The First Sin and The First Promise - Genesis 3:15

**Opening:** Memory Verse from last week Genesis 2:18

 *This weeks memory verse*: Genesis 3:15b “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; *He shall bruise you on the head and you shall bruise Him on the heel”*

**Bible Books Challenge:**  Genesis – Ezra

**What do we know:**

* We know that God created the Heavens and the Earth, and all that is we see, hear, smell, taste, and touch.
* We know that we did not just happen to come into existence by what is called evolution, God created everything.
* We know that God said everything that He created was good and perfect.
* We know that God created human kind in His image and gave us the responsibility to take care of all that He created.
* We know that God created us to have a relationship with Him and that He loves us.
* We know that God designed families to work together, love and care for one another.
* We know that God gave everyone responsibilities within our families and that (mine) yours is to honor, obey and respect your parents.

**Game:** Answer this answer?

*(write the number 4 and the number 2 on the board and ask the children to answer it) Probable answers are 6, 2, 8, any answer is wrong because it is unanswerable. Explain there is no operator between the two numbers telling us how to solve the problem. Without someone giving us the operator the problem cannot be solved correctly.*

**Lesson:**

Life is just like the two numbers on the board, we assume we have the knowledge necessary to solve all of our problems. The truth is without God we don’t. Just like the equation here *(point to board),* without God something is missing, we don’t have all the information to solve the problems life brings to us. Today we are going to talk about the first sin that humans committed. I know we’ve talked about this before so can anyone tell me what Adam and Eve did?

*(Allow kids to answer)*

Eve disobeyed God when she let the snake (the devil) convince her to eat the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge, and when she gave the fruit to Adam, he ate of it. Now, Adam could have said, Eve where did this fruit come from? Or Eve, are you sure we should eat this fruit? But, He didn’t. He trusted Eve and Eve trusted the snake. Adam was just as guilty as Eve. Have you ever heard the phrase “Eat my dust” well guess who said it first? God did right here in Genesis chapter 3.

Let’s see what God’s word says together… read Genesis 3:1-15 (have children read the verses, one verse to each child from their Children’s Bible)

**Let’s act this out this:** *Chose one child to play each part Eve, Adam, God and the snake as you retell the story*

Eve was standing in the garden and the snake came to her and said “didn’t God tell you that can’t eat from any tree in the garden” (v1) and she said “no silly, God said we can eat anything we want from any tree, except from this tree in the middle. God said do not eat from it or touch it or I will die”(v2-3) the devil laughed and said “goodness sakes, you wont die, if you eat it, God doesn’t want you to be as smart as He is. He know that if you eat it you will know that there both good and evil in the world He created, that’s all” (v4-5). Well, Eve she saw the fruit and thought well its pretty to look at and I bet it tastes good too, and it will make me smart like God. So she ate the fruit and then gave Adam some of the fruit to eat” (v6). As soon as they ate it they knew they were naked. So they started grabbing leaves from the nearby plants and trees to make coverings for their bodies. Who wants to be see naked, right? (v7). They heard God walking through the garden and hid from Him. God called out to them “where are you?” and Adam said “here I am, I was hiding from you because I was naked.” God said “what, who told you, you were naked? Did you eat the fruit I told you not to eat?” Now, Adam he looks at Eve and said, well she gave it to me. I didn’t know where she got the fruit. Its her fault. “ God said to Eve “what have you done?” and she said “it was the snake, he lied to me”. God turned to the snake and said “you did this, so now you will be cursed more than all the cattle or every other beast of the earth. Now on your belly you will live and the dust of all the other creatures you will eat”

Neither Adam or Eve wanted to be in trouble with God so they passed the blame off on someone else. Adam said Eve tricked him and Eve said well the snake lied to me. The point is they were both guilty of disobeying God.

***Lets play a Game: Adam Says***

*We’re going to play a game today that you have played many times before (Simon Says). But today we’re going to mix things up a bit and make it more difficult. Give each child one of the following animals, Dog, Cat, Duck. What does each animal do. Dogs bark and beg, cats meow and pretend to lick their paws, and ducks quack and waddle. I am going to play the role of Adam, the first person God created. Some of the time I will say, “Adam says,” and then give you an instruction. For example, if I say, “Adam says meow,” you will all meow, no matter which animal you are. However, if I do not say, “Adam says,” then only some of you can do the instruction. For example, if I say, “Meow,” only the cats can meow. If you do not follow the command correctly, you have to sit out the rest of the game. The team with the last remaining player wins*.

Let’s return to our lesson. How many of you have ever blamed someone else for something you did? I know I did. I had 2 sisters that I could blame. I remember one time when I was little where I blamed my little sister Ms. Pam for something even though she got hurt and it was really my fault. You see every year my grandfather would sent my mom a box of homemade chocolate fudge. His fudge was the best and my mom would only give us a little at a time but it wasn’t enough for me, I wanted more and she wouldn’t share. I knew my mom hid the box of delicious chocolate on the shelf in her closet. Of course, I couldn’t reach it. So, I went to my sister and I said, I know where mom hides grandpas chocolate if you help me, I will give you some. So, we went to the kitchen and got a chair from the table and pushed it into our parents room. Well standing on the seat of the chair, we still couldn’t reach it. We needed to be higher. So, I convinced my little sister that I was heavier than she was and I would stand on the rungs under the chair to keep her from falling only if she would stand on the back of it, so she could reach the box of chocolates. And you know what she did. I stood on the back with my feet on the rungs, she climbed onto the seat and then up onto the back of it and success, we had the box of chocolates. I was so excited that I forgot and moved from the back of the chair and Ms. Pam came crashing down to the floor, hitting her head on the corner of mom’s dresser. If you ever look at her real close you will see a small scar in the eyebrow above her left eye. She had to go get stitches. She wasn’t happy with me and neither was our mother. Later, our mom said what were you doing, because you know MS. Pam was laying on the floor bleeding so that had to be taken care of first. I said, well she got the chocolates down. I just stood on the back of the chair so she would fall. It was all her idea. I didn’t know she would fall if I moved. Of course, my mother; she knew I was laying and I got into trouble. OF course, now I can’t remember what my punishment was. But I never again asked my little sister to climb onto the back of a chair either.

My point is I wanted the chocolate, I came up with the plan to get it, and I asked my sister for her help. MY sister got hurt because of it. Now she could have said no, mom saves that candy but she didn’t she wanted some too and she trusted me that I could get it and that she wouldn’t get hurt. But she got into some trouble too because if I hadn’t asked for her help, she would never have tried to get the chocolate from the closet shelf.

Accepting blame is not a very popular thing to do. When we blame someone else, we save ourselves from any punishment. It makes us feel better even or a short period of time when we blame someone else. It gives us freedom from the punishment of what we did to disobey. The truth is even if no one ever finds out what we did, God knows. We all pass the blame, its easy to do. In fact we can all blame Adam and Eve for messing up can’t we. If they hadn’t disobeyed God then we wouldn’t do any wrong either, would we?

Sin is doing exactly what we are told not to do. The truth is even if Adam and Eve hadn’t disobeyed God someone would have. We all have a choice to either obey and do as God and our parents say or to disobey. It is a choice. Anytime you do something that you know you should not do, your disobeying. Anytime you do not do something that you know you should do, your disobeying. What are some example that you can think of?

* What if your dad tells you to take out the garbage and you don’t?
* What if your mothers tells you to feed the dog and you don’t?
* What if your find money laying on the sidewalk and you saw who dropped it , what do you do?
* What if your friend leaves his/her favorite toy at your house and you want it? What should you do?

This part of God’s story is very sad, isn’t it. The garden was perfect, Adam and Eve were perfect. Everything was beautiful just as God intended it to be. There was so war, sickness, or even death in the beginning. But the choice to disobey ruined all of that. Even though this story is sad, there is good news. God did something very good.

Now the next verse is very important so let’s read it again. (read Genesis 3:15) *“and I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between her seed and your seed. He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise Him on the heel.”*

Wow! That’s kinda hard to understand isn’t it? Did you know that even here in the Garden of Eden , where Adam and Eve chose to disobey God, God knew we would need a Redeemer. Someone who could give us a way to have a relationship with God. Who do you think God would send?

That’s right, Jesus. See, even here in the vey beginning God knew that Jesus would have to come and give His life so that we could be forgiven and have a relationship with Him. God knew right here in the very beginning that Jesus, His son, would be obedient and do as His father had asked of him, no matter how long it took, no matter how much he would have to suffer. God knew. This is very first time that God promises to send someone to help us. Here God gives us HOPE in Jesus. But, there is no hope for Satan (the devil). God loves you so much that even from the very beginning He planned to save us.

I can picture the devil laughing, smiling, because he believed that he had won. He had ruined the perfect creation that God had made. This first promise from God is easy to miss because, well it doesn’t mention Jesus by name. But He’s there. Let us look at this verse and break it down so that you can see Jesus even in the very beginning of the world. “ And I will put enmity between you and the woman” Do you know what enmity means? It means struggle, conflict, fighting, so God said I will put a war between you. Here’s what this means…. Adam and Eve believed and trusted God, they had two sons Cain and Abel. Now remember from last weeks lesson Cain didn’t really honor God but Abel did. Cain got so angry at God that he killed his brother Abel. Now the Bible says that -Abel was not married and didn’t have any children but it does say that Cain did marry and have children in Genesis 4:17-24 and in verses 25-26, it says that Adam and Eve had another son they names Seth. Let’s look at our Bible timeline so we can see the struggle that God talked about.

You see here in yellow Adam and then Seth and all their descendants and in Blue you see Cain and his. Now Seth chose to believe and trust in God and his family tree has Noah, Abraham, Issac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Ruth, David, Daniel, all the way here to Jesus.

Now Cain we see all the people mentioned in the Bible that didn’t believe and trust in God including Goliath. They were all humankind, but chose to either love God or hate Him. This is the struggle that God is talking about. The fighting between the goodness of God and the meanness of the devil.

The seed that God mentions here are the children and families that came from Adam and Eve, now Satan couldn’t have children, but he could have people who follow him and do the things that he says to do. So you have a choice to either to either follow and love God or not to. It all began right here in the beginning.

Let’s look at the second part of this verse. This is where God promises us Jesus. Despite all the bad things that are happening or have happen since the beginning, we have HOPE and here He is. The Bible says “and you will bruise him on the heel and he will bruise you on the head”

Have you ever stepped on a toy or something and it hurt the very back of your foot right here (point to your heel). It hurts doesn’t it. It can really hurt and be sore for days and even weeks. But its not a life ending hurt is it? Eventually it gets better. I want you to think for a minute when Jesus was being nailed to the cross where did they put the nails?

That’s right his hands and feet. Right here through the top part of his foot to the back right here on the heel. This is what God had said would happen from the very beginning. When Jesus died on the cross it looked as though Satan had won the battle, He was victorious! But what happened three days after Jesus died? He rose again that’s right. Satan will never will the battle between God’s people and his followers. The Bible tells that in the book of Revelations that Jesus will destroy Satan and lock him away forever. Never again will he be able to cause conflict or fighting between God’s people. On the cross Satan bruised the heels of Jesus with the nails but it didn’t kill Jesus forever did it? All it did was cause Jesus a lot of pain and suffering.

Now the Bible tells us that God wins in the end right? How do you kill a serpent or snake? You cut of its head right. It’s the only sure way to kill it. One day Jesus is going to return from Heaven to Earth and He will defeat Satan forever. And that’s very Good News isn’t it?

Here’s what we know.

Life is going to be hard. We are always going to struggle between doing good and believing and trusting Jesus or following the devil. We will always struggle with being tempted to do wrong. Those struggles will hurt sometimes, the choices of others to being tempted will hurt us sometimes. Every struggle we go through only helps us becoming stronger in our relationship with Jesus. If we choose to trust Him and let Him help us. God loves us so much that even in the very beginning He planned to save us. Even then He was thinking of you and of me. We can be forgiven when we fail because Jesus came and gave His life for us on the cross. When God forgives you, he no longer holds you responsible for the things you did when you choose to obey God. Jesus took our place and our punishment when He died on the cross so that we can have a relationship with God. This is why it is important that we ask Jesus into our hearts, love, trust, and obey God and His word.

***PRAY***

***Game: Trading places***

Let’s play another game? Have all the children form a circle by standing. Give each child a number from 1-6, ask them to remember their number. I need 1 of you to volunteer to begin the first round of our game. Have the child stand in the center of the circle. Give them the large inflatable die.

The child in the center rolls the die and (for example) is lands on the number 5. All the children who were given the number 5 must trade places with all the other children of the same number. The child in the center must scramble to take one open spot. The child who doesn’t find an open spot takes the next turn in the center and the process repeats.

After a few rounds change the rules. The child who doesn’t find an open spot has to make an excuse by blaming someone else as to why they didn’t get to the open spot in time. (For example…. I didn’t make it because Sally tripped me)

Play a few rounds and then have the children return to their seats and reward them for good sportsmanship and behavior.