

Jesus and Our Sin

FOR THE TEACHER:

This lesson covers the fall of Adam and Even into sin. When Adam fell into sin and death, all of humanity fell with him (Rom. 5:18, 1 Cor. 15:22) but when Christ was righteous (i.e. trusted his Father) from within our humanity and was resurrected from within our humanity we were all made righteous and resurrected in him (Rom. 5:18, 1 Cor. 15:22). Human nature died in Jesus' death, taking our sin into the grave and destroying it (2 Cor. 5:14).

Questions marked with an asterisk (*) are part of the Trinitarian Catechism.

FIRST ACTIVITY: Have the kids act out the story of Adam and Eve, with the roles of Jesus, Adam, Eve, and the Serpent. Why were Adam and Even hiding? (They were afraid, they were in trouble). What does Jesus do when we do something wrong and are afraid of him? (He comes looking for us).

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Ask for a helper to pass out a bible to each child. Have them all turn to Genesis 3:1-13. For older kids, have them take turns reading.

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.' "

4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

11 And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

12 The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

*What is sin? *To not trust our Father in heaven and not do what he tells us to do.*

*When did sin enter the world? *When Adam and Eve didn't trust our Father and ate the forbidden fruit.*

*What did the Father do about sin? *He forgave our sins and wiped them away when Jesus died on the cross.*

How does Jesus' death result in our forgiveness? *Jesus trusted the Father for us while he was on the cross and our sinful nature was put to death in his death.*

*How does the Father treat you if you sin? *My Father in heaven forgives me because I'm in Jesus.*

*What should you do about your sins? *Apologize to the people I hurt and keep believing that my Father in heaven forgives me in Jesus.*

PRIMARY LESSON: Sin is not trusting our Father in heaven. Jesus trusts the Father for us so that our sin is forgiven.

SECOND ACTIVITY: Act out the story of Adam and Even again, but this time have kids play the role of the Father and Holy Spirit as well as Jesus, Adam, Eve, and the Serpent. After Adam and Eve eat the fruit, have the Trinity come walking toward them arm-in-arm. The person playing Jesus steps over to where Adam and Eve are hiding in the bushes and when the Father says "where are you" Jesus answers "here am I, and the children you have given me" (Heb. 2:13). This is how our forgiveness is accomplished, God the Son becomes one of us and responds to the Father for us and from within us.

PRAYER: For older kids, have one of them pray this prayer (or come up with their own). For younger kids, have them repeat after you as you read the prayer.

Father in heaven, thank you for sending Jesus to take care of our sin problem for us. Jesus, thank you for trusting our Father for us and putting our sinful nature to death. Holy Spirit, help us to believe that our Father loves us and that, through Jesus, we are forgiven for everything we do wrong. In Jesus' name, Amen.