

Open Bible Stories — Sin Enters the World

Introduction

Key Idea

The story of the fall teaches us how sin entered into the world.

Core Belief Verse

"So then, as through one man sin entered into the world, in this way death entered through sin. And death spread to all people, because all sinned."
— Romans 5:12

God's Big Story

The eternal God created all things in six days.

He made a good and perfect world.

He made humans in his image to fill the earth and rule over creation.

But humans rebelled against God and ruined God's creation.

The Story: Sin Enters the World

02-01



Adam and his wife were very happy living in the beautiful garden God had made for them. Neither of them wore clothes, but this did not cause them to feel any shame because there was no sin in the world. They often walked in the garden and talked with God.

02-02



But there was a snake in the garden. He was very crafty. He asked the woman, "Did God really tell you not to eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?"

02-03



The woman answered, "God told us we could eat the fruit of any tree except from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God told us, 'If you eat that fruit or even touch it, you will die.'"

02-04



The snake responded to the woman, "That is not true! You will not die. God just knows that as soon as you eat it, you will be like God and will understand good and evil like he does."

02-05



The woman saw that the fruit was beautiful and looked delicious. She also wanted to be wise, so she picked some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it too.

02-06



Suddenly, their eyes were opened and they realized they were naked. They tried to cover their bodies by sewing leaves together to make clothes.

02-07



Then the man and his wife heard the sound of God walking through the garden. They both hid from God. Then God called to the man, "Where are you?" Adam replied, "I heard you walking in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked. So I hid."

02-08



Then God asked, "Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat the fruit I told you not to eat?" The man answered, "You gave me this woman, and she gave me the fruit." Then God asked the woman, "What have you done?" The woman replied, "The snake tricked me."

02-09



God said to the snake, "You are cursed! You will slide on your belly and eat soil. You and the woman will hate each other, and your children and her children will hate each other too. The woman's descendant will crush your head, and you will wound his heel."

02-10



God then said to the woman, "I will make childbirth very painful for you. You will desire your husband, and he will rule over you."



God said to the man, "You listened to your wife and disobeyed me. Now the ground is cursed, and you will need to work hard to grow food. Then you will die, and your body will return to soil." The man named his wife Eve, which means "life-giver," because she would become the mother of all people. And God clothed Adam and Eve with animal skins.



Then God said, "Now that the human beings have become like us by knowing good and evil, they must not be allowed to eat the fruit of the tree of life and live forever." So God sent Adam and Eve away from the garden. God placed powerful angels at the entrance to the garden to keep anyone from eating the fruit of the tree of life.

A Bible story from: Genesis 3

The Practice of Confession — Acknowledging Our Sin

- **Key Idea:** Admitting our sin before God and others
- **Key Passage:** James 5:16
- **Main Session:** OBS 2 (Fall)

Recite the Core Belief Verse (3–5 minutes)

The verse below summarizes the teaching of the current passage. Read the verse out loud as a community. Read it again several times as a group until the whole community can recite it from memory.

"So then, as through one man sin entered into the world, in this way death entered through sin. And death spread to all people, because all sinned."

Observe the World (5–10 minutes)

The world has been deeply affected by sin. We experience brokenness, pain, and suffering all around us. As a community, reflect

on the state of the world. Use the following sentence to help you make observations about the effects of sin in the world. When I think about the world, I notice that sin has caused...

Read the Passage (1–2 minutes)

We live in a sinful world. If we confess our sins to God, he is merciful to forgive us of our sins. In order to understand the practice of Christian confession, read the passage below.

"So confess your sins to one another, and pray for each other, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is very strong in its working. — James 5:16"

Explore the Idea (10–15 minutes)

It is not easy to experience Christian community. Our own sinful tendencies and the enemy Satan threaten unity and harmony of Christian relationships with one another. The practice of confessing our sins is important for God's people to be fruitful. Discuss the following questions below as a group.

1. What does it mean to confess your sins to one another? What does it mean to confess your sins to God?
2. Why is it important to confess your sins? How does this practice help strengthen and mature Christians and the Christian community?
3. When a person is willing to confess their sins, what is this person like?
4. How can your community make confession of sin a regular part of its community life?

Confess to God (10 minutes)

Ask God to show you any sins in your life that need to be forgiven. Pray to God and ask for him to forgive you of your sin. If your community is willing, confess sins to one another.

Pray to God (5 minutes)

Divide your community into groups of 2–3 individuals. Spend time praying for God's grace and mercy upon one another.

Sing to God (5 minutes)

Remember how God has forgiven you of your sin. Sing a song that celebrates God's grace and mercy.

Movement 1: Understand the Story

Read each question aloud. Give the group time to answer before sharing the answer.

Observation Questions

02-01

What kind of life did Adam and his wife have in the garden?

Adam and his wife were happy and naked.

Why were Adam and Eve not ashamed that they were naked?

There was no sin in the world. God created everything.

02-02

What animal spoke with Eve in the garden?

A snake spoke to Eve.

What was the snake like?

The snake was very crafty.

What was the snake's first question to Eve?

He asked, "Did God really tell you not to eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?"

02-03

From which tree were Adam and his wife not allowed to eat?

They were not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

What did God say would happen if Adam and his wife ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?

He said they would die.

02-04

What did the snake say was the reason God did not want them to eat the fruit?

He said God was lying because God did not want them to understand things like he did.

02-05

Why did the woman eat the fruit?

She saw that it was beautiful and delicious, and she wanted to be wise.

What did the woman do after she ate the fruit?

After the woman ate the fruit, she gave some to her husband who was with her.

Were Adam and his wife forced to eat the fruit?

No, they freely chose to eat the fruit and disobey God.

02-06

What happened when the man and woman ate the fruit?

After the man and woman ate the fruit, their eyes were opened, and they realized they were naked.

What did the man and the woman do when they realized they were naked?

They sewed leaves together to make clothes.

02-07

Who did Adam and Eve hear walking in the garden?

They heard the sound of God walking in the garden.

What did God say to them?

God asked them where they were.

How did Adam answer God?

Adam told God that they hid because they heard his sound and were afraid.

02-08

What were the next questions God asked the humans?

God asked who told them that they were naked and whether they ate the fruit God had forbidden.

How did the man respond when God confronted him about his sin?

The man blamed the woman.

How did the woman respond when God confronted her about her sin?

She blamed the snake.

02-09

What was God's curse on the snake?

You will slide on your belly, and the woman's descendant will crush your head.

How would things be between humans and snakes?

There would be hatred between humans and snakes.

02-10

What was God's curse on the woman?

The woman will have painful childbirth, and although her desire will be for her husband, the husband will rule over her.

02-11

What was God's curse on the man?

The man will work hard to grow food, and he will die and return to the soil.

What name did the man give to his wife?

He named her Eve because she would be the mother of all humans.

What did God do about the humans' nakedness?

God clothed Adam and Eve with animal skins.

02-12

How did God prevent Adam and Eve from living forever?

God sent them out of the garden containing the tree of life and guarded the entrance with powerful angels.

Movement 2: Theological Questions

What Does This Story Teach Us?

1. What does this story teach us about sin? What does the temptation and disobedience of Adam and Eve teach us about sin?
2. What are the consequences/effects of sin? What takes place after Adam and Eve disobeyed God that teaches us about the negative results of sin?
3. How is God able to deal with sin? What did God do in this story that showed his intention to deal with sin?

Movement 3: Live It Out

Personal Implications & Applications From The Story

Guide the group to discuss practical obedience from this story and name concrete next steps.

1. How have you experienced temptation to sin?
2. What lies do you believe that cause you to disobey God?

3. How have you experienced the negative consequences of sin in your own life?
4. Think about this week. Where does "Sin Enters the World" challenge you to obey God in a practical way?
5. How does this key idea shape one decision you need to make right now: The story of the fall teaches us how sin entered into the world.

Movement 4: Retell the Story

Invite the group to retell the story several times until they can tell it clearly and faithfully.

1. Can someone retell "Sin Enters the World" from beginning to end in their own words?
2. Retell this story again, but focus on what God did at each key moment.
3. Retell the story in three parts: beginning, middle, and ending. What changed in each part?
4. If you were teaching this story to your family tonight, how would you tell it simply and clearly?

Church Ministry

Reflect on how this story can edify and mature the Christian community. Design a way to minister this story to your church community.

Ministry Preparation: Take time to consider how you could minister this story to others. What setting, audience, or approach would you use? Record your ideas below.

Ministry Implementation: Minister this story to a group of believers as you had planned. Use the information in this study to help develop a teaching or lead a discussion. Record your ministry plan below.

Ministry Reflection: Think about what you learned from ministering this story to other believers. What went well? What would you do differently? Reflect on your experience below.

Movement 5: Share It

Help each person plan how they will share this story with others before the next gathering.

1. Who is one specific person you will share "Sin Enters the World" with this week?

2. When and where will you share this story with them?
3. What is the one main truth from this story you want them to remember?

Report-back next meeting: Who did you share with, and what happened?

Mission Engagement

Consider how you will witness this story to unbelievers. Design a way to share this story and engage them in what it teaches about Christianity and the gospel.

Witness Preparation: Take time to consider how you will witness this narrative to unbelievers. What context, relationship, or opportunity will you use? Record your ideas below.

Witness Implementation: Share this story with an unbeliever. Use the information in this study to help develop a natural conversation or teaching. Record your plan below.

Witness Reflection: Think about what you learned from sharing this story with unbelievers. What did they respond to? What questions did they ask? Reflect on your experience below.