

CHILDREN MINISTRY

THE ENTRANCE OF SIN & THE PROMISE OF A SAVIOUR

“And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. - **Genesis 3:15**



LESSONS

TEACHER'S GUIDE

- 1) ORIGIN OF SIN
- 2) SIN ENTERS THE WORLD
- 3) CAIN AND ABEL
- 4) OUR NEED FOR A SAVIOUR
- 5) THE BIRTH OF JESUS
- 6) YOUNG JESUS VISITS THE TEMPLE
- 7) THE BAPTISM OF JESUS
- 8) JESUS WAS TEMPTED
- 9) THE GOOD SHEPHERD
- 10) WALKING IN OBEDIENCE
- 11) SHINING FOR JESUS
- 12) THE HOPE OF HEAVEN

Introduction

Welcome to a journey through the very beginning of our world and the promise of hope that followed. This booklet is designed to help young hearts understand the story of how sin entered the world and the incredible promise of a Savior from the very start. Through simple language and vibrant illustrations, we hope to make these timeless truths come alive for your child.

Dedication

To the amazing parents and guardians who guide these young hearts, and to the children who are the future of our faith. May this booklet inspire you, spark curiosity, and deepen your understanding of God's incredible love and promise.

ORIGIN OF SIN

LUCIFER'S FALL IN HEAVEN

KEY VERSE: Proverbs 16:18

Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

FACTS ABOUT SATAN

1. He was called Lucifer-meaning son of the morning
2. Held a high ranking position in the angelic host.
3. Had exquisite beauty and wisdom.
4. Given a position of great power in wisdom(anointed cherub).
5. Had bright musical skills- tabrets and pipes were musical instruments.

Who is a cherub? Do you know the work of a cherub?

A Cherub is a powerful and majestic angelic creature who surround God's throne.

STORYLINE (For Children)

Once upon a time, God created a beautiful angel named Lucifer. He was very smart, shiny, and musical. He lived in heaven and had a special job. But one day, Lucifer started thinking too much about himself. He said in his heart: *"I will climb to heaven! I will put my throne above God's! I will be the most powerful!"* Lucifer didn't want to serve God anymore - he wanted to be God. That's called pride. But no one can ever be greater than God. So God, who is always fair, removed Lucifer from heaven. Lucifer fell down like lightning! He became Satan, God's enemy. He now tries to trick people into doing wrong.

Pride?? What is pride?

Pride means feeling good about yourself. It's good when you try your best. But it's not good when you think you're better than others or don't want help.

Note: God did not create Satan- He created Lucifer.

OBJECT LESSON: THE Balloon Of Pride

Blow up balloon while saying *"Lucifer was beautiful, Lucifer was powerful, Lucifer was wise, but he became proud and wanted to be like God."*

Then Pop the balloon. Pride makes us full of ourselves then leads to a fall. Are you a proud boy or girl? Yeah? You need to change.

Activity 7-12

Answer the questions.

1. Who was Lucifer?
2. What did Lucifer want that was wrong?
3. Why did God send Lucifer out of heaven?
4. Write two facts about Lucifer.
5. How does this story help you?

Activity 3-12

Game: "Follow the Leader – God's Way"

What You Need: Just a clear space

How to Play: One child (or you) is the leader. Everyone else copies what the leader does (jumping, clapping, kneeling, etc.). Then say, *"Lucifer didn't want to follow—he wanted to be the leader instead of God."* Swap leaders and ask: *"Is it better to follow God's way or go our own way?"*

Teaching Point: God wants us to follow Him, not to be proud like Lucifer.

SIN ENTERS THE WORLD

ADAM AND EVE IN EDEN

KEY VERSE: Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A STORY WITH A MORAL

Davis lived with his parents and sister Mercy in their quiet and beautiful home. They had recently moved to their new home after his parents built them a new house. During construction, the workers discovered a big hole behind Davis' house. The hole was home to a big python! Unable to move the python, the parents contacted Animal Control Services who advised them that as long as they fed the serpent, it would do them no harm. They were to continue feeding it until the Animal Control Unit found a suitable location to move it. Therefore, Mercy and Davis' parents decided not to disclose this to their children, so as not to cause panic but they strictly warned them against going near the hole. They even put barriers over the hole. One day, the parents left to attend a friend's ceremony. They repeated the rules to the children, sternly warning them against going near the hole in the back. After the parents left, Davis, a little older than Mercy, sent her to her room to play with her dolls. Overcome with curiosity, Davis kept wondering why his parents forbade them from going to the back. He brushed off the idea of trying to find out and kept himself busy. However, this only made him more curious. He secretly left the house and went to the back, removed the barriers and stared in amusement at what looked like a giant tyre at the bottom of the hole. Filled with excitement, he decided to jump into the hole and start bouncing on the tyre. Meanwhile, the parents left the ceremony early and headed home. When they got home, they asked Mercy where her brother was. They looked for him in the house but he was nowhere to be found. His father decided to check the back. He found Davis jumping up and down on the enormous snake.

Davis' father called for help and asked his son to remain calm so as not to upset the python. Unfortunately, the python, which was now irritated by Davis turned on him and swallowed Davis whole!

BIBLE LESSON

After Satan was sent away from Heaven, he was filled with envy. He decided to incite disobedience and cause Adam and Eve to sin. However, angels were sent to warn Adam and Eve of Satan's fall and his plot for their destruction. The holy of God is holy even as God Himself is holy. Everything that God created is under fixed laws e.g the law of gravity and they cannot be ignored. However, man, the crowning work of creation, was given power to understand the requirements. Since man was created a free being, he was to be tested. He would obey and live, or disobey and perish. Satan disguised himself as a serpent was one of the wisest and most beautiful creatures on the earth. The serpent told Eve that if she partook of this tree, they would be more knowledgeable. What followed the disobedience of Adam and Eve was death, curses, shame, guilt and enmity. After their sin, Adam and Eve were sent away from their home in Eden.

Lesson:

Sin is denying the creator as our God . when we sin, we declare that the devil is our master and we follow him.

Let us ask God to help us obey Him and shield us from the temptation and vices of the enemy.

ACTIVITIES

CAIN AND ABEL

CHOOSING RIGHT

KEY VERSE: Hebrews 11:4

By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

STORYLINE

A long time ago, after Adam and Eve left the beautiful Garden of Eden, they began a new life. They were sad they had disobeyed God, but God still loved them. Soon, they had two sons -Cain and Abel. Cain became a farmer. He grew food from the ground -fresh corn, juicy grapes, and plump pumpkins. Abel became a shepherd. He took care of gentle sheep and lambs. One day, both boys brought an offering to God. This was a special gift to show God they loved Him. Cain brought some fruits and crops from his farm. But he didn't choose the best. His heart wasn't thankful. Abel, on the other hand, carefully chose the very best lamb from his flock -the healthiest one. He gave it with love, knowing it pointed to the Savior who would one day die for our sins. God looked at their hearts. He was pleased with Abel's gift because it came from a loving and obedient heart. But He was not pleased with Cain's gift, because Cain didn't give his best and his heart was full of pride. Cain became very angry. His face looked mean and cold. God kindly warned him: "Why are you angry? If you do what is right, will I not accept you? But if you don't, sin is waiting at your door. You must choose to do right." But Cain didn't listen. He let anger take over his heart. One day, when they were out in the field, Cain attacked his brother and Abel died. Oh no! God was very sad. He asked Cain where Abel was, but Cain lied. God saw everything. There were consequences for Cain's sin. He had to leave his home and wander the earth. But even then, God showed mercy. He gave Cain a sign to protect him from harm. God still cared.

In the Bible, the story of Abel and Cain is found in the book of Genesis chapter 4. In summary, these is what we can learn:

- They were the sons of Adam and Eve; the first beings to be created.
- Abel was a keeper of sheep.
- Cain was a tiller of land.
- Abel's sacrifice was accepted of God.
- Cain's sacrifice was not accepted and he became angry.
- Due to his anger and disbelief, he slew his brother Abel and killed him.
- When asked of where his brother was, he denied knowing and even asked whether he was his brother's keeper. *Genesis 4:9 I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?*
- Cain was cursed from the earth and whatever he would till would not grow.
- Rather than admitting what he had done and repent, he said that his punishment was bigger than he could bear.
- He went away from the Lord's way into doing what pleased him.

Which mistakes did Cain do?

1. Disobeyed God by offering the wrong sacrifice. It did not include the shedding of blood as was customary.
2. He allowed his wrath to take over.
3. He killed his brother Abel.
4. He became prideful of his mistakes rather than repenting.

Choosing to do right. Let us look at the choices between Cain and Abel and see who made the right choices.

ABEL	CAIN
CHARACTER WISE (PP 71.1) He had a spirit of loyalty to God; he saw justice and mercy in the Creator's dealings with the fallen race, and gratefully accepted the hope of redemption	Cherished feelings of rebellion, and murmured against God because of the curse pronounced upon the earth and upon the human race for Adam's sin.
SACRIFICES (COL 152.1) Abel came with the blood that pointed to the Lamb of God. He came as a sinner, confessing himself lost; his only hope was the unmerited love of God.	Cain came to God with a thank offering only. He made no confession of sin, and acknowledged no need of mercy
CHOICES (EP 38.3) Abel chose faith and obedience.	Cain chose unbelief and rebellion

Who do you think made the right choices? Indeed, it is ABEL.

Now, how do the lives of Cain and Abel relate to our lives today?

Let's read:

1SP 57.1: Cain and Abel represent the two classes, the righteous and the wicked, the believers and unbelievers, which should exist from the fall of man to the second coming of Christ. Cain's slaying his brother Abel, represents the wicked who will be envious of the righteous, and will hate them because they are better than themselves. They will be jealous of the righteous, and will persecute and put them to death because their right-doing condemns their sinful course.

EP 38.4: Cain and Abel represent two classes that will exist till the close of time. One avail themselves of the appointed sacrifice for sin; the other depend upon their own merits. Those who feel no need of the blood of Christ, who feel that they can by their own works secure the approval of God, are making the same mistake as did Cain

Which lessons do we learn from this story?

1. Like Abel, we should stand firm with the word of God even when others try to sway us away from him. EP 39.4
2. When brought into question after doing something wrong, we should admit and repent rather than being prideful like Cain. EP 40.3
3. God is merciful to us even when we keep disobeying him. EP 41.1
4. Just like Cain and Abel, we make choices every day. Will we choose to obey God with a happy heart like Abel or go our way like Cain?
5. God gives us the power to choose what is right and he always helps us when we ask.

What can I do as a child?

1. Obey God's law
2. Obey my parents and everyone around.
3. Not be envious to others.
4. Control my anger whenever it occurs.
5. Make right choices in everything I do.
6. Be sincere
7. Admit and repent whenever I do wrong.

OUR NEED FOR A SAVIOUR

KEY VERSE: Romans 3:23-25

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth [to be] a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

A STORY WITH A MORAL

The Bridge I Couldn't Cross

Once upon a time, there was a little girl named Neema who lived in a peaceful village surrounded by two beautiful rivers. One river was near her home where she lived with her loving family. The other river was across a wide field where her best friend, Joy, lived. Every weekend, Neema and Joy played together until one rainy season, something changed. A great storm came and washed away the little wooden bridge that connected the two sides of the village. Neema tried to cross the river using stones, but the water was too deep and fast. She tried to build her own raft, but it kept sinking. She felt stuck. Sad. Lonely. She missed her friend. One day, as Neema sat crying near the riverbank, a kind carpenter from the next village came by. He saw her tears and gently said, "You can't cross this river alone. But I can help you." The carpenter spent many days building a new, strong bridge. He cut wood, hammered nails, and worked through the wind and sun. At last, he finished it - wide, strong, and safe. Neema happily ran across the bridge into her friend's arms. She could visit again—because someone else made a way when she couldn't.

What do we learn?

Just like Neema, we are all stuck on one side -because of sin. We may try to be kind or good on our own, but we can never fix the broken connection between us and God. That's why we need Jesus. He is the Bridge. He came from heaven, lived a perfect life, died for our sins, and made a way for us to come back to God.

BIBLE LESSON

After the sin in Eden, God did not leave man alone. Rather, he set out a plan to save him. *John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.* It was all done out of love. *Rom 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.* God loves us. He is love. As the very first sin separated them from God, so it is with us today. *Isa 59:2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.* The result of sin in the beginning resulted to death, that is the result of sin till today. *Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Is the tempter at rest? NO

1MCP 33.1 Satan will come to you saying, You are a sinner. But do not let him fill your mind with the thought that because you are sinful, God has cast you off. Say to him, Yes, I am a sinner, and for that reason I need a Saviour. I need forgiveness and pardon, and Christ says that if I come to Him I shall not perish. In His letter to me I read, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). I will believe the word He has left for me. I will obey His commands. When Satan tells you that you are lost, answer, Yes, but Jesus came to seek and to save that which was lost. The greater my sin, the greater my need of a Saviour. The only way that we can escape death is if we walk according to the lords way. *Joh 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

But how do we get to him so that he can be by our side?

Through Jesus Christ *1Ti 2:5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;*

One may say, I have sinned already, what do I do? **Does that mean I am lost forever?** No... You can still get pardon. What to do: *1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Can anyone else but the son of God; Jesus Christ save you?

Act 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

SC 13.1

It was to redeem us that Jesus lived and suffered and died. He became “a Man of Sorrows,” that we might be made partakers of everlasting joy.

Will he save some and leave others?

God is not a God of force. He gives us the power to choose. That is why, like Abel, we should always choose what is right. Heb 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. He will save those who choose to come to him. Salvation is a precious gift given to us. We should all strive to get it. Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

What manner of great love did he have for us.

DA 25.2

Christ was treated as we deserve, that we might be treated as He deserves. He was condemned for our sins, in which He had no share, that we might be justified by His righteousness, in which we had no share. He suffered the death which was ours, that we might receive the life which was His. “With His stripes we are healed.”

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISE

KEY VERSE: Isaiah 9:6

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

A STORY WITH A MORAL

We all make promises. Sometimes our parents make promises to us. They may or may not fulfill them. However, our loving God never fails to keep His promises. *2Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness...* God pronounced a curse upon the woman. *Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*

In this curse, a promise was also made. The seed of the woman, who was to crush the serpent and its seed was Jesus Christ, the lamb slain from the foundation of the world. When Adam and Eve heard the promise, they looked for its fulfillment. They hoped that their first born son, Cain, would be the Deliverer. The patriarchs and the prophets repeated this promise to their posterity, thus keeping alive the hope of the Savior's appearing.

Very many centuries passed and soon, Israel nearly lost all hope of ever welcoming the Savior. The birth of Jesus Christ had long been foretold by the prophets of old. It would be at a time when one language was widely spoken, ie Greek. Nations were also united under one government, the Roman government. By this time, the Jews were scattered everywhere and their expectation of the Messiah's coming was to some extent shared by the Gentiles. Even the heathen read the Scripture and understood the prophecies concerning the Messiah. Some of them hoped for His coming as a deliverer from sin.

Though the King of Glory, Jesus stooped low to take humanity. He left heaven, with all the riches and adorning of angels and chose as His birth place, a cowshed. This was a time when, Rome, the then ruling kingdom required a census carried out. Therefore, everyone made a journey to his or her home city. Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus was from the house and lineage of King David. He therefore took his espoused wife Mary, who was then pregnant and they journeyed to the city of David, Bethlehem. This fulfilled the prophecy that the prophet Micah had made *Micah 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.*

Although from the royal line, Joseph and Mary were unrecognized and un honored. They traversed the entire length of the narrow streets seeking a resting place for the night. They could not find any accommodation in the inns, but found refuge where the beasts sheltered and that is where the Redeemer of the world was born. Heaven was filled with rejoicing. In the fields, shepherds were still keeping watch at night. They talked of the promised Savior and prayed for the coming of the king to David's throne. Suddenly the angel of the Lord appeared and shared the good news of the birth of the Savior. The shepherds hurriedly went and found Joseph and Mary, and the baby lying in a manger. The wise men, led by a star also went and found Jesus. They bowed before Him and presented gifts of myrrh, gold and frankincense.

BIBLE LESSON

The story of the birth of Jesus Christ carries an important lesson to us. Here, we see the Savior's sacrifice in exchanging the throne of heaven for the manger, and the companionship of adoring angels for the beast of the stall. We learn to be humble and let not pride and self-sufficiency have a place in our hearts. May God help us.

YOUNG JESUS VISITS THE TEMPLE AT 12 YEARS OLD

KEY VERSE: Luke 2:40

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

Have you ever been at a festival or event and lost one of your family members in the crowd?

Among the Jews the twelfth year was the dividing line between childhood and youth. On completing this year a Hebrew boy was called a son of the law, and also a son of God. He was given special opportunities for religious instruction, and was expected to participate in the sacred feasts and observances. It was in accordance with this custom that Jesus in His boyhood made the Passover visit to Jerusalem with his parents.

When the Passover services were ended and the worshipers departed from Jerusalem, He was left behind. At that day an apartment connected with the temple was devoted to a sacred school, after the manner of the schools of the prophets. Here leading rabbis with their pupils assembled and the child Jesus came. Seating Himself at the feet of these learned men, He listened to their instruction. As one seeking for wisdom, He questioned these teachers in regard to the prophecies, and to events then taking place that pointed to the advent of the Messiah. His questions were suggestive of deep truths which had long been obscured, yet were vital to the salvation of souls.

Meanwhile, in the departure from Jerusalem Mary and Joseph had lost sight of Jesus, and they did not know that He had been left behind. On the way the pleasure of traveling with friends and acquaintances absorbed their attention, and they did not notice His absence till night came on. Then as they halted for rest, they missed the helpful hand of their child. They searched for Him in vain.

They remembered how Herod had tried to destroy Him in His infancy and they reproached themselves bitterly. Returning to Jerusalem, they pursued their search. The next day, as they mingled with the worshipers in the temple, a familiar voice arrested their attention. They could not mistake it; no other voice was like His, so serious and earnest, yet so full of melody. In the school of the rabbis they found Jesus. They were astonished at His questions and answers.

They asked Him, *"Son, why have you done this to us? Behold, your father and I have sought Thee looked for you in great sorrow."* Jesus answered them saying, *"Why did you look for me? Didn't you know that I would be in my Father's house?"*

Jesus did not ignore His relation to His earthly parents. From Jerusalem He returned home with them, and aided them in their life of toil. He hid in His own heart the mystery of His mission, waiting submissively for the appointed time for Him to enter upon His work. For eighteen years after He had recognized that He was the Son of God, He acknowledged the tie that bound Him to the home at Nazareth, and performed the duties of a son, a brother, a friend, and a citizen.

BIBLE LESSON

If Joseph and Mary had stayed their minds upon God by meditation and prayer, they would have realized the sacredness of their trust, and would not have lost sight of Jesus. By one day's neglect they lost Jesus; but it cost them three days of anxious search to find Him. So with us; by idle talk, evils peaking, or neglect of prayer, we may in one day lose the Saviour's presence, and it may take many days of sorrowful search to find Him, and regain the peace that we have lost. In our association with one another, we should take heed lest we forget Jesus, and pass along unmindful that He is not with us.

As Jesus grew, He continued to develop mentally (in wisdom), physically (in stature), spiritually (in favor with God) and socially (in favor with men. We should also grow in these areas.

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

JESUS OUR PERFECT EXAMPLE

KEY VERSE: Matthew 3:17

And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

John the Baptist was living in the wilderness and was telling people to repent and be baptized for the kingdom of God is at hand. Many people repented and John baptized them in River Jordan. Among those who came to be baptized was Jesus at the age of thirty years and John recognized in Him a purity of character that he had never before perceived in any man. The very atmosphere of His presence was holy and awe-inspiring.

As Jesus asked for baptism, John drew back, exclaiming, "I have need to be baptized by you, you come to me?" But Jesus replied, "*Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becomes of us to fulfill all righteousness.*"

Jesus did not receive baptism as a confession of guilt on His own account. He identified Himself with sinners, taking the steps that we are to take, and doing the work that we must do. His life of suffering and patient endurance after His baptism was also an example to us.

And John, yielding, led Jesus down into the Jordan, and buried Him beneath the water. "And straightway coming up out of the water," Jesus "saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him." The heavens opened and upon the Saviour's head descended a dove like form of purest light.

The people stood silently gazing upon Christ. His form was bathed in the light that ever surrounds the throne of God. His upturned face was glorified as they had never before seen the face of man. From the open heavens a voice was heard saying, "*This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*"



These words of confirmation were given to inspire faith in those who witnessed the scene, and to strengthen the Saviour for His mission. John with an outstretched hand pointing to Jesus said, *"Behold the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world."*

BIBLE LESSON

The glory that rested upon Christ is a pledge of the love of God for us. It tells us of the power of prayer; how the human voice may reach the ear of God, and our petitions find acceptance in the courts of heaven. The light which fell from the open portals upon the head of our Saviour will fall upon us as we pray for help to resist temptation. The voice which spoke to Jesus says to every believing soul, This is My beloved child, in whom I am well pleased.

JESUS WAS TEMPTED BUT DID NOT SIN

:KEY VERSE: Psalms 119:111

Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I may not sin against you

Have you ever been tempted? What was the test? Did you overcome? How did you overcome? Did you fail? Why did you fail?

Jesus was tempted in all ways but did not sin.

Matthew 4:1-11 After Jesus was baptized by John the baptist, the holy spirit led him into the wilderness. He stayed there for 40 Days and nights. No food, no people. Just Jesus and God. On the very last day, he was tempted.

Temptation 1:

Satan said: *"if you are the son of God, turn the stones into bread."*

Jesus said: *"It is written, man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God."*

Temptation 2:

Satan took Jesus to the top of the temple and said: *"jump off, for it is written that God will give his angels to bear you up lest you dash your foot on a stone".*

Jesus said: *"It is written, do not tempt the Lord your God".*

Temptation 3:

Satan showed Jesus all the kingdom of the world and said, *"bow down to me and I'll give you all of these."*

Jesus said: *"Away from me Satan! It is written, worship the Lord your God and serve him only."*

Then the devil left and the angels came to take care of Jesus.

Jesus overcame temptations through the word of God. We can also overcome if we hide the word of God in our hearts.

When we are tempted Jesus understands our struggles because he was tempted too. *Hebrews 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*

Jesus is our perfect example. *1 Peter 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps.*

Jesus never sinned. He lived a holy life. No sin, no guile was found in his mouth. When he was reviled, He reviled not. When he suffered, he threatened not.

CAN YOU LIVE A HOLY LIFE LIKE HE DID?

Yes!! Remember, Jesus is the example and an example is to be followed. So, if Jesus lived a holy life, we can also live a holy life. By His strength we can be holy. **1 peter 1:15-16** *But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy. Isaiah 27:5 Or let him take hold of my strength, that he may make peace with me; and he shall make peace with me.*

We can only rely on His strength.

Take hold of it.

ACTIVITIES

Activities 7-12

1. Why was Jesus tempted?
2. What did Jesus use to answer Satan each time?
3. Write psalms 119:111
4. What can we do when we feel tempted?

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

JESUS MY SHEPHERD

KEY VERSE: John 10:11

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep

I need Jesus to be my Good Shepherd! The Bible says we are like sheep. *Psalm 95:7 For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand...*, God calls you a sheep to help you understand how much you need Jesus to be your Good Shepherd.

PRACTICAL LESSON

For the Teacher

What to Do: Print, cut apart, and hide the paper sheep in your teaching area ahead of time. Let children take turns finding the sheep and bringing them to you as you explain how a sheep's need for a shepherd is like our need for Jesus. Every time I say, "**What's the Big Idea?**" I want you to shout, "**I need Jesus to be my Good Shepherd!**" I've hidden some paper sheep that will help us learn what sheep are like so we can understand why God says we are like sheep who need Jesus to be our Good Shepherd.

LOST - Sheep sometimes wander away from their shepherd by accident or even on purpose because they think they know best. They need a good shepherd to rescue them when they get lost, You need Jesus to rescue you from being lost in your sin. **What's the Big Idea? I need Jesus to be my Good Shepherd!**

HELPLESS - Sheep cannot live very well on their own. Sometimes they even roll onto their back and get stuck! They need a shepherd who will always be there for them, Jesus is always-present. He will always be there to help you. **What's the Big Idea? I need Jesus to be my Good Shepherd!**

NEEDY - Sheep cannot take care of themselves. They can't find their own shelter or good food. They need a shepherd to take care of them and meet their needs. You have lots of needs too and you need Jesus to take care of you. ***What's the Big Idea? I need Jesus to be my Good Shepherd!***

FOOLISH - Sheep do not always make good choices, They will drink dirty water, eat bad food, or wander into danger. They need someone wise to take care of them. Jesus knows everything. He is much wiser than you, and you need him to look after you. ***What's the Big Idea? I need Jesus to be my Good Shepherd!***

WEAK - Sheep's bodies are not strong, Sometimes they get tired when they walk too far or get sick when they worry too much. They need someone stronger to care for them. Jesus is all-powerful. He is much stronger than you, and you need him to care for you. ***What's the Big Idea? I need Jesus to be my Good Shepherd!***

STUBBORN - Sheep always want their own way. They need someone patient and kind to take care of them. Sometimes you are stubborn too. Jesus is perfectly kind and patient, and you need him to care for you. ***What's the Big Idea? I need Jesus to be my Good Shepherd!***

BIBLE LESSON

Do you know which animal is mentioned the most times in the Bible? Sheep are mentioned more than **500 times** in the Bible, way more than any other animal! In fact, God often uses sheep and shepherds to help us understand how he loves and cares for us.

***Psalms 100:3** Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

The Bible says God made us and we belong to him. He is the boss and He cares for us like a shepherd cares for his sheep. He is the greatest Good Shepherd of all time. But sheep are foolish and they sometimes wander away from their shepherd.

What might happen to a sheep that wanders away from the shepherd and gets lost?

You and I have an even bigger problem than a lost sheep. Like a sheep wanders from a shepherd, God says we have wandered away from Him. We wander away from God when we sin by doing things our own way instead of the way God says is right. You were born wanting to sin by lying, complaining, disobeying your parents and other things God says not to do. Sin keeps people away from God and eventually it causes people to die and be lost far away from God forever. Like a lost sheep needs to be rescued by a shepherd, you and I need someone to rescue us from sin. A good shepherd is willing to give his own life to rescue a lost sheep, and that's exactly what Jesus did for us.

John 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. Jesus is God's perfect Son, but He left God's perfect home in Heaven and came to find and save people who are lost in their sin. He came to love people who felt unlovable. He came close to people that everybody else pushed away. He valued people who thought they were worthless. He even came to help people who hated Him.

Isaiah 53:5-6 But he was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

While Jesus was on the cross, God laid our sin on Jesus and punished Jesus for it. Jesus took the punishment for all the lying, hating, disobeying, fighting, and other sins of the people who had wandered away from God like lost sheep. He bled and died on the cross in your place. He was separated from God so you can be saved, and then, he came back to life! Now Jesus is alive and he wants to be your Good Shepherd who saves you from sin and cares for you forever. Everyone who believes in Jesus to save them from sin belongs to Jesus and has a close friendship with him that lasts forever and ever - longer than ten-thousand billion years! If you have believed in Jesus, he will take you to live in his perfect home after you die and will always be your Good Shepherd.

When you've believed in Jesus to save you, he wants you to remember some BIG truths, Can you say them with me in a sheep voice?

- 1. I belong to God forever! (Repeat together in a small sheep voice.)**
- 2. God is my Good Shepherd! (Repeat together in a big sheep voice.)**
- 3. God will always care for me! (Repeat together in a slow sheep voice.)**

If you have believed in Jesus to save you from sin, these three BIG truths are for you and the Bible has many more BIG promises for you. God wants you to listen to the Bible to help you know and enjoy him as your Good Shepherd. ***What's the Big Idea? I need Jesus to be my Good Shepherd!***

Discussion Questions:

- In what ways is Jesus like a shepherd?** (God provides, protects, leads, and loves us. He is the boss.)
- In what ways are we like lost sheep?** (We wander away from God when we sin by lying, disobeying, complaining, etc. We need to be rescued.)
- Why is sin such a terrible problem?** (Sin keeps people away from God and eventually causes people to die and be lost far away from God forever.)
- What did Jesus do to rescue people from sin?** (Jesus took the punishment for our sin on himself by dying on a cross and coming back to life.)
- How can you belong to God and have Him as your Good Shepherd forever?** (By believing in Jesus to save you from sin.)
- What does it mean to believe in Jesus?** (Believing in Jesus means trusting Jesus is God's perfect Son who took the punishment for your sin by dying on the cross and coming back to life.)
- What BIG truths does God give for everyone who believes in Jesus as their Savior?** (Answers will vary, but may include "I belong to God forever!", "God is my Good Shepherd!" and "God will always care for me!"

WALKING IN OBEDIENCE

TRUE LOVE TO GOD

KEY VERSE: John 14:15

If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Sc 60.2 Obedience the service and allegiance of love is the true sign of discipleship.

Hello Kids!

How do you show your parents that you love them? (Listening, helping and obeying)

Illustration: The Flashlight path

Let the kids imagine.... Trying to walk in a very dark room. Is it easy? Switch on the flashlight light....it's obviously easy to walk. God's word is the light. When we obey God's word, He guides us safely. Obedience is walking in the light with Jesus.

A STORY WITH A MORAL

The Story of The Boy Samuel. Let the kids narrate the story. Did Samuel obey God?

The teacher to narrate the story of Noah. Gen6-9

Like Samuel and Noah, we show love to God by obeying.

The teacher to explain Sc60.2

- Real obedience does not come from fear or just following rules.
- It comes from Love. When we love, Jesus, we want to do as he says.
- Obedience is not a burden. It's a joy when it flows from love.

Discussion Activity for 7-12 years.**Why is love the best reason for obedience?**

- Love is stronger than fear. 1john 4:18
- Love makes obedience joyful. If we love God His Commandments won't feel like a burden **1John5:3**
- Fear fades, Reward lose their excitement but love endures forever. Real obedience flows from a Love that never gives up on God.
- Love reflects God's character. 1John4:8

Activities 7-12 years**Circle Game**

Children sit or stand in a circle. One child to stand in the circle and say "if you love God, Keep His Commandments by.... example.... telling the truth. Let every child get a chance to say how s/he will keep his commandments.

Activity for 0-6 years

Color the picture of the ark.

Retell the story in simple words.

SHINING FOR JESUS

WE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

KEY VERSE: Matthew 5:14-16

Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Philippians 2:15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

Did you ever go into a dark room where there wasn't any light at all? It was kind of scary, wasn't it? But as soon as you find the light and put it on, it isn't scary any more. The Bible says that God's word, the Bible is like a light. *Psalms 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.* If you don't have the Bible and all the truth that is in the Bible, it's like being in a dark room. You would think that something bad is going to happen to you. The truth is, you would be right.

Use a headlamp for this demonstration.

I like two things about this light: First, you don't have to hold it. Its attached to your head so you can use both hands to do something useful. Second, the light always points where you are looking. So no matter how you turn your head, the light is always there, chasing away the darkness.

How can we make the Bible this headlamp? We must get the Bible into our heads so it will always shine in the darkness. Now, consider the heavenly bodies, the sun the moon and the stars. The sun gives light by day and the moon by night. Did you know that the moon does not produce any light of its own? Rather, it reflects the light from the sun and therefore we have light by day and night from the same source, the sun.

Jesus said in John 8:12, *I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.*

Jesus is the primary source of our spiritual light. He is the living word, the express image of the Eternal Father. Jesus shines in our hearts by revealing the will, love and character of the Father to us. When we read and study the Bible, these things are opened to our understanding. When we make the Bible our standard of life, it changes our habits, actions and character to be like that of Christ.

Those around us are able to see changes in us. They begin to see changes in our conversations, ways of dressing, eating habits and a general change in the way we do things. We show good deeds such as kindness, obedience, love and the fruit of the holy spirit in general. It is thus that we reflect Jesus Christ, just as the moon reflects the light by the sun. Thus many are won to Jesus through us. Wherever we go, we are to carry Jesus with us, and to reveal to others the preciousness of our Saviour.

Conclusion: Christ is pleased with His followers when they show that, though human, they are partakers of the divine nature. They are not statues, but living men and women. Their hearts, refreshed by the dews of divine grace, open and expand to the Sun of Righteousness. The light that shines upon them they reflect upon others in works that are luminous with the love of Christ. {DA 153.1}

Prayer: May God help us to be light bearers to others on the way to heaven.

THE HOPE OF HEAVEN

Jesus promises a home in heaven and eternal joy

KEY VERSE: John 14:1-3

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

A STORY WITH A MORAL

Imagine you're on a long trip. The road is rough, your feet are tired, and sometimes you wonder if you'll ever get there. But then, someone reminds you: "At the end of this road, a beautiful home is waiting for you". Suddenly, the journey feels lighter and hope fills your heart.

That is exactly what Jesus has promised us. This world has pains, tears and sadness. But, Jesus says, Don't be troubled. I am preparing a place for you. Heaven is not just a dream, it is our real, eternal home. We are just passer byes in this world.

Revelation 21:1-4 (KJV): And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain: for the former things are passed away.

1 Corinthians 2:9 (KJV): "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

Ellen White Quotes:

(CET 58)

"Heaven is worth everything to us, and if we lose heaven we lose all."

This quote emphasizes the importance of heaven in our lives. It reminds us that heaven is the ultimate goal and the most valuable thing we can strive for.

"The hope of eternal life with its glorious possibilities should lead us to endure trials and privations with patience and fortitude." (RH, April 25, 1907)

This builds on the idea that heaven is worth everything to us. It encourages us to look beyond our current struggles and focus on the eternal life that awaits us.

"The future life is the grand climax of all our hopes, the consummation of all our joys." (RH, October 24, 1893)

This highlights the idea that heaven is the ultimate fulfilment of our hopes and joys. It reminds us that our current experiences are just a precursor to the eternal life that awaits us.

"The promise of eternal life is a precious truth, and it should be cherished in the heart." (RH, June 17, 1890)

This emphasizes the importance of cherishing the promise of eternal life in our hearts. It reminds us that the promise of heaven is a precious truth that should guide our thoughts, feelings, and actions.

"Heaven is a place of rest and peace, where the redeemed will dwell with God forever." (DA 307)

This gives us a glimpse into what heaven is like. It reminds us that heaven is a place of rest and peace, where we will dwell with God forever.

"The thought of eternal life should inspire us with gratitude and joy." (RH, November 14, 1893)

It encourages us to reflect on the thought of eternal life and allow it to inspire us with gratitude and joy.

REFLECTION:

Heaven is not just an idea, it is a real promise from Jesus. He has gone to prepare a special place for each one of us. There, no one will cry, no one will die, and no one will feel pain. Every joy we have now is only a small picture of the joy God has prepared for us.

Thinking about heaven helps us live differently today. It gives us hope when we are sad, strength when we feel weak and courage when life is hard.

APPLICATION:

Focus on eternal perspective: Remember heaven when you face challenges here on earth. Keep your eyes fixed on the promise of heaven, and let that guide your decisions and actions.

Deepen your walk with God: Pray, read your Bible and stay close to Jesus. Nurture your faith through prayer, Bible study, and fellowship with other believers.

Live with hope and joy: Let the promise of heaven shine through your words and actions.

Questions:

1. What does Jesus promise us in John 14:1-3?
2. According to Revelation 21:4, what will God remove from our lives in heaven?
3. Why does Ellen White say that heaven is worth everything?
4. How can the hope of eternal life help us in our daily lives?
5. What can we do to prepare for our eternal home in heaven?

Conclusion:

The hope of heaven is a precious gift from Jesus. It gives us joy and motivation in our daily lives. It helps us walk through life with courage and joy because we know this world is not our final home. By keeping our eyes fixed on the promise of eternal life, we can live with purpose and confidence, knowing that our eternal home awaits.

From a Perfect Garden to a Perfect Promise

Long ago, God created a beautiful world filled with joy, peace, and love. But one wrong choice changed everything — sin entered, and sadness began. Yet even in that moment, God gave the greatest promise of all: a Saviour who would come to rescue us. This booklet gently guides children through the story of how sin began and the hope God gave right from the start. With simple explanations and colorful illustrations, it helps young hearts understand God's amazing love and His plan to save. A journey from the first mistake... to the first promise of grace.

Lessons for Children
aged 0-12 Years

