



Corruption: Sin Enters the World

Adam and Eve sinned, and now we all sin.

Lesson Focus

The first sin entered the world when Adam and Eve believed the serpent and disobeyed God. Because of this first sin, all people are born sinners.

Key Passages

Genesis 2:16–17, 3:4, 3:6; 1 Peter 3:18

Memory Verse

Psalm 8:3–4 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?

? What good ideas can you come up with to take care of the earth?

Allow answers.

Ask your mom or dad if they have good ideas of things you can do—even in your own backyard.

God has given all of us a job to do. It's our responsibility to be careful with his creation. But don't forget to enjoy it and to thank him for all he has made!

Memory Verse Game

Use the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page as you play a memory verse game. Explain the verse to your students as you review it together.

Psalm 8:3–4 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?

Song Time

Use the downloaded music to practice the songs. Find the lyrics on the Song Sheet at the end of this lesson or on the Flip Chart Song Time Lyrics Page. You may want to add stomping, clapping, and musical instruments, or make up hand motions to any of the songs!

God Created!

We've been talking a lot about God's creation. And the Bible even helps us understand how old the creation is. We've sung this song before. Let's sing it all together. *Sing the song together.*

According to Their Kinds

Let's sing about how God created the plants and animals according to their kinds. *Review the words then sing the song together once or twice.*

Psalm 8:3–4

Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. Okay. It's time to sing our memory verse song now. Review the words then sing the song together once or twice.

Sing other class favorites or songs from the Additional Songs list as time allows.

Group Prayer

Be sure to pray with your students and take requests if time allows.

- Thank God for letting us enjoy his creation.
- Ask God to help us find ways to be good stewards.

► Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind students to practice the memory verse this week.

Prepare to Share

Scriptural Background

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the key passages for this lesson along with this background.

God created a perfect universe—one that he himself called very good (Genesis 1:31). So when and how did sin enter the world? Because the creation was perfect, we know there was no sin at that time. We can thus conclude that Satan sinned against God and was cast out of heaven sometime after the seventh day of creation and before he tempted Eve. Satan's temptation of Eve and the disobedience of the first couple marked the point that changed God's perfect creation to a world filled with death, disease, and decay—all a result of sin.

In the account of the temptation and fall into sin from Genesis 3, Satan challenged the authority of God and deceived Eve into eating the forbidden fruit (Genesis 3:4–5). Adam, who was with her, also ate of the fruit (Genesis 3:6). This first sin was not just the eating of some fruit; it was disobedience toward a holy God. God now had to punish the sin and disobedience of Adam, Eve, and Satan (Genesis 3:14–19).

As they ate, their eyes were opened, and they knew they were naked (Genesis 3:7). They felt shame for their nakedness and tried to fashion clothing from leaves to cover their shame. These coverings were not adequate to conceal their sin from God. Nor were they able to hide from him when he came to the garden (Genesis 3:9). This is when they quickly and easily fell into the “blame game.” Eve quickly blamed the serpent (Genesis 3:13). Adam, in turn, blamed Eve then ultimately cast the responsibility of his sin onto God (Genesis 3:12).

Historical/Apologetics Background

Sin entered the world shortly after the creation of Adam and Eve. Although Scripture does not specifically tell us how long Adam and Eve lived in the perfect creation before sinning, we can determine that very little time passed before the fall. Scripture tells us that God commanded Adam and Eve to “be fruitful and multiply” (Genesis 1:28), and, because of their perfect bodies, conception would have occurred quickly. We also know that Cain, their firstborn was not conceived until after they had sinned and were sent out from the garden (Genesis 4:1).

God's justice requires that he punish any disobedience of his commands, but his mercy allows many to avoid that punishment. The sin that plagues every human entered the world through Adam and was consequently passed to all of his descendants. The doctrine of original sin (demanding God's justice) and redemption (displaying his mercy) is present throughout the Bible and is presented concisely in Romans 5:17–21. It seems unfair that all of us would pay the consequence of one man's sin—but the Bible tells us that our hearts are deceitful and desperately sick (Jeremiah 17:9). If we honestly examine our hearts, we know this to be true. We would have sinned just as Adam and Eve did had we been faced with that same temptation. And that is why we praise God for his immeasurable grace through Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:7). For it is only by his grace that we can be freed from the wages of our sin—death and eternal punishment (Romans 6:22–23).

There is hope in this account of the very first sin. Adam and Eve's rebellion did not take God by surprise. God is omniscient—he knows all things. And he did not leave Adam and Eve in despair but offered them the promise of a Savior who would bruise the head of the serpent (Genesis 3:15). Some Bible translations use the word “Seed” or “offspring” to refer to the coming Savior, Jesus, who would bear the sins of the world on the cross. This preordained plan for redemption was in place before the foundation of the world and would perfectly exhibit God's mercy to sinners who, through Jesus Christ, would believe in God (1 Peter 1:20–21).

How sad that they would sin so soon and that they would disobey the God who had created them and everything good around them. God had given them freedom to enjoy every good gift (Genesis 1:28–29). However, God did prohibit them from eating the fruit of one tree—the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Eating from this tree would bring death (Genesis 2:16–17).

The very thing God told them they couldn't have was what they wanted. Their sin led to the first death—the death of an animal that provided skins

to cover their shame. This very first death was a foreshadowing of the sacrificial system revealed to Moses for the atonement of sin and further pointed to the death of Jesus Christ on the cross for the complete forgiveness of sins. Scripture tells us that “without the shedding of blood there is no remission” of sin (Hebrews 9:22). The first blood had been shed—it pointed toward the perfect, redeeming blood of the coming Savior.

This glorious account of God’s intervention in covering the sins of Adam and Eve gives us solid scriptural grounds to refute evolutionary thinking. Since we understand from Scripture that there was no animal death before sin entered the world, any

fossilized remains of dead animals cannot be dated before Adam and Eve. Evolutionary thinking cannot be partnered with a biblical worldview. Anyone who says the rock layers and fossils are billions of years old are accepting death, disease, and suffering before sin when, in fact, they are a consequence of the first sin in the garden (Romans 5:21; 1 Corinthians 15:21–22). Animals could not have been dying millions of years before sin entered the world since, according to God’s Word, they started dying after Adam’s sin about 6,000 years ago. When we maintain our biblical worldview by the plain reading of Scripture, we can confidently answer the questions the world presents.

Come On In

As students arrive, direct them to the activity you chose for today.

Lesson Time

Have the students assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.

Bring your stuffed animal, Bible, Flip Chart, and any items you prepared for this lesson.

Prayer

This prayer time is designed to help the students begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to encourage them to pray.

We start our Bible lesson with prayer. *Turn to the Prayer Page in the Flip Chart. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there.*

- I love you prayers—Adoration
- I'm sorry prayers—Confession
- Thank you prayers—Thanksgiving
- Please prayers—Supplication

Today let's say prayers of thanksgiving and tell God thank you for something he has done for us.

I'll start. Dear God, thank you for . . . (insert personal prayer here).

Pass a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—around the circle, giving all the students an opportunity to pray, or choose a volunteer to stand beside you and pray.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll answer our Bible Truth questions.

Bible Truths

These four questions will be repeated each week to help the students learn foundational truths.

- ? **Who made you?** *God made me!*
- ? **What else did God make?** *God made ALL things!*
- ? **Why did God make you and all things?** *For his glory.*
- ? **Is there more than one true God?** *No. There is only one true God.*

Bible Pass Around

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible. *Hold up Bible. God's Word is true, and we can trust what it says. But where should we look? One of you will help me with that. We're going to play Bible Pass Around. Whoever ends up with the Bible must hold it very*

- Before Bible Pass Around, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me, and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about today! Here's what we're going to do. I want everyone to count with me up to the number *choose a number. (You may also choose to recite the books of the Bible, sing one of the lesson songs, or recite the memory verse as you do this activity.)* We'll start right here. *Hand the Bible to the first student. As we say each number (or word), you must carefully pass the Bible to the person beside you. Remember, we don't want to drop it or tear it. Then when we get to the last number (or word), whoever has the Bible will hold on to it until we are ready for it in our lesson. Are you ready? Let's begin. Begin the lesson when finished with Bible Pass Around.*

K-1st Lesson continues next. Go to page 149 for the Pre-K Lesson.



K-1st Lesson

Introduction

Before we get started, let's do a quick review.

- ? Who was the first man God created? *Adam.*
- ? What did God give Adam dominion over? What was he responsible for? *The earth. The fish, animals, trees, etc.*

Refer to the Lesson 18 Flip Chart. God told Adam to be a good steward of his creation. And God wants us to do the same job!

- ? What does that mean—being a good steward? *Taking care of something that belongs to someone else.*
- ? Right. God wants us all to be good stewards. We can honor God by doing that. What are some ways to be good stewards of God's creation? *Allow discussion.*

► Don't forget!
Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Corruption—The Second C

- ? *Refer to the Seven C's of History Poster. Remember the Seven C's of History? When we talk about all the things God created, which C are we talking about? Allow discussion. The first C. Creation.*

Yes. Creation is the first C. Today we are going to talk about the second C of history. It is Corruption!

Pass out a small piece of white play dough to each student. Keep one piece for yourself. I'm going to give each of you a piece of white play dough.

Show your piece of white play dough. Let's say this nice, white play dough is like God's perfect creation. It's all clean and perfect.

► Have play dough ready.

But now, I'm going to give you another color. *Pass out a small piece of colored play dough to each student. Keep one piece for yourself.*

Show your piece of colored play dough. Let's say this color is like sin. What happens if you start mixing the "sin" play dough with the "perfect creation" play dough? Show students how to mix the colors together.

Uh oh. What happened to our perfect white play dough? It's all mixed up, isn't it?

- ? The white play dough was really nice when we started, but when we added a different color, it corrupted the perfect white piece we started with. Can we fix it? *No.*

No. Our white play dough is ruined, isn't it? It can never be white again. That's what corruption means—something that was good has been ruined and isn't good anymore. Collect the play dough pieces and set aside.

Today, we're going to learn from the Bible of a corruption that's much more important than play dough. We are going to talk about how God's perfect and good creation was corrupted by sin! It was an awful day in history.

God Gives a Command

It happened in the garden of Eden, the wonderful garden God created where Adam and Eve lived. The garden was full of beautiful trees with all kinds of delicious fruit.

- ? *Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. Which book of the Bible would tell us about what happened in the garden? Genesis.*

Genesis 2:16–17

Have the student with the Bible bring it up and turn to the sticky note. Let's read Genesis 2:16–17 and find out what happened. Read the verses.

- ? Someone gave a command in these verses. Who was it? *The Lord God.*
- ? Who was the Lord God talking to? *The man—Adam.*
- ? Which trees were Adam and Eve allowed to eat from? *Every tree of the garden except one.*

They could eat from all the trees in the garden except for one. It was called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

- ? What did God say would happen to Adam and Eve if they ate from that tree? *They would surely die.*

► Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word!

The Serpent Lies to Eve

So, Adam and Eve could eat from any tree in the garden except for the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. There was only one tree they were NOT allowed to eat from. Just one. But there were lots of trees in the garden. They could still have all kinds of delicious fruit to eat.

- ? What kinds of fruit do you like to eat? *Allow answers.*

Refer to Lesson Flip Chart. Now the Bible says there was a serpent in the garden.

- ? What is a serpent? *A snake.*
- ? Right. Did God make snakes? *Yes.*

Yes. God created snakes, or serpents, along with the other animals. So they were good just like all the other things he created. But one day, the devil used the serpent to speak to Eve. He told her to go ahead and eat some of the fruit from the tree God had said not to eat from.

Genesis 3:4

Eve didn't want to at first; she knew God had said they would die. But listen to what the serpent said. It's in Genesis 3:4. *Read the verse, emphasizing "you will not surely die."*

- ? What did the serpent tell Eve about eating the fruit? *She wouldn't die!*
- ? Was he telling the truth? *No!*

No. The serpent told Eve a lie! He was tempting Eve—trying to get her to disobey God! Remember, God told Adam if they ate the fruit from the special tree they WOULD die.

Genesis 3:6

Let's keep reading and see what Eve did! *Read Genesis 3:6.*

Eve saw that the fruit was good! She wanted some. And she believed what the serpent—the devil—told her about it.

- ? So what did Eve do? *She ate the fruit and gave some to Adam.*

Yes. Eve ate the fruit and gave Adam some to eat. They both sinned! They both disobeyed God. This was a terrible thing. Eve believed the serpent's lies instead of believing what God said. Adam and Eve both ate the fruit from the one tree God told them NOT to eat from.

Refer to the Seven C's of History Poster. This is when sin entered into the world and corrupted God's very good creation. That's the second C—Corruption. Say that word with me: *corruption.* *Repeat word.*

Sin spread through all of God's creation. It was ruined. It wasn't perfect any more. *Hold up a piece of the mixed play dough as a reminder of the example.*

Because Adam and Eve sinned, that sin has been passed down to every person, and now we ALL sin!

- ? Did you know you are a sinner? What does that mean—sin? *Allow answers.*

Sin is anything we do that is disobeying God. For example, God wants you always to obey your parents and your teachers. When you don't obey, it is sin! God wants all of us to be kind to each other. When we aren't kind, it is sin. Anything we do that is not pleasing to God is sin! And even when we have bad thoughts, it's sin. Adam and Eve sinned when they disobeyed God and ate fruit that he had told them not to eat. And since they were the very first people, now all people sin, including you and me.

God Must Punish Sin

- ? What does God think of sin? *He hates sin.*

God is holy. That means he is perfect and cannot sin. God hates sin and must punish it. He had to punish Adam and Eve for their sin, and he sent them out of the garden. Now they were separated from God! Adam and Eve would also die someday. Death came into the world because of sin.

God has to punish ALL sin—even ours—because he is holy. This is very bad news, isn't it? We deserve God's punishment because we are sinners, and that punishment is to be separated from God forever. But, do you remember the good news? God is also merciful and loving! And he made a way for us to be forgiven of our sins and NOT be punished!

- ? Who did God send to take the punishment for sinners on the cross? *Jesus.*

1 Peter 3:18

That's right. I'm going to read one more verse to you from 1 Peter. *Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster.* It tells us what Jesus Christ did for sinners. *Read the first part of 1 Peter 3:18, emphasizing "Christ...suffered...for sins" to "bring us to God."*

- ? Who is this verse about? *Christ. Jesus.*
- ? What did Christ do? *Suffered for sins.*

Yes! God sent Jesus Christ to suffer for our sins when he died on the cross. Jesus is the only one who has never sinned. He was perfect and didn't deserve to die. But he did die and took the punishment for all our sins. And the Bible says that whoever believes in him and trusts him will be forgiven and will not be separated from God anymore!

Continue with the Lesson Review Game on page 151.



Pre-K Lesson

Introduction

Refer to the Lesson 18 Flip Chart. Before we get started, let's do a quick review. God put Adam in charge over his creation and told Adam to be a good steward. And God wants us to do the same job!

- ? What does that mean—being a good steward? *Taking care of something that belongs to someone else.*
- ? Right. God wants us all to be good stewards. We can honor God by doing that. What are some ways to be good stewards of God's creation? *Allow discussion.*

► Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Corruption—The Second C

- ? Refer to the Seven C's of History Poster. Remember the Seven C's of History? When we talk about all the things God created, which C are we talking about? *Allow discussion. The first C. Creation.*

Yes. Creation is the first C. Today we are going to talk about the second C of history. It is Corruption! Say that word: corruption. Corruption means something is ruined.

Pass out a small piece of white play dough to each student. Keep one piece for yourself. I'm going to give each of you a piece of white play dough.

Show your piece of white play dough. Let's say this nice, white play dough is like God's perfect creation. It's all clean and perfect.

But now, I'm going to give you another color. Pass out a small piece of colored play dough to each student. Keep one piece for yourself.

Show your piece of colored play dough. Let's say this color is like sin. What happens if you start mixing the "sin" play dough with the "perfect creation" play dough? Show students how to mix the colors together.

► Have play dough ready.

Uh oh. What happened to our perfect white play dough? It's all mixed up, isn't it?

- ? The white play dough was really nice when we started, but when we added a different color, it corrupted the perfect white piece we started with. Can we fix it? *No.*

Our white play dough is ruined, isn't it? It can never be white again. That's what corruption means—something that was good has been ruined and isn't good anymore. *Collect the play dough pieces and set aside.*

Today, we're going to learn from the Bible of a corruption that's much more important than play dough. We are going to talk about how God's perfect and good creation was corrupted by sin! It was an awful day in history.

The Serpent Lies to Eve

It happened in the garden of Eden, the wonderful garden God created where Adam and Eve lived. The garden was full of beautiful trees with all kinds of delicious fruit. God said Adam and Eve could eat from any tree in the garden except for the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. This was the only tree they were NOT allowed to eat from. And God said if they did eat from that tree, they would surely die!

But there were lots of trees in the garden. They could still have all kinds of delicious fruit to eat.

- ? What kinds of fruit do you like to eat? *Allow answers.*

Refer to Lesson Flip Chart. Now the Bible says there was a serpent in the garden.

- ? What is a serpent? *A snake.*

- ? Right. Did God make snakes? *Yes.*

Yes. God created snakes, or serpents, along with the other animals. So they were good just like all the other things he created. But one day, the devil used the serpent to speak to Eve. He told her to go ahead and eat some of the fruit from the tree God had said not to eat from. Eve didn't want to at first; she knew God had said they would die.

- ? How many of you think Eve ate the fruit? How many think she didn't? *Show of hands.*

Genesis 3:4

Let's find out! *Have the student with the Bible bring it up and turn to the sticky note. Listen to what the serpent said in the book of Genesis. Read Genesis 3:4, emphasizing "you will not surely die."*

- ? What did the serpent tell Eve about eating the fruit? *She wouldn't die!*

- ? Was he telling the truth? *No!*

No. The serpent told Eve a lie! He was tempting Eve—trying to get her to disobey God! Remember, God told Adam if they ate the fruit from that tree they WOULD die.

The fruit looked really good! Eve wanted some. And she believed what the serpent told her about it. Eve ate the fruit and gave Adam some to eat, too. This was a terrible thing! They both sinned! They both disobeyed God. This is when sin entered into the world and corrupted God's very good creation. That's the second C—Corruption.

Hold up a piece of the mixed play dough as a reminder of the example. Sin spread through all of God's creation. His beautiful creation was ruined. It wasn't perfect anymore, just like when we mixed colored play dough into the white play dough. It mixed in and now it isn't white anymore.

► Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word!

God Must Punish Sin

- ? What does God think of sin? *He hates sin.*

God is holy. That means he is perfect and cannot sin. God hates sin and must punish it. He had to punish Adam and Eve for their sin, and he sent them out of the garden. Now they were separated from God! And Adam and Eve would also die someday. Death came into the world because of sin.

And since they were the very first people, now all people sin, including you and me. God has to punish ALL sin—even ours—because he is holy.

This is very bad news, isn't it? We deserve God's punishment because we are sinners. We deserve to be separated from God forever. But, do you remember the good news? God is also merciful and loving! And he made a way for us to be forgiven of our sins and NOT be punished!

- ? Who did God send to take the punishment for sinners on the cross? *Jesus.*

Yes! God sent Jesus to die for our sins on the cross. The Bible says that whoever believes in him and trusts him will be forgiven and will not be separated from God anymore!

Continue with the Lesson Review Game below.



Lesson Review Game

We all learn best with review and repetition! We encourage you to play a lesson review game.



Story Time

- ? Do you remember what happened in our last Justin and Jessie story? *Allow discussion.*

Justin went fishing with his dad. They had a great time and caught lots of fish, but they only took what they needed. And whenever they caught one, his dad measured to make sure the fish was big enough to keep.

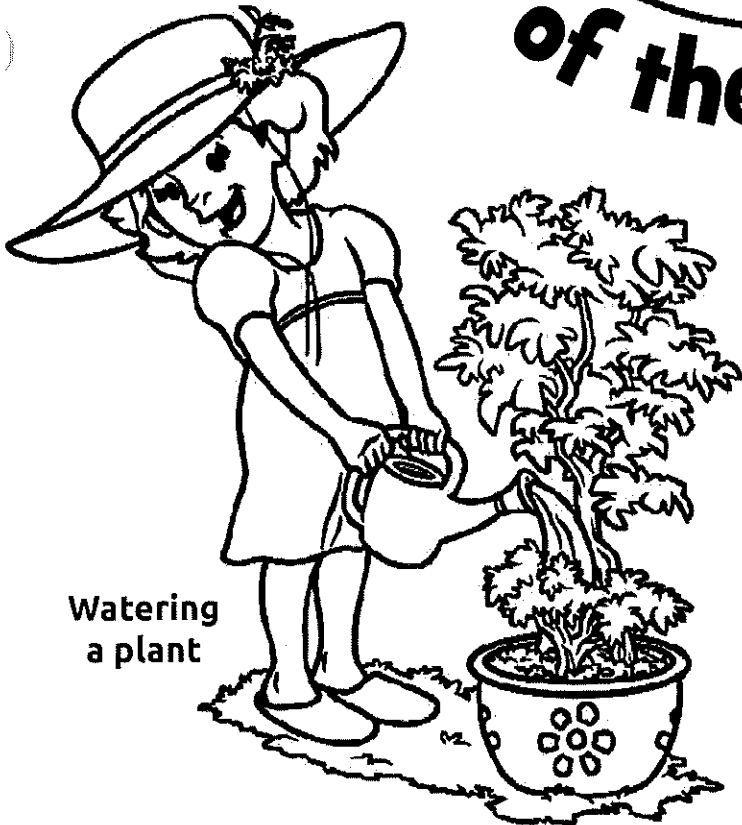
- ? Why did they do that? Do you remember? *Allow answers. If it's too small, let it go and give it time to grow. It's wasteful to take more than you need.*

It was all part of being good stewards. We all have the responsibility to take care of God's creation. That includes the lakes and fish and other places we may visit.

In today's story, we're going to read about what Jessie was doing at home while Justin was out fishing with his dad. And we'll learn why Justin yelled, "What did you DO?!" when he went to talk to Jessie. *Read the Justin and Jessie story as you show the picture.*

Name _____

We should take care of the earth



Watering
a plant



Recycling

Review Questions

K–1st Review Questions

1. Who made you? *God made me!*
2. What else did God make? *God made ALL things!*
3. Why did God make you and all things? *For his glory.*
4. We talked about the Seven C's of History. What was the first C? *Creation.*
5. What was the second C we talked about today? *Corruption.*
6. What does corruption mean? *When something is ruined or spoiled.*
7. What did God tell Adam and Eve NOT to do? *He told them not to eat from one tree—the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.*
8. What did God say Adam and Eve could eat? *Fruit from all the trees except one.*
9. Who tempted Eve to disobey God? *The serpent/the devil.*
10. Who did Eve believe? *The serpent/the devil.*
11. What did Eve do that was disobedient? *Ate the fruit she wasn't supposed to eat.*
12. Who else ate some of the fruit? *Adam.*
13. What is sin? *Disobeying God.*
14. What does God think of sin? *God hates sin.*
15. Who did God send to take the punishment for our sins? *Jesus.*
16. Can you say the memory verse? *Allow several students to say or sing the verse.*

Pre-K Review Questions

1. Who made you? *God made me!*
2. What else did God make? *God made ALL things!*
3. Why did God make you and all things? *For his glory.*
4. We talked about the Seven C's of History. What was the first C? *Creation.*
5. What was the second C we talked about today? *Corruption.*
6. What does corruption mean? *When something is ruined or spoiled.*
7. What did God tell Adam and Eve NOT to do? *He told them not to eat from one tree—the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.*
8. Who tempted Eve to disobey God? *The serpent/the devil.*
9. What did Eve do that was disobedient? *Ate the fruit she wasn't supposed to eat.*
10. Who else ate some of the fruit? *Adam.*
11. What is sin? *Disobeying God.*
12. What does God think of sin? *God hates sin.*
13. Who did God send to take the punishment for our sins? *Jesus.*
14. Can you say the memory verse? *Allow several students to say or sing the verse.*