be included which fits into the class time. The activities with a star are included on the class notes.

- ★ **Lesson Notes:** Have the children answer the two questions individually or as a group. What did you learn from this lesson? How can you put into practice what you learned?
- ★ **Memory Verse:** Read the memory verse on the cover of the class notes and then have the students fill in the blanks in the verse.
- ★ **Activity Page:** The Consequences of the Fall
Instructions: Fill in the crossword puzzle with words associated with the Fall.
banish - Man was sent out of the garden
crawl - How the serpent was forced to move
curse - What God put on the ground
death - Entered the world when Adam sinned
enmity - What would exist between man and Satan
garments - What God made out of skin to cover Adam and Eve
pain What - women would experience in childbirth
thistles What - would grow instead of crops
- ★ **This Week's Big Question:** Have the students fill in the blanks for the way the memory verse answers the big question.
Adam made us sinners; Jesus died to make us right.
- ★ **Coloring Page:** Color the lesson picture.
- **Craft:** Picture Collage
As a reminder that sin has consequences, discuss the things that were changed because of the fall.
Materials: copy paper, crayons or colored pencils
Preparation: Run off craft 25 on copy paper
Instructions: Draw a picture in the appropriate place on the craft sheet of something that reminds you of each of the consequences of the fall. Cut out and paste over the top of the pictures a cross to symbolize how Jesus came to make things right again.

- **Game:** The Weight of Sin Relay

As a reminder that the Fall caused all men to be born with the weight of sin, run a relay. Instructions: Explain how sin keeps us from functioning the way God designed us to; it is like carrying a heavy burden around with us. Divide the group into teams. First run a relay without the burden and time how fast each team can run. This represents the way they were designed to run. Then have each team run the relay carrying a backpack loaded with something heavy like books. This represents how sin keeps us from functioning in the way God designed.

JOURNAL

The journal is passed out at the end of class for the students to complete at home. It has six poetic readings and related Bible verses. It would be beneficial for the teacher to read through and be familiar with its content.