



Parent Resource Pack

Dear Parents,

Well, it's been a very interesting start to the school year for our church. Hopefully we'll get everything back on track over the next week or two. Thanks for your patience and cooperation as we continue to regroup from the COVID outbreak.

Last Sunday at New Hope Kids, we talked about God's special creation - human beings. This coming Sunday we will talk about how sin first entered into the world, or as it is often called "the fall" of mankind. (Genesis chapter 3)

As you prepare to talk with your kids about the fall of mankind, take some time to readthrough Genesis 3 for your own study. If you're like me, you may find yourself wondering how Adam and Eve could've ever been so foolish as to rebel against God, who loved them so fully and provided for their every need. Have you ever wonder if you would've responded differently if you were in their position?

Oddly enough, I think Adam and Eve's story is our story. Think about the last time you blatantly sinned. What lies were you believing in that moment? Satan wants us to believe the same lie that Eve believed: Maybe God is holding out on me. Maybe He isn't good or loving. Maybe I would do a better job than Him. Do you ever wonder if you know better than God?

Before the fall, Adam and Eve enjoyed a loving, two-way relationship with God. The garden was a true paradise. God filled the garden with good gifts so that they might enjoy them and give Him thanks. This glorifies God. All of that changed when Adam and Eve gave in to the serpent's temptation.

Adam and Eve desired something more: the wisdom the fruit offered. But when their eyes were opened, they didn't get what they hoped for. Instead, they were aware of their nakedness. They felt ashamed. Surely the Lord's heart broke at their act of disobedience and rebellion. Can you think of a time your own sin produced regret and sorrow?

Because of their sin, God cast Adam and Eve out of the garden. Though they did not die right away, sin's effect was immediate and thorough. Their lives and their children's lives—and the lives of all of humanity—would be forever affected by their choice. We see this in the world around us. We experience God's grace, but we are very aware that the world is broken. It was not meant to be this way.

Sin is a big problem that needs a big solution. At just the right time, God sent His Son into the world, born as a baby. Matthew 1:21 says, "You are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

As your child becomes increasingly aware of the bad news—that we are all sinners—remember to rejoice with them over the good news: "Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Tim. 1:15).

~ Pastor Matt



New Hope Kids @ Home

This resource pack is designed to help **YOU** lead a family worship experience at home.

This week's Bible Story:

Sin enters into the world (**Genesis 3**). Please take some time to read, think and pray through this Bible passage on your own.

FAMILY WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Find a time this week to Read the Bible Story and watch the Bible Story video together. (You can find these videos on the Preschool and Elementary pages of our website)

Talk about the story: (Use this illustration, or come up with one of your own)

Did you know that it is against the law for anyone to use a fork to eat fried chicken in Gainesville, Georgia? There is also a law in Arkansas that says alligators cannot be kept in your bathtub! Where are we supposed to keep our alligators then?

These are real laws, but they're obviously very silly rules that aren't necessary. When God gave Adam and Eve the rule not to eat the fruit of one tree, it wasn't a silly rule though. God gave that rule so that Adam and Eve could continue to enjoy an amazing relationship with Him.

Even though God had provided everything they needed, Adam and Eve believed the lie that maybe there was something better. So, they ate the fruit and disobeyed God. Instead of finding something better, Adam and Eve lost the perfect world God had created for them. They were cast out of the garden and forced to live in a world broken by sin.

When Adam and Eve broke that rule, sin broke their relationship with God. From that moment on, all people became sinners who are separated from God. We live in a world that is noticeably broken by sin. Like Adam and Eve, we are guilty of choosing our own way instead of God's way. But God still loves us! The whole Bible points us to Jesus as the promised Savior who would save sinners. Through faith in Jesus, we can once again have an amazing relationship with God that will last forever and ever.

Review:

- Ever since Adam and Eve sinned, all people have been under the curse of sin. And eventually we all choose to sin (i.e. lying, cheating, hurting others with words, etc.)
- Sin separates us from God, but God still loves us. God promised a Rescuer would come from Eve's family.
- God sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin and bring them back to God.

Pray: God, help us to see that Your rules are perfect and for our good. We have all sinned and disobeyed You. Sin has broken our relationship with You, but we thank You for sending Jesus as the Savior we need. Help us to trust in Him so that we can experience the relationship we were created to have with You. Amen.



New Hope Kids @ Home

Keep it going ...

Consider using these ideas to help the seeds of God's Word take root in your child's heart.

Have Fun Together: Make a small bowl of ice cream for each person. Instead of yummy toppings, top your ice cream with coffee grounds and mustard. Ask if your kid(s) would still want to eat the ice cream. Discuss how the ruined ice cream reminds us that God's perfect creation was broken by sin. Even before the garden, God had a plan to make His creation new again through Jesus Christ.

Serve Together: Choose a friend or family member in need of prayer. Send an encouraging card or gift to let them know your family is praying for them. Remind your kids that we live in a world broken by sin—which is why we see pain, sickness, and even death all around us—but God has provided hope in Jesus as the promised Savior.

Pray Together:

Before School - Ask God to help you obey His Word today. Why are His rules for your good? How does obedience help you to enjoy Him more?

Before Bed - Confess the sins of your day. Be specific and ask God to forgive the ways you've disobeyed Him. How has Jesus provided forgiveness for sin? How can confessing our sins help us to grow?

Current Memory Verse:

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23



New Hope Kids @ Church

This is what we'll be teaching your child in our New Hope Kids classes this Sunday ...

BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER: This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.

Preschool - What does it mean to sin? We sin when we disobey God.

Elementary - What does it mean to sin? To sin is to think, speak, or behave in any way that goes against God and His commands.

CHRIST CONNECTION: This is the big idea of how this week's Bible story points to Jesus.

Preschool - Sin keeps us from God. God loves us. He sent Jesus to rescue us from sin.

Elementary - Right after Adam and Eve sinned, God put into motion a plan to rescue everyone from the curse of sin. Jesus is the rescuer that God sent to save us from our sin.