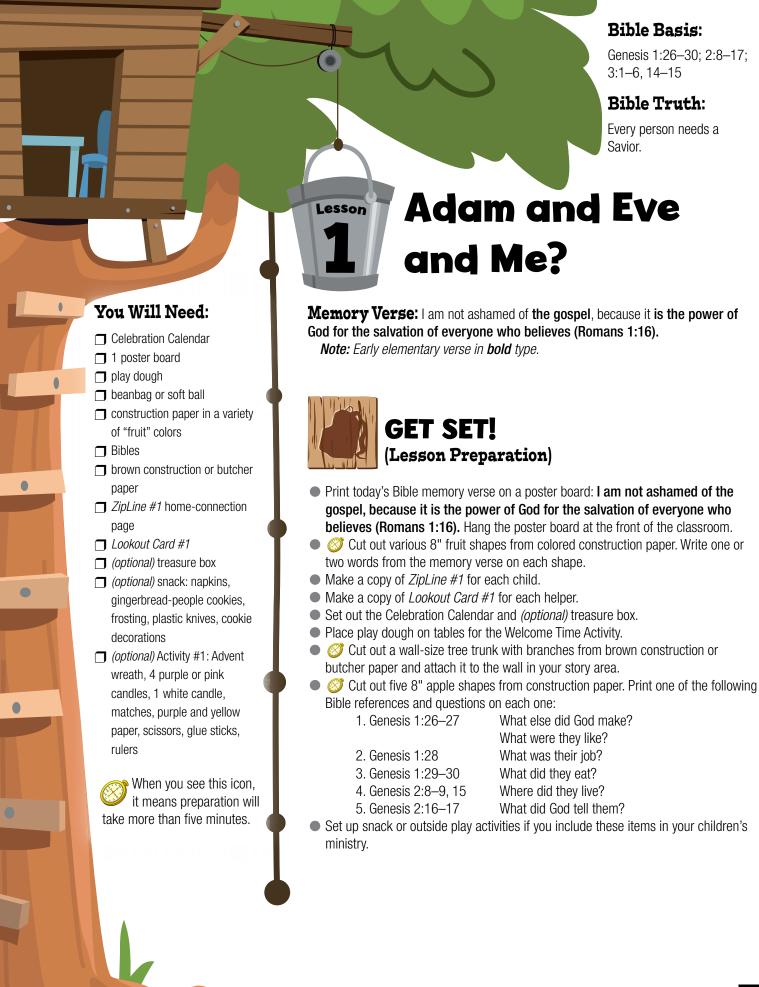
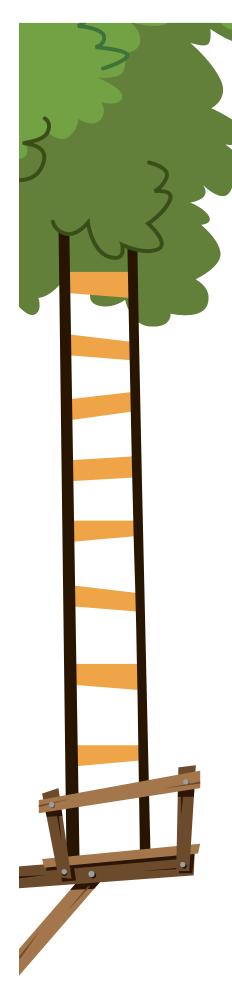
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PASSWORD, PLEASE!

(Welcome and Bible Connection)

 Objective: To excite their interest and connect their life experiences with the Bible Truth, children will make play-dough people.



Sharing Time and Bible Connection

When everyone has arrived, call children to the lesson area and welcome them. You did a great job of making play-dough people. It looks like you've made an entire city of them! As you talk, give every child the opportunity to say something.

- If you really could make a person, someone who would be your friend, what would you make that person like?
- What are your real friends like?
- Do they always make good choices?
- What would you do if your friend made a bad choice?

After discussion time, help your students connect their discussion to the Bible story they are about to hear from Genesis 1—3:

Making people out of play dough is easy. Making real people is impossible for us. Only God can do that. He made every single thing in the world—even us! When God made people, he wanted to have a friendship with them. But after he made them, they had a problem. Today we're going to get into small groups and see what the Bible says happened.



CLIMB IN!

Genesis 1:26-30; 2:8-17; 3:1-6, 14-15

(Bible Discover and Learn Time)

• **Objective:** Children will study Genesis 1—3 to hear how humans sinned against God after he created them.

 Materials: Bibles, five 8" paper apples with Scripture references, tree trunk on wall, markers, tape

Divide your class into five multiage groups of three to five kids. Be sure you have a confident reader in each group. Give each group a Bible and an apple with a reference on it, and show them where to find Genesis. Have groups look up and read the apple verses together, then write the answer to their question on the apple and be ready to share it with the rest of the class. Allow a few minutes to complete this task, and then gather children in the story area again.

What are some of the things God made when he created the world? Accept responses, then ask Group 1 to read their apple questions and answers to the class. Affirm their answers: Yes! God made man and woman in his image. Have the group tape the apple onto a tree branch. When God created people, like you and me, he looked forward to being friends with us. Those first two people were close friends with God. Their names were Adam and Eve. God gave them work to do. Have Group 2 read their question and answer, then tape the apple to a branch. That's right, God gave Adam and Eve the job of taking care of the birds, fish, and animals. God gave his new people everything they needed—food and a wonderful place to live. Ask Group 3 to share and tape up the apple. What kinds of fruit do you think were there? Accept children's suggestions, and then ask Group 4 to share. The garden was a beautiful place. Adam and Eve took care of it and the animals. They were good friends with God, and they were very happy. God gave Adam and Eve some instructions. Ask Group 5 to share, then tape up their apple. So, Adam and Eve could climb a tree to pick coconuts or oranges. They could pull a banana from a banana plant or pluck strawberries from the ground. They could eat anything and everything, except one thing. Dramatic pause. What was that? Let children respond. Yes, God said not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

One day a tricky serpent talked to Eve. Use a loud whisper. "Did God really say you must not eat from any tree in the garden?"

"Oh no," Eve answered. "We can eat from any tree but one. God said that if we eat the fruit from it, we will die."

Use a sneaky voice. "You won't die," said the serpent. "Once you eat from this tree, your eyes will be opened, and you will be as wise as God."

Oh, that fruit on the forbidden tree looked so good! Eve decided to disobey God. She picked off a piece of fruit and ate some. What's worse, she gave some to Adam too! As soon as they ate it, they knew something was wrong. They felt miserable. They had disobeyed God. Their choice to disobey God was the first sin, and it was a bad thing.

God knew what Adam and Eve had done. God was sad too. He wanted to be Adam and Eve's closest friend, but now their sin was in the way. Sin made a mess of God's beautiful world.

And you know what? You and I have also done wrong. We've all disobeyed God in some way and are trapped by sin too.

But there's good news! God still wants to be friends with people. <u>He saw that people needed to be saved from their sin</u>. God made a plan to free Adam and Eve, and all the people after them, from sin. He would send someone to save us!

God's plan didn't happen right away. It was still a long way off. Next week we'll find out more about the Savior God promised to send!







Materials: beanbag or soft ball

Okay, let's see what you remember. For this review game, toss a beanbag to a child and ask a question about the Bible story. If she answers correctly, she gets to toss the bag to another student, who will then answer a question. If the child can't answer correctly, he tosses the bag back to you and you toss it to another student.

- What was life like for the first two people, Adam and Eve? (they lived in a garden, they were happy and safe, God was their friend)
- What one rule did God give Adam and Eve? (not to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil)
- How was Eve tempted to disobey God? (a serpent lied to her)
- What happened when Eve and Adam chose to disobey God? (they felt miserable, they knew they had done wrong, they lost their close friendship with God)
- What is the problem you and I have that started with Adam and Eve? (we all sin, we need a Savior)

Show the children the Celebration Calendar and explain that for the next four weeks, the class will open one door to find a symbol from that Bible lesson. The symbol will help them remember what they learned from the Bible that week. **What do you think is behind the door for today?** Let children call out their guesses of the picture under today's door. Choose a child to open door #1. **When you see the picture of this fruit, remember that it shows us** <u>we all need a Savior</u>.



HIDE 'N' SEEK

Romans 1:16

(Scripture Memory)

- Objective: Children will hide God's Word in their hearts for guidance, protection, and encouragement.
- *Materials:* construction-paper fruit shapes with verse words

Read this week's memory verse from the poster and let the children echo you: I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes (Romans 1:16).

Practice the verse by handing out the fruit shapes with the verse words on them. Have children line up so the verse is in the correct order. Walk around the line and have each child say the word(s) he or she is holding when you pass. Then have the whole group repeat the verse in unison. Scramble the fruit and play again.



PRAYER HIDEAWAY

- *Objective:* Children will explore and practice prayer for themselves in small groups.
- Materials: copies of Lookout Card #1 for each adult or teen helper

Break into small groups of three to five children. Assign a teen or adult helper to each small group and give each helper a copy of *Lookout Card #1* (page 18) with ideas for group discussion and prayer.



TREETOP TREATS: In His Image

(Optional Snack)

 Materials: napkins, gingerbread-people cookies, frosting, plastic knives, cookie decorations

Give each child a plastic knife, napkin, and gingerbread person. Allow children to decorate their gingerbread person to look like themselves. As they decorate, talk about how we're made in God's image—having feelings and a spirit, wanting to have relationships with others. Talk about how each person has sinned and needs a Savior. Once the cookies are decorated, children can eat them.

Note: Always be aware of children with food allergies and have another option on hand if necessary.



APPLICATION

• **Objective:** Children will have opportunities to show how the lesson works in their lives through activities and home-connection pages.

Some children's ministries may allow children to play outside at this point. If yours does not, choose one of the following activities.



The Advent Wreath and Candles

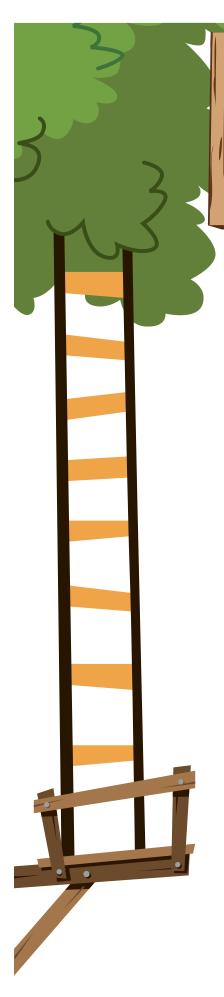
 Materials: Advent wreath with 5 candles, matches, purple and yellow paper, scissors, glue sticks, rulers

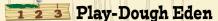
The days icluding the four Sundays before Christmas are a celebration called Advent. Advent means waiting for something important. It's a time to think about the coming of Jesus. Today and the next three weeks, we'll participate in Advent by lighting one new candle each week. Light one purple candle. The first candle in the Advent wreath reminds us of hope. This candle stands for the hope for eternal life when the Savior came.

If desired, hand out purple and yellow construction paper. Students will trace a ruler to draw a long purple candle. They can cut out a small yellow flame to glue to the top. Have them write "Messiah, Savior, Jesus" on the candle. Encourage them to use these as bookmarks to remind them of God's plan that was fulfilled in Jesus.

Blow out the candle when this activity is finished.







Materials: play dough

Have children cluster in small groups. Distribute play dough and have each group cooperatively design a replica of the garden of Eden. They can make the people, animals, plants, birds, serpent, tree of the knowledge of good and evil, etc.



ZIPLINE

(Home-Connection Page)

Introduce the home-connection pages and the treasure box. This treasure box will be here every week. When you take your *ZipLine* page home each week and do the activities, your parents or another adult can sign the *Club Pass* at the bottom to show that you finished the work. Bring the signed pass back to get a prize from the treasure box!

Distribute the home-connection pages and candle bookmarks (if made) just before children leave.

ZIPLINE — HOME CONNECTION #1 Adam and Eve and Me?



Prayer Challenge

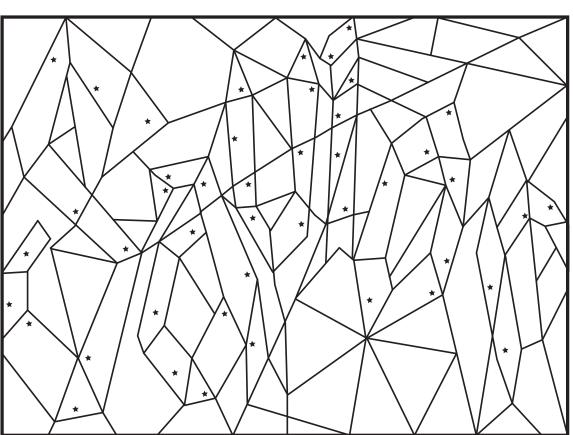
Walk around your block or go to a park with your family. Collect some of nature, like leaves, pinecones, sticks, rocks, etc. Bring them home and praise God for making such wonderful things. Thank him for the things in nature you like the most.



Memory Verse

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes (Romans 1:16).

Note: Early elementary verse in **bold** type.



Hidden Word Picture

Color in the sections that have a star. When you're finished, you'll be able to fill in the missing word in this sentence: Every person needs a:

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please check off the items your child completed this week.

Adult Signature:

- Prayer Challenge
- ☐ Bible verse memorized and recited to an adult
- ☐ Think and Do
- Hidden Word Picture

Think and Do

Create a drawing or painting of a tree with leaves and fruit using your favorite art materials. Add Adam and Eve and yourself near the tree. Tell someone in your family the story you heard in class about Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden.

LOOKOUT CARD #1

This week children learned from Genesis 1—3 that <u>every</u> <u>person needs a Savior</u>. They learned how God made a plan to free Adam and Eve and every other person from their sins. Lead your group in prayer using the following four activities:

- Praise. God made a beautiful world for Adam and Eve. Prompt students to praise God for their favorite part of creation.
- Ask. God provided all the food and care Adam and Eve needed. What need do you want to ask God for today?
- Confess. After Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they couldn't be good friends again with God until they asked forgiveness. Guide students in considering sins they need to confess, and give them time to do so.
- Thank. When we're truly sorry for what we've done wrong, God is ready to forgive us. Isn't that wonderful? Let's thank God for loving us so much he will forgive us.

Remember that no child should be forced to pray, but do encourage and invite each one. After praying, talk quietly with the children in your group until the next activity.

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Celebration Cake Window Picture

Door #1

