

BEGINNINGS

PLEASE NOTE!

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Introduction

Genesis is a book of beginnings. In the first chapters we have the creation of the world, how God made the first man and woman, the entrance of sin into the world, the beginning of punishment for that sin, the earliest promise of a Saviour, the origin of playing musical instruments, the first covenant with Noah, etc. The five lessons in this series provide foundational teaching for the child in understanding the rest of the Scriptures. We trust that the Holy Spirit will use the teaching of His Word to bring children to know the God of creation, of righteousness, of grace and of redemption, Who is revealed in the first eight chapters of Genesis. “This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent” (John 17:3).

Teaching Bible truths

We fall short of our responsibility as teachers if we only tell children Bible stories. It is essential that children learn the truths those stories were written down to teach us, and that we then take them a step further to show what that truth means to them in their daily lives. Of course, we cannot in one lesson cover all the teaching any particular story would provide, so in each of these lessons one central truth has been chosen. The teaching of the central truth has been woven throughout the narrative, but to help you in your preparation the teaching sections have been marked “CT”. These are also marked out in the lesson plan.

You will notice that the central truths are marked with a “U” or an “S” to show the kind of children the truth is applied to - unsaved or saved. This is also made clear in the text by using phrases such as, “If you have not trusted the Lord Jesus to forgive your sin ...” or, “Christian, you ...”.

The application of the truth has been highlighted with a line beside the text. You may feel it necessary to adapt the applications to better suit the children you teach. For example, the application may use a boy’s name, yet you have only girls present. It could be that the application given is more applicable to older children, while yours are very young. Make the changes you feel are necessary. The important thing is that the Word of God is applied to their lives.

Make yourself available for counselling

When you present the Gospel message, there will be children who will respond to it independently. They may or may not at a later date tell you that they have trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. There will, however, be others who would like some help. They may have questions to ask; they may need help or encouragement in knowing what to say.

As you teach the saved children, there may be times when they would like advice in a difficult situation; they may need clarification on how a particular lesson applies to their daily lives; they may find themselves in a situation where they do not know what the Bible says they should do; they may want to share a difficulty so that you can pray for them, especially if you are the only Christian support they have.

For these reasons it is important that the children know you are available to talk. It is also important that they know when and where to go when they want to talk to you. Finally, it is essential that unsaved children do not confuse coming to the Lord Jesus with coming to you.

In all cases you should not make yourself available at the same time as giving the Gospel invitation, so that the children never get the impression that they cannot come to Christ without coming through you, or that they are saved simply by waiting to speak to you.

An example for use with the unsaved child

“Do you really want to live for the Lord Jesus, but don’t know how to come to Him? I will be glad to explain it from the Bible; come and see me. I’ll be standing by that tree when the meeting is over. Remember, I can’t take away your sin - only the Lord Jesus can do that - but I will be glad to help you understand better how you can come to Him. Just come and sit with me under that tree.”

An example for use with the saved child

“If you have trusted the Lord Jesus as your Saviour and you have never told me about it, please let me know. I’ll be standing beside the piano after the meeting is finished. I would like to know if you too have trusted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, so that I can pray for you and perhaps help you.”

Memory verses

A Scripture verse to teach the children is suggested for each lesson. If you are teaching the lessons as a series over five weeks it would be advisable to choose two or three verses to teach well, which the children will then remember. If you try to teach all five, the children may not really know any of them well.

Practise placing the flannelgraph figures

Practise using the visuals and changing the scenes before you go to teach. Become thoroughly familiar with all the figures and know when you need to use them in the lesson. Scenic backgrounds can be purchased to use with these lessons. We give suggestions before each scene, but they are by no means essential. All your teaching can be done on one plain flannel.

Extra visual aids

On a piece of card print out the words of the central truth for each lesson; back it with pieces of flocked paper. (Use lower case letters, so that even the younger ones can read the words easily.) Put this card on the board at the beginning of the class or when you first teach the central truth in the lesson.

Additional helps

Along the left and right margins additional helps are provided, giving background information and optional ideas on how to add interest to your lesson.

These ideas are designed to incorporate different learning styles. For effective learning, some children need to see or write, others need to hear or speak, others need to touch or handle, and still others need active participation.

You can use these ideas in your club as time allows.

Review questions

For each lesson some review questions are given. These can be used after the lesson or the following week, before teaching the new lesson.

Review time, if conducted in an orderly way, can be an ideal opportunity to reinforce what you have taught, while still being fun for the children. You can use this time ...

- 1 to find out how much the children are understanding and remembering.
- 2 to help you as a teacher to know what you need to emphasise more so that the children will remember better.
- 3 to provide a time of fun in the class. The children like competition and look forward to this part of the programme. But it is more than just a game: it is a time of learning.

In this textbook only questions on the lesson are included. It would be profitable to include questions also on the songs, verse and whatever else you teach. In this way the children realise that every part of the programme is important.

Overview

Lesson	Central truth	Application	Memory verse
God created Genesis 1:1-2:8	God is Creator	Unsaved: Trust Jesus Christ so that you can truly worship God your Creator Saved: Worship Him	“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” Genesis 1:1
Sin comes into the world Genesis 2:9,15-25 Genesis 3:1-24 2 Corinthians 11:3	Each one of us is a sinner	Unsaved: Turn from your sin to Jesus Christ who alone can take away your sin	“... through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned” Romans 5:12
The first children (Cain and Abel) Genesis 4:1-16 Hebrews 11:4	You must come to God in His way	Unsaved: You must trust Jesus Christ as your Saviour, He is the only way to God Saved: Thank God that you have trusted in Christ, the way to God	Review Romans 5:12 Or “... No one comes to the Father except through Me” John 14:6
Walking with God (Enoch) Genesis 4:16-22, 25-26 Genesis 5:1-29 Hebrews 11:5	You can know God	Unsaved: You come to know Him through Jesus Christ Saved: Get to know Him better	“And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent” John 17:3
God will punish sin (Noah) Genesis 6:1 - 9:17 Hebrews 11:7 2 Peter 2:5	God will punish sin	Unsaved: Come to Christ and you will be safe from judgement Saved: You can be sure you are safe from judgement	Review John 17:3 Or “There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus ...” Romans 8:1

Lesson 1

God created

Scripture for teachers

Genesis 1:1-2:8

Central truth

God is Creator

Application

Unsaved: Trust Jesus Christ so that you can truly worship God your Creator

Saved: Worship Him

Memory verse

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” Genesis 1:1

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5 and 1-6

Or

- ◆ Figures: B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, B-6 and B-7
- ◆ Backgrounds (optional): Use plain background for all scenes
- ◆ Glue a sheet of black construction paper to a sheet of white construction paper and cut in a circle the same size as other circles for this lesson.

And

- ◆ For flashcard 1-6 or flannelgraph figure B-7, cut a section of plain paper large enough to cover the man on the visual aid. (The paper may be attached with blu-tac. Remove when you speak of man’s creation.)
- ◆ Something you have made (eg knitted sweater, paper flowers, soft toy, etc)

Carry-over activity

- ◆ Photocopy the sheet on page 47, so that each child can have one. Have pencils, felt tips and/or crayons ready. Plan that each child will have something to lean on as they draw.

Lesson outline

Introduction

“You did not make yourself very popular”

Progression of events

The earth is without form

Day 1 God creates light **CT**

Day 2 God creates sky and sea **CT**

Day 3 God creates vegetation **CTS**

Day 4 God creates sun, moon and stars **CTU**

Day 5 God creates fish and birds **CTS**

Day 6 God creates animals **CT**

Climax

God creates man **CTU**

Conclusion

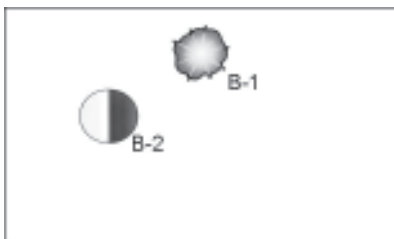
Day 7 God rests **CTS, CTU**

Since the theory of evolution is freely taught in schools, take this opportunity to help children see the problems with this theory and the logic of the biblical account. For further helps and explanation refer to the *Children's Ministry Resource Bible* (Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville, 1993), pages 650-653, 1614-1618.

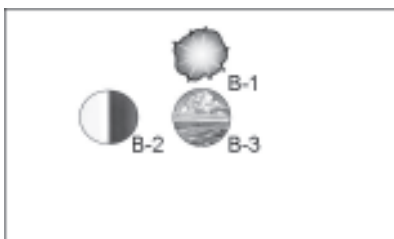
Hold up your open Bible and show the book of Genesis. Read the verse from your Bible.

The date of creation has been a point of speculation among theologians for centuries. It has been placed anywhere from 6984 BC to 3483 BC. Although the exact date is not known, it is generally believed that the Earth is far younger than some scientists would have us think.

Flashcard 1-1



Flashcard 1-2



Lesson

“You didn’t make yourself very popular in class today,” remarked Philip as he and Richard walked home from school. “The teacher wasn’t very pleased with you.”

“I know,” sighed Richard, “but I can’t do anything about that.”

“Does it really matter how the world began?” asked Philip. “If it started with a Big Bang as the teacher said, that’s OK with me. If God made everything, that’s OK with me too.”

“Yes, but the Bible tells us that God created everything. He should get the praise for doing it. I just couldn’t sit there and say nothing.”

Richard was right. The Bible does tell us clearly that, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). We read that in the first book of the Bible - Genesis. Genesis means “beginnings”. Have you ever wondered when everything began? We do not know the answer to that question. We just know that it was long, long, long ago. Way back God created the earth. At first the earth was dark and empty (*place black circle*). There were no clouds, no trees, no birds, no people.

Place symbol for God (B-1).

But God was there. He has always been. God the Spirit moved over this dark, empty mass ... something wonderful was going to happen!

Day 1

God spoke, “Let there be light,” (Genesis 1:3) and there was light! There was no sun, no moon, but there was light.

Turn circle over to white side.

CT

Just by speaking God had created light. Then God divided the light from the darkness. He called the light “day”, and the darkness “night”.

Replace circle used previously with divided black and white circle (B-2).

That was the first day of God’s creation.

Day 2

Now there was light filtering through the waters. God spoke again, saying that the waters should separate. And so it happened! The whole world became a big ocean and above it a great sky with a “blanket” of clouds.

Place circle showing clouds and water (B-3).

CT

This was the second day! We cannot even understand how God could do such wonderful things, simply by speaking. But He did. How great is our Creator God! He has all power.

Day 3

God continued to carry out His wonderful, perfect plan for the universe. So He spoke again. "Let the waters below the sky be gathered into one place and let the dry land appear" (from Genesis 1:9). And it happened as God said it should. The waters moved together to one place and allowed dry land to appear. God called the land "earth" and the water "sea". On that same day God spoke again. "Let the earth produce plants" (from Genesis 1:11). It happened just as He said!

Place circle showing sea, trees and grass (B-4).

God used nothing to create these plants; He just spoke. I have brought with me something I have made (*perhaps a knitted sweater, paper flowers, soft toy, etc.*). When I was making it I needed ... (*outline what materials you needed, also the "tools" you used*). If I hadn't those things, if I had nothing, I just could not make it. You too like to make things but you need paper, glue, scissors, nails, etc. Only God can make things from nothing - He is very different from us! He is far, far greater. That is why the plants just started to grow. He also planned that the growing things had seeds so that more plants, grass and trees could grow from their seed. Even today it is just like that. Sow poppy seeds and you get poppies. Put acorns in the ground and you get oak trees. That was God's perfect plan.

I wonder, when you look at a beautiful flower, do you think of God who created it? Or when you look up at a giant oak tree, do you think of God the Creator? Do you ever say to Him, "God, You are so wonderful and great - thank You for making this"? God wants you to believe what is written in the Bible about Him creating the world. He also wants you to tell Him that you love Him and thank Him for all that He has made. He wants you to tell Him often, "God, You are very great, I love You and praise You for everything You have made." He deserves all the praise we can give Him - and far, far more! Only He could make such beautiful trees and plants from nothing. That all happened on the third wonderful day of creation.

Day 4

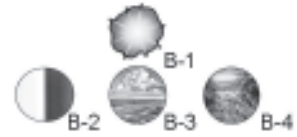
Can you remember what God did on day 1, day 2 and day 3?

Review with the children.

What would happen on day 4? God spoke again and created the sun, the moon and the stars

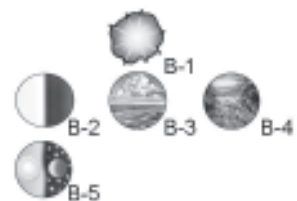
Place circle showing sun, moon and stars (B-5).

The sun is a great burning ball that gives light. The moon reflects the light of the sun. There are billions of stars and galaxies. God placed each one at exactly the right spot. And they have stayed perfectly in orbit for hundreds and thousands of years (Isaiah 40:26). We can



Flashcard 1-3

CTS



Flashcard 1-4

CTU

even use them to tell the correct time. Don't you feel ashamed that you do not love, worship and obey this great Creator God? It is sinful to disobey Him. It is wrong and bad not to love Him and not to give Him praise for all the things He has created. Perhaps you know that you are guilty today. When you think of His greatness, you are even a bit fearful. Have you left God the Creator out of your life? Will you not turn to Him today? The Bible says that Jesus Christ His Son died for sinners; He is the One who can bring you back to God. Ask Him to do that for you now and tell God that from today on you want to love, obey and praise Him as you should. The Bible says that the Lord Jesus is able to perfectly save those who come to God through Him (Hebrews 7:25). If you are concerned and do not know yet how you can come to God through Jesus Christ, stay in your seat when the meeting is over. I'll know you want to talk to me and I will try to answer your questions from the Bible. It is very important that you come to God, and then love and obey Him as your Creator. He is the One who made the sun, the moon and stars and put each in its place.

Day 5

On the fifth day God spoke again. "Let the waters be filled with swarms of living things, and let birds fly in the sky" (from Genesis 1:20).

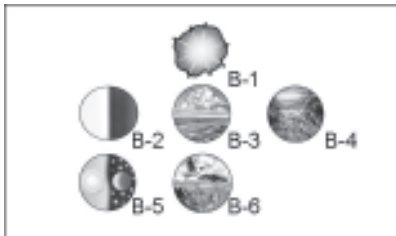
Place circle showing fish and birds (B-6.)

From nothing, only by His Word, God created big whales, tiny little goldfish and all sizes in between. He created eagles and sea-gulls. Can you tell me some of the birds you know?

Allow children to participate.

Yes, God made them all. He said that each fish would have fish "according to its kind" (from Genesis 1:21). That means from trouts' eggs would come baby trout, not sharks! The birds would lay eggs. From a sparrow's egg would come a sparrow and not a raven. That is still how it happens today.

No-one, not even the cleverest man, can make a real live sparrow, or darting goldfish. Only God can do this and we should be praising and thanking Him. Sometimes even those of us who love the Lord Jesus forget to thank God for what He has made. We do not tell Him He is very, very great and that we love Him. We just ask for things, but God wants us to worship Him. That means that we should think about His greatness and then tell Him from our hearts that He is great. We can worship Him too when we sing songs about His greatness and really mean them. Christian boy and girl, those of you who know and love the Lord Jesus, God wants you to worship Him. He deserves your praise. Some words in the Bible say, "Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our Maker"



Flashcard 1-5

CTS

Preschoolers will enjoy pretending to be birds flying and fish swimming.

(Psalm 95:6). That is what you should do when you think about how He created the world - worship Him!

Day 6

Day six came and again God spoke, “Let the earth bring forth living creature” (Genesis 1:24).

Place circle showing animals (B-7) but with man covered.

God made the animals from nothing. He made cattle, cows, sheep, horses and goats. He made cats and dogs too. He made creeping things - lizards, snails, worms and spiders. He made monkeys and dinosaurs - each one was a wonderful creation. God planned it that sheep would have lambs, cats would have kittens, elephants would have baby elephants, hens chicks, monkeys baby monkeys. That is the way it has always been and it is like that today. There are so many different kinds of animals in the world and the Lord God is their Creator. We read in the Bible what He thought of His creation, “God saw that it was good” (Genesis 1:25).

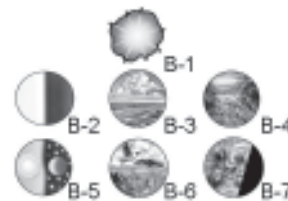
However, animals were not His only creation on this sixth day. God made something more wonderful, more special - different from all He had created. He made man - a grown-up man. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit spoke together about this special creation, for we read in the Bible, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness” (Genesis 1:26), they said. The Bible tells us that God formed the body of the first man out of the dust of the ground.

Our bodies are a great creation, but it is not our bodies that make us such a special, different creation. The Bible tells us that God breathed into the body of the first man “and man became a living being” (Genesis 2:7).

Remove paper covering man on figure B-7.

That had happened to nothing else God had created. God made man to be like Himself in some ways. So you and I are very different from the animals. How are we different? We can think up new ideas and make new things - animals don't do that. We can really talk with other people and with God - animals cannot. We can choose - animals don't make real choices. Most of all, we can know and worship God. We were made to know our Creator, to worship Him and to be with Him forever. An animal cannot know God. When an animal dies, that is the end of it. When a person dies, his soul lives on and on. So you see, people are different. The Bible says we are “fearfully and wonderfully made” (Psalm 139:14).

You must never forget that God made you. He is your Creator. What difference should that make to you? It means that you must one day answer to Him for everything you say, everything you do, everything



CT

Flashcard 1-6 (man covered)

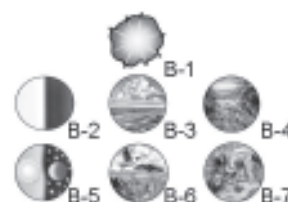
Let preschoolers act out the different animals mentioned.

Read, or have an older child read, the verse from your Bible.

This is a beautiful reference to the work of the Trinity. You may not want to get into a discussion of the Trinity with younger children, but if time allows you could discuss it further with an older class.

CTU

Flashcard 1-6



Take this opportunity to refute New Age teaching that man is just a higher form of animal. Help children see the unique and special way that God created man and the higher purpose for which we were created.

you think. It means that you should love and obey Him, your Creator. Perhaps you have never trusted Jesus Christ as your Saviour, so meeting your Creator will be a sad, frightening thing. You do not love Him and worship Him. You need to turn to Him today. Are you willing to turn away from your disobedient way of living and trust Jesus Christ to forgive you? If you do, then you will be ready to meet your Creator, for you will not have to answer for your sin. You will begin to love Him and obey Him as you should. You will be able to worship Him - to tell Him how great and wonderful He is. Never forget that God is very great; He is the Creator.

He put the first man in a very beautiful part of the world, called the Garden of Eden. Eden means "delight" - it was probably like a huge park. God put man in charge of all He had made.

Day 7

What would God do on the seventh day? The Bible answers that question too. God rested on the seventh day (Genesis 2:2). He did not rest because He was tired. God does not get tired (Isaiah 40:28). God rested because He was satisfied with His work of Creation and He had finished it. It was "very good" (Genesis 1:31).

CTS

If you love the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, remember to worship and praise God each day. He is the great Creator. He deserves your praise, He wants your worship. Think about His power and greatness, tell Him how wonderful He is. When you hear other stories about how the world began, remember what the Bible teaches. Keep on believing what God has said.

CTU

If Jesus Christ is not your Saviour, you cannot truly worship God, for your sin separates you from Him.

You are not ready to meet your Creator. That is a big problem for you. If in your heart, however, you truly want to love, obey and worship your Creator God, you can come to Jesus Christ today. If you ask Jesus Christ to forgive all the wrong you have done, He will make you a new person. "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). You will be a new person who can love and obey God and truly worship your Creator.

Review game

We win

Cut two lengths of string, each about one metre (3 ft) long. (Save the two strings to use again in the review game for lesson 4.)

Prepare two sets of five cards, A6 size. Fold them

Review questions

- 1 What does the word "Genesis" mean? ("Beginnings".)
- 2 What was the earth like before God created light? (Dark and empty.)
- 3 What materials did God use to make the sun, moon, plants, etc? (No materials, He created them out of nothing.)
- 4 What does it mean to "worship" God? (Tell Him from your heart in words or song how great He is.)

- 5 What does the Bible mean when it says God created the plants, each “according to its kind” (Genesis 1:11)? (Each plant would only bring forth the same sort of plant.)
- 6 On which day did God create man? (On the sixth day.)
- 7 What differences are there between man and animals? (Man is created in God’s image: can think up new things, make new things, make real choices, can know God and talk with Him, has a soul that lives on and on.)
- 8 Why could God create simply by speaking? (Because He is the almighty, all-powerful God.)
- 9 What did God do on the seventh day? (He rested.)
- 10 Repeat the very first words in the Bible. (“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” - Genesis 1:1.)

Carry-over activity

Supply each child with a sheet as shown on page 47.

Each child should draw a picture of something God made and for which he/she wants to thank Him.

in half and write “WE WIN” on the bottom portion of each, one letter per card.

Lay each set of cards face down.

Divide the class into two teams and ask two children from each team to hold a string between them.

Ask questions alternately between the teams.

When a child answers correctly he may choose one card from his team’s pile to hang on its string.

The team that gets its message in the right order first wins.

Preschool review game

Animal matching game

Cut four to six A6 cards in half and place a matching animal sticker on each half.

Set cards face down on a table or floor. (For younger preschoolers cards may be kept face up.)

After answering a review question, a child may choose two cards. If the pictures match he places them in front of him.

Continue until all questions have been asked.

Lesson 2

Sin comes into the world

Scripture for teachers

Genesis 2:9,15-25

Genesis 3:1-24

2 Corinthians 11:3

Central truth

Each one of us is a sinner

Application

Unsaved: Turn from your sin to Jesus Christ who alone can take away your sin

Memory verse

“... through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned” Romans 5:12

(Smaller children could learn up to the words “all men”.)

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 2-5 and 2-6

Or

- ◆ Figures: B-9, B-10, B-11, B-12, B-13, B-14, B-15 and B-16
- ◆ Backgrounds (optional): Outdoor or garden scene

Lesson outline

Introduction

“I wish there were no weeds in the world”

Progression of events

- 1 Adam names the animals
- 2 God creates a woman
- 3 God’s instructions to Adam and Eve **CTU**
- 4 Satan tempts Eve
- 5 Eve tastes the fruit and gives to Adam **CT**
- 6 They are afraid of God **CT**
- 7 They try to hide
- 8 God talks with them **CTU**
- 9 God punishes - the serpent, Adam and Eve
- 10 God provides skin clothes

Climax

God promises a Saviour **CTU**

Conclusion

Jesus Christ wants to save you

Though the exact location of the Garden of Eden is unknown, most commentators agree that it is located north of the Persian Gulf, near the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. See Genesis 2:10-14. The location of the other two rivers mentioned in this passage is unknown.



Flashcard 2-1



Allow preschoolers to name and make the sounds of various animals that came to Adam.



Flashcard 2-2

Have preschoolers pretend to sleep like Adam.

Lesson

“I wish there were no weeds in the world,” grumbled Alexander as he helped his father clear the back garden. They had recently moved house and the back garden was full of weeds, thistles and briars.

“At one time there were no weeds or thistles,” replied his dad, “but it was a long, long time ago.”

“When was that?” asked Alexander.

“It was when Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden. Adam never had to worry about weeds.”

“Lucky Adam!” muttered Alexander as he pulled away some briars, which scratched his face.

Yes, the world was a very different place when Adam lived in the Garden of Eden.

Place Adam (B-9).

Adam enjoyed looking after the garden. God gave him a special job to do. He showed Adam the animals one by one and ...

Scene 1

Place animals (B-10).

Adam named all the animals. God must have made Adam very wise so that he could give names to them all. He did not have to hide from the tigers or lions. There was not one animal that was dangerous. The animals did not fight, kill, or eat one another. All was peaceful in that perfect world.

But Adam was lonely. He could not be really close friends with any of the animals; he was different. Can you remember in what ways he was different?

Allow children to respond.

God knew that it wasn't good for Adam to be alone and He had a plan to take care of that too.

Remove all figures.

Scene 2

Place Adam (B-11).

God put Adam into a deep sleep. While Adam slept, guess what God did. He took out one of his ribs and closed up the place from which He had taken it. But what was He going to do with the rib? He did something very wonderful which only God can do. He made the rib into another person, a woman.

Scene 3

Replace Adam (B-11) with figure B-9 and place Eve (B-12).

What a surprise for Adam when he wakened! There she was - a beautiful woman. God gave her to Adam to be his wife. What a wonderful gift for Adam! Adam was no longer alone. He had someone to talk to and to love. He gave his wife a name - Eve.

Even before God made Eve He had said to Adam, "I have given you the trees of the garden for food. You may eat of all of them, except one. You must not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." There were many trees for Adam and Eve to enjoy, but they must remember this rule, "Do not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat of it, you will surely die" (from Genesis 2:16-17). God had made them. He knew what was best for them. He had every right to tell Adam and Eve what to do and what not to do. It is the same for you and me. He is our Maker and our Ruler. He has commanded us what to do, and what not to do. Can you tell me some of the things God has commanded we should do?

Allow children to participate.

For example, love God with all your heart, love your neighbour, obey your parents.

Can you name some of the things God has commanded we should not do?

For example, do not covet, do not steal, do not tell lies.

These are God's rules, we read them in the Bible. There is nobody here in club who has obeyed God's rules every day since he was born. I have disobeyed God, so have you. God calls disobedience "sin". The Bible says, "All have sinned" (Romans 3:23). In your heart you know that is true - you know that you have disobeyed God. Adam and Eve did not know at that time what it was to sin.

But there was someone in God's world who was determined that they would sin. This person hated God and wanted to spoil God's world. He wanted Adam and Eve to be bad, rather than good. This person was Satan, God's great enemy. Once he had been an angel in Heaven but he did not stay pure and good. He rebelled against God and God turned him out of Heaven as a punishment. He was a powerful enemy. But he was not as powerful as God. Satan (we also call him the devil) knew that if he could get Adam and Eve to disobey God they too could not live with God. That is just what Satan wanted, so he set out to trick them into disobeying their Creator and Ruler. He had a very crafty plan. He got one of the most beautiful animals, the serpent, to talk to Eve as she walked among the trees of the garden.

B-9

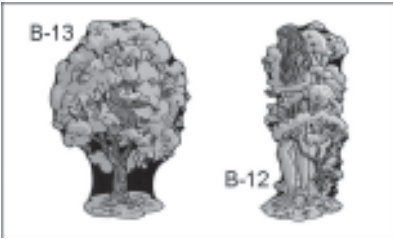


B-12


CTU

Read, or have an older child read, the verse from your Bible.

Flashcard 2-3



Children might enjoy role-playing the conversation between the serpent and Eve. Print the dialogue on cards for them to read.

Scene 4

Remove Adam (B-9). Place serpent (B-13).

“Did God really say that you must not eat of any tree in the garden?” the serpent asked.

Is that what God had said? No, Satan was trying to trick Eve into believing that God hardly allowed her and Adam to eat of any tree. But God had allowed them to eat the fruit of all the trees, except one. He was very kind and generous to them.

“We may eat of the fruit of all the trees except the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden. God said, ‘You shall not eat it, nor touch it, or you shall surely die.’ ” Eve replied.

Satan, using the serpent, wanted Eve to question what God said. “No, you shall not surely die. God knows that when you eat of that tree you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” The devil wanted Eve to think that God was trying to cheat her out of getting the best in life. Foolishly Eve listened to him. She moved closer to the tree and looked at the fruit. It looked so good ... really delicious. She thought she would like to be wise and know evil as well as good. She reached out her hand, touched the fruit and took it from the tree.

Scene 5

Place fruit (B14) in Eve’s hand.

Then she tasted it. She called her husband and gave him some fruit and he ate it too.

Remove serpent (B-13). Place Adam (B-9).

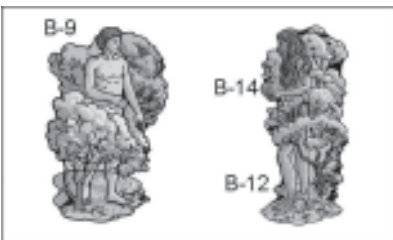
How wicked of them to disobey God who had made them, loved them and done so many wonderful things for them. Now they knew about evil, about sin.

They were afraid to meet God; they no longer truly loved Him. They felt very guilty. Now they were sinners. Because Adam and Eve gave in to Satan and disobeyed God, every person in the world today is a sinner too. Their sin made a big difference to you and me. It means that you and I are born sinners (Romans 3:23, 5:18). We are born wanting to disobey God, rather than obey Him. It’s a bit like being in a football team (*adapt example to your situation*) and someone in your team is going for a goal. If he scores, he does it for the whole team. If he misses, the whole team loses out. Adam is like the leader of our team; he “missed the goal”, by disobeying God, so we all lose out. All of us are disobedient and guilty because Adam was. The Bible says, “... through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned” (Romans 5:12).

With Adam’s sin a great change came into the world.

Remove all figures.

Flashcard 2-4



CT

Read, or have an older child read, the verse from your Bible.

Scene 6

Place Adam and Eve (B-15).

Adam and Eve felt ashamed. Suddenly they knew they were naked and hurriedly sewed fig leaves together as clothes.

God had warned that they would surely die if they disobeyed His command. Did that happen? Their bodies did not die immediately, although after many years that did happen. But at that moment Adam and Eve did die in another way, in a more dreadful way. Before their disobedience they had known God and loved Him in a very special way. Each day in the evening, God had come to the Garden of Eden and talked with them. They had always looked forward to those times. But now they were afraid of Him. Their friendship with God was destroyed. The Bible calls it “death” to be separated from God and that is what happened to Adam and Eve. That has happened to each one of us too. The Bible says, “in Adam all die” (1 Corinthians 15:22). That means that you and I are also separated from God. If you go on in your sinful way, you will never live with God, but will be separated from Him forever. This is the worst thing that could happen to anyone. How sad that sin came into our world!

Adam and Eve were afraid; they tried to hide from God - but nobody can do that! God knew exactly what had happened and where they were. He came to talk with them.

“Adam, where are you?” He asked.

Adam replied, “I heard Your voice in the garden and I was afraid because I was naked and I hid myself.”

Then God said, “How did you know you were naked? Have you eaten the fruit of the tree that I commanded you not to eat?”

Adam who was now bad, rather than good, started to blame his wife. He said, “The woman You gave me, she gave me some of the fruit of the tree and I ate it.”

Then God said to Eve, “What is this that you have done?”

Eve tried to blame the serpent, “It was the serpent, he persuaded me and I took the fruit.”

We can be just like them, can't we? We try to blame someone else for our sin. You say, “It was my sister, she started the quarrel,” or “I didn't mean to swear, it just happened,” or “I didn't really lie, I was just pretending.” God knows who is to blame. When you disobey Him, you are to blame! He wants you to be willing to say, “God, I have sinned, I am to blame.” Adam and Eve didn't want to own up to God but He knew everything they had done. He told them what would happen because of their sin.

First of all God spoke to the serpent. “Because you have done this you are cursed above every animal on the earth. You shall always

Flashcard 2-5



CT

You may want to have two children role-play Adam and Eve answering God's questions.

CTU

crawl on your belly, and you will eat dust all the days of your life.” This beautiful shining animal would no longer be attractive, instead people would be afraid of it and hate it. Since that day all snakes crawl on the ground.

Then God spoke to Eve. “You will suffer a lot,” He said, “especially when you are having children. And your husband shall rule over you.” And so sickness, weakness and pain came into the world for the first time.

God told Adam that from that time on he would have to work very hard to get enough food to eat. Thorns, weeds and thistles would grow, making it difficult for crops to do well. Adam would work and work, often sweating. Then he would die and his body would become dust.

God then put Adam and Eve out of the beautiful Garden of Eden. He placed heavenly creatures, cherubim, and a flaming sword flashing back and forth at the entrance, so they could never, never go back. Those perfect, happy days were over because Adam and Eve had disobeyed their Maker and Ruler.

The fig leaf clothes they wore were not very good. God gave them far better clothes made from skins of animals.

Scene 7

Replace Adam and Eve (B-15) with figure B-16.

The animals had to be killed for Adam and Eve to have these clothes. Probably God was showing, even then there could be forgiveness only through death and the pouring out of blood.

God also gave a wonderful promise. God promised that one day He would send Someone Who would destroy Satan’s power. Someone would come to rescue sinners from their sin. Someone would come Who could bring us back to God. You and I very much need that “Someone”, don’t we? God kept His promise and thousands of years later He sent that Person, His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ never disobeyed God. He was not a sinner. Yet, God punished His own dear Son for our disobedience. Jesus Christ was nailed to the cross and there He took the punishment we deserved. He poured out His blood and died for our sins, but He also rose from the dead showing that He had destroyed Satan’s power. He is the only One Who can bring you back to God, so that you are not separated from Him anymore. Jesus Christ is the only One Who can save you from your disobedience. He can help you to obey God, rather than disobeying Him. But you must depend on the Lord Jesus to do that for you. The Bible says, “He who hears My word and believes ... has passed from death into life” (John 5:24). If you are truly sorry for your disobedience and you no longer want to be cut off from God, come to Jesus Christ now. Tell Him, just where you are sitting (you

Flashcard 2-6



CTU

Read, or have an older child read, the verse from your Bible.

don't have to speak out loud) that you are sorry. Thank Him for being punished for your sin. Tell Him you want Him to be your Saviour. Ask Him to help you to obey God. It is a wonderful thing when Jesus Christ saves a boy or a girl. He wants to do that for you.

Review questions

- 1 When were there no thistles, weeds or briars in the world? (When Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden and there was no sin.)
- 2 How did God make the first woman? (Out of a rib of Adam.)
- 3 What happened each evening in the Garden of Eden? (God came to the garden each evening to talk with them.)
- 4 Why was it right that God should give Adam and Eve rules? (Because He had created them and He knew what was best for them.)
- 5 Who is determined to spoil what God has made? (Satan, the devil.)
- 6 Which of the animals did Satan use? (Serpent.)
- 7 What difference does Adam's sin make to you and me? (Because of that we are born sinners.)
- 8 Why is sin such a big problem for all of us? (Because it separates us from God, our Maker.)
- 9 What wonderful promise did God give to Adam and Eve? (He promised that one day He would send Someone who would destroy Satan's power, Someone who would rescue sinners from their sin, Someone who could bring us back to God.)
- 10 What did Adam and Eve try to do after they had disobeyed God? (Tried to hide from God.)
- 11 Name some of the changes that came as a result of sin. (Separated from God; blame others for own sin; snakes crawling on the ground; sickness, weakness and pain came into the world; death came into the world; animals eating each other; thorns, weeds and thistles started to grow; Adam and Eve could no longer live in the Garden of Eden.)
- 12 Why could Adam and Eve not return to the Garden of Eden? (Cherubim and a flaming sword guarded the entrance.)

Review game

String numbers

Cut twelve strings, 30-40 cm (12-15 in) long. Attach a slip of paper or masking tape to one end of each and number them 1-12.

Drape the strings over a flannelboard or the edges of a box so the numbers are concealed behind it.

Divide the class into two teams.

Alternate between the teams, calling on a child to choose a string. The number on his string determines which question he, or someone he chooses from his team, answers.

If he answers correctly his team earns the number of points on his string, multiplied by ten (eg question 4 = $4 \times 10 = 40$ points). The team earning the most points wins.

Preschool review game

The jump game

Place a 30 cm (12 in) strip of tape on the floor with adequate space in front of it for a child to jump.

When a child answers a question, have him stand feet together on the strip and then jump as far as he can. Place a short strip of tape with his initials where he lands.

After the game let the children give a cheer.

If time allows they can try to break their own records, but don't encourage competition.

Lesson 3

The first children (Cain and Abel)

Scripture for teachers

Genesis 4:1-16

Hebrews 11:4

Central truth

You must come to God in His way

Application

Unsaved: You must trust Jesus Christ as your Saviour, He is the only way to God

Saved: Thank God that you have trusted in Christ, the way to God

Memory verse

Review Romans 5:12

Or

If you are using this as an individual lesson, we suggest:

“... No one comes to the Father except through Me”
John 14:6

Visual aids

◆ Flashcards: 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5 and 3-6

Or

◆ Figures: B-1, B-17, B-18, B-19, B-20, B-21, B-22, B-23, B-24, B-25 and B-26

◆ Backgrounds (optional): Outdoor scene

Lesson outline

Introduction

The birth of the first baby

Progression of events

- 1 Abel is born
- 2 The boys grow up **CT**
- 3 Cain becomes a farmer
- 4 Abel becomes a shepherd
- 5 Abel brings an offering to God **CTU, CTS**
- 6 Cain brings an offering to God **CTU**
- 7 God accepts Abel and his offering **CTU**
- 8 God rejects Cain and his offering **CTU**
- 9 Cain is jealous and angry
- 10 God gives Cain another chance **CTU**

Climax

- 11 Cain murders Abel
- 12 God speaks with Cain

Conclusion

Cain leaves God's presence **CTU**

Flashcard 3-1



Preschoolers can pretend to cradle a baby in their arms.

Cain means "acquired." Eve apparently recognised that her son was given to her by God.

Flashcard 3-2

Abel means "breath."

You may want to choose four children to role-play this pretend conversation between Adam and Eve and their children. Print the words on cards for them to say.

CT



Lesson

Scene 1

Place Eve and baby Cain (B-17).

Adam and Eve looked with joy at their little baby boy. He was the first baby ever born in our world. Adam and Eve must have examined those tiny fingers, toes and ears. "We will name him Cain," said Eve, and Adam agreed.

Remove all figures.

Scene 2

Place Adam, Eve and two boys (B-18).

Some time afterwards a second baby was born to them. They named him Abel. Adam and Eve enjoyed watching Cain and Abel grow, seeing them learn to walk, hearing them learn to talk. When the boys got older they must have asked, "Tell us about the Garden of Eden."

Ask the children to pretend they are Adam and Eve and share what they would tell the boys. Include the beauty of the place, their friendship with God, life being easy, no weeds, no death, the cherubim at the entrance.

"Doesn't God love us now?" perhaps the boys asked.

As far as we know Adam and Eve explained, "Yes, although we don't deserve it, God has been kind to us. He has shown us a way to be forgiven. When we are sorry for our sin and kill an animal, letting its blood pour out, then God forgives us. It is important that you remember that." Even thousands of years before the Lord Jesus came God gave a picture of the only way to come to Him. The animal dying was a picture of what God's Son would do. We cannot come near to God because of our sin. But Jesus Christ, God's Son, had no sin. He came from Heaven. He lived a perfect life and then died on the cross in the place of sinners like you and me. His precious blood poured out to put away our sin. He is not dead today - for He rose from the dead and He alone is the One who can bring you back to God. This is God's way and there is no other way to come to Him. It is very important that you remember this, just as it was very important for Cain and Abel to remember about the animal sacrifices.

Cain and Abel never went to school. Their parents taught them. They learned about farming. They learned to work. They helped with pulling out the weeds, and many times they became hot and tired long before the work was finished.

But Adam and Eve did not have to teach their boys how to quarrel or disobey. They did wrong things without being taught because they were born sinners, wanting to disobey God, rather than wanting to obey Him. It is the same with you and me. You find it easy to tell a lie to get out of trouble. It is easy to think mean things about the teacher. Very quickly you lose your temper and shout. These wrong things

CT

(called sin in the Bible) keep you away from God. You must have that sin forgiven or you can never live with Him. God is the One Who decides how a sinner can come to Him. You and I must come to Him, in His way. This was true for Cain and Abel too.

Remove all figures.

Scene 3

Place Cain (B-21).

As the boys grew older Cain enjoyed learning about growing things - plants, vegetables, flowers, fruit. He pulled weeds and worked hard to get good crops. He liked to feel the soft earth as he worked in it, planting, hoeing and raking. He was proud of the beautiful plants and trees and delicious food he grew. The Bible says, "Cain was a tiller of the ground," (Genesis 4:2) which means he was a farmer.

Place Abel (B-19) and sheep (B-20).

Abel liked animals better than plants and trees. He especially enjoyed the sheep and the lambs. He protected them from danger. He led them to food and water. The Bible says, "Abel was a keeper of sheep," (Genesis 4:2) which means he was a shepherd.

But, as we have seen, these two boys were sinners. They began to think about how things were between them and God. Their sin kept them away from God. Something had to be done about it. From Adam and Eve they had learned the one way to come to God and be forgiven. That way was the death of an animal in their place, when the blood of the animal would pour out. In Hebrews 9:22 we read that "without shedding of blood there is no remission [forgiveness]". That was God's way.

Scene 4

Remove sheep (B-20).

Would they come God's way? Abel went out to his sheep and carefully looked at them. He chose the very best, killed it, let the blood pour out.

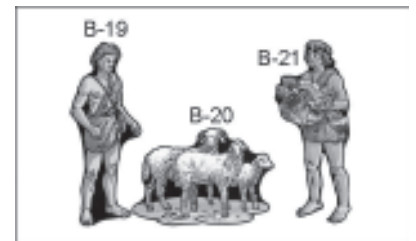
Place Abel's altar (B-23).

As he did that, he trusted God to forgive him his sin. The Bible tells us he had faith in God (Hebrews 11:4). He came to God in the way God had shown he should. How wise! God wants you to know that you too must come to Him in His way. His way now is not through the killing of an animal. God's way for you is to come through Jesus Christ. He is called the "Lamb of God" in the Bible. God gave His only Son to be the last sacrifice for sin forever. Jesus Christ died for sin on the cross. His precious blood was given for our forgiveness. You must be willing to turn from your sin, believe that Jesus Christ was the sacrifice for your sin, and ask the Lord Jesus to forgive you.

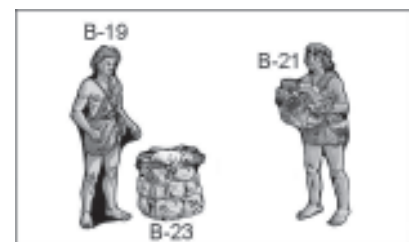


Preschoolers will enjoy pretending to be shepherds like Abel and farmers like Cain.

Flashcard 3-3



It is not clear from scripture whether Cain and Abel had observed Adam bringing offerings to God or if God had somehow communicated that offerings were to be brought, but it is apparent from Genesis 4:3 that there was a set time for offerings to be made.



CTU

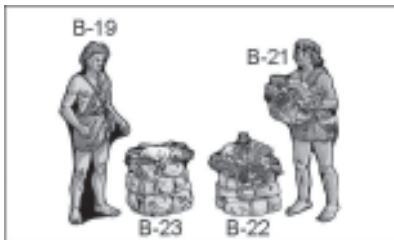
You may need to explain "sacrifice".

See Hebrews 11:4. Abel is mentioned first in a list of Bible people who were

CTS

counted righteous before God because of their faith. Abel's faith must have embraced the promise God made in Genesis 3:15 of a Saviour to come.

Flashcard 3-4



CTU

There are differing opinions as to why Cain's offering was rejected by God.

CTU

Some commentators believe it had more to do with the type of offering brought. Some also feel that the system of offerings was not established until the Levitical laws. However, burnt offerings are mentioned in the book of Job, the oldest book of the Bible (Job 42:8). Since Hebrews distinguishes Abel's offering as being given

CTU

That is the only way to God. If you have come to God through the Lord Jesus, you should thank Him every day that your sins have been forgiven and that you belong to Him. If you do not come in God's way, you cannot come to God at all. Abel came to God in God's way. Would his brother do the same?

Cain looked at the things he had grown, the fruit and vegetables he was so proud of. Perhaps he thought, "Nothing could be better than these. I am sure God will be pleased. I'm sure He will welcome me. What I am doing is very good."

Place Cain's altar (B-22).

But this was not the way God had shown.

Perhaps you are like Cain - you have your own ideas about how you can be welcomed by God and forgiven. Maybe you think, "I try to be good, and I am better than most in my class at school anyway." No matter how good you are, you are still a sinner. Trying to be good will never make you right with God. That is not His way - His way is through Jesus Christ.

Perhaps you think, "I say my prayers, I go to Holy Communion and church." But these things in themselves do not bring you to God; the way to God is through Jesus Christ.

Or maybe someone has told you, "You are still young, God will never keep you out of Heaven." The Bible says that even since you were born you have gone against God (Romans 3:23, 5:18). You are not very old, but you too must come God's way, through Jesus Christ.

Are you trying to come to God your way, rather than God's - just like Cain?

What will God think of Cain's and Abel's different offerings? God made it very clear what He thought. The Bible says that God accepted Abel and his offering of the animal. Abel was forgiven by God. How thankful and happy he was! You can be just like him - forgiven and welcomed by God. You must believe that Jesus Christ bled and died as a sacrifice for your sin, you must depend on Him to forgive you. If you do, then God will accept you, you will be right with Him. Perhaps you are saying to yourself, "Yes, I want to be like that, but I don't know how." If so, I will be happy to explain more to you about it from the Bible at the end of the meeting. Just stay in your seat (*or designate other place*) when the others leave and I will know you want to talk with me about how you can be right with God like Abel.

Cain, however, was neither happy nor thankful. God made it very plain that He did not accept Cain or his offering. His offering was not what God had commanded. Cain's heart and life were full of sin and Cain didn't want to turn from that sin. He did not want to come to God in God's way. How sad that you could be like Cain. You try to be good, you pray and go to church. You are not depending on Jesus

Christ alone to forgive you. You too must know for sure God will not accept you, because you must come in His way. God will not change His mind about that. He always means what He says. So He refused Cain and his offering. Cain was jealous of his brother, he was angry with God. On his face he had a dark scowl.

Scene 5

Place symbol for God (B-1). Replace Cain (B-21) with figure B-24. Remove Abel (B-19) and Abel's altar (B-23).

“Why are you angry Cain?” God asked. “Why do you look so mean? If you do what is right I will accept you. Right now, sin is crouching like a wild animal, ready to get you. Which way are you going to go?”

God was giving Cain another chance. How kind He is! Which way would Cain go, God’s way or his own? Sadly, Cain kept the angry scowl on his face and the jealous thoughts in his heart. He refused to bring an animal sacrifice. He did not have faith in God.

Is there a boy or a girl here today and God is speaking to you again? You remember a time when you knew that you must come to Jesus Christ and depend on Him to take away your sin. But you didn’t do it. Today, it is just the same. Deep down in your heart you know that you must trust Jesus Christ, that He is the only way to God. God has been very kind to you though you didn’t deserve it. Trust in Jesus Christ, do it today. The Bible says, “Now is the day of salvation” (2 Corinthians 6:2). Don’t be like Cain who refused God’s kindness.

Remove all figures.

The days passed. The brothers went on with their work but Cain was determined to get his own back on his brother.

One day they were in the field together and Cain did a dreadful thing - he murdered his brother. Thud! Abel’s body fell to the ground and his blood made the earth around it red.

Scene 6

Place Abel (B-25).

Perhaps Cain thought, “We are alone. Nobody has seen what I did.” But he was wrong. God saw, and God spoke.

Remove Abel (B-25).

Scene 7

Place Cain (B-24) and symbol for God (B-1).

“Cain, where is your brother Abel?”

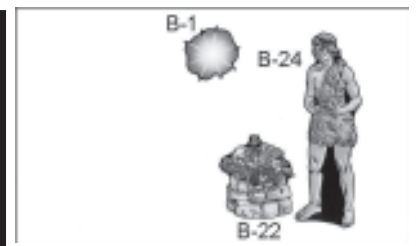
“I don’t know where he is,” Cain lied. “Must I take care of him?”

Of course God knew all that had happened but once more He was giving Cain a chance to confess his sin and turn from it. But Cain

by faith, it seems likely that he was following the example set by God when the animals were slain to make coverings for Adam and Eve. Scripture is consistent in teaching

Flashcard 3-5

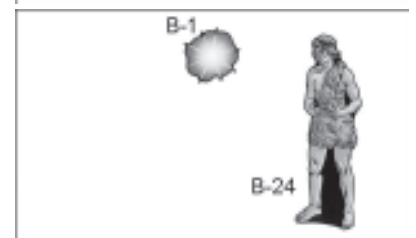
that faith counted for righteousness is always faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His blood sacrifice for sin. Abel’s faith looked forward to that promise, while our faith looks back on the promise fulfilled.



CTU

Read, or have an older child read, the verse from your Bible.

Flashcard 3-6



didn't want God's kindness, he did not want to come to God in God's way.

God spoke again. "Cain, what have you done? Your brother's blood calls to me from the ground. The ground which soaked up his blood shall not be your friend any longer. You will never again be able to grow beautiful fruit and vegetables. From now on all your hard work will only bring you small crops and little fruit. You will have no place to live, you will be a wanderer."

CTU

Did Cain deserve this punishment? Yes, he did. God's punishment is always fair. If you refuse to come to God in His way then you too must be punished for your sin. God must put you away from Him forever. Don't you see how important it is to be forgiven in the way God says, and to come to God in His way?

Scene 8

Replace Cain (B-24) with figure B-26.

Cain foolishly refused. When he heard what was going to happen to him he was scared and sorry for himself.

"My punishment is too great," he whined. "As I wander around the earth and other people get to know who I am, they'll kill me."

"I will protect you from that," God said. "I will put a mark on you so anyone will know you are Cain and I will also let them know that if they kill you, they will be severely punished."

God was still showing kindness to Cain. But the next words in the Bible are very sad words, "Cain went out from the presence of the Lord" (Genesis 4:16).

Remove Cain (B-26).

He also left his father and mother and went to a far away country called Nod. There he lived a lonely life. Had he made a good choice? No! He refused to come to God in God's way so he was far away from God, still full of sin.

CTU

Do not be like him! If you have been trying other ways to come to God, turn away from them. Trust Jesus Christ. Just where you are sitting, without talking out loud, tell Him, "Lord Jesus, You are the way to God. I know You sacrificed Yourself on the cross for my sin. Please forgive me and make me right with God." This is God's way. You will be forgiven and welcomed by God, just as Abel was.

It is not known whether this was a physical mark on Cain's body or some other type of indication.

Read, or have an older child read, the verse from your Bible.

Review game

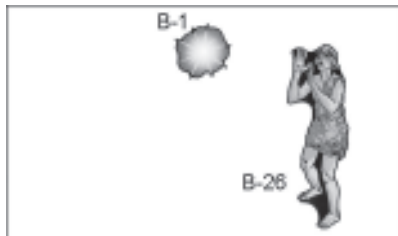
String drop

Divide the class into teams and ask questions of the teams alternately.

If a child answers correctly, he may stand

Review questions

- 1 Who was the first baby ever born? (Cain.)
- 2 Which son was a shepherd and which son was a farmer? (Abel was a shepherd and Cain was a farmer.)
- 3 Why did Cain and Abel have to bring an offering? (Because there was sin in their lives/because they were sinners.)



- 4 What is the death of the lamb a picture of? (Of the death of the Lord Jesus.)
- 5 How could you be like Cain? (Trying to come to God in my own way - like trying to be good, etc.)
- 6 How could you be like Abel? (Coming to God in His way - believe that the Lord Jesus died for my sin and ask Him to forgive me.)
- 7 Which son was accepted by God? (Abel - he believed God.)
- 8 How did Cain feel about this? (He was very angry.)
- 9 What did Cain do to his brother? (He killed Abel.)
- 10 How did God punish Cain? (His hard work would only give him small crops and he would be a wanderer.)

over a paper plate and try to drop a 30 cm (12 in) string on it. If the entire string lands on the plate he earns 100 points; 50 points if only part of the string lands on the plate; 25 points if the string misses the plate.

The team earning the most points wins.

Preschool review game

The jump game

(See lesson 2 - page 21.)

Lesson 4

Walking with God (Enoch)

Scripture for teachers

Genesis 4:16-22,25-26

Genesis 5:1-29

Hebrews 11:5

Central truth

You can know God

Application

Unsaved: You come to know Him through Jesus Christ

Saved: Get to know Him better

Memory verse

“And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent” John 17:3

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5 and 4-6

Or

- ◆ Figures: B-1, B-16, B-27, B-28, B-29, B-30 and B-31
- ◆ Backgrounds (optional): No scenic backgrounds are needed for this lesson. A plain blue may be used for final scenes.

And

- ◆ Prepare wordstrips: “talk”, “listen”, “spend time” and “obey”.
- ◆ Choose two children who are close friends and prepare dialogue with them a few days before club/meeting. It will not be exactly as it is in the text - adapt it to describe their friendship.

Lesson outline

Introduction

Philip and the TV star

CT

Progression of events

1 Cain’s descendants are clever

2 They do not know God

CT

3 Birth of Seth

4 Birth of Enoch

5 Enoch knows God

CTU

- knowing God by talking

CTS

- knowing God by listening

CTS

- knowing God by spending time

CTS

- knowing God by obeying

CTS

Climax and conclusion

Enoch is taken to Heaven

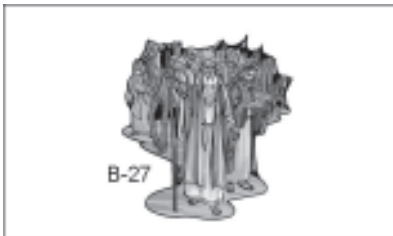
CTS, CTU

Preschool lesson - This is difficult to teach to preschoolers and you may wish to skip this lesson and instead teach the story of Noah (lesson 5). Preschool tips are included in the sidebars for those who choose to use this lesson.

Most commentators agree that Cain must have married a sister, since according to Genesis 5:4 Adam and Eve had other children.

CT

Flashcard 4-1



Flashcard 4-2

Show map with the assumed sites of these ancient places, and let children locate Eden and Nod.

The harp was most likely a lyre, and what is often translated "organ" was actually a flute.

The seventh generation from Adam on Cain's side was Lamech. He had two wives - the first mention of polygamy in the Bible. He

CT

Lesson

Philip really wanted his autograph for he starred in Philip's favourite TV programme.

Put in name of "star" throughout the text to suit your situation.

The TV personality would come to open a new part of the hospital. Philip went along very early that day so as to get a good view. Finally the star arrived. Philip could hardly wait for a chance to ask for his autograph. "He is not talking to anyone now, this is my chance," thought Philip. His heart thumped with excitement as he approached this famous man. "Please, Sir, may I have your autograph?" he asked politely.

"Sure!" replied the TV star. "And what is your name?" Philip told him and the TV star even took time to talk with Philip. He told Philip about his family, that he had a model train, that he liked goldfish. Then he said, "I say, Philip, I'm showing a group of boys around the studio next Saturday. Would you like to come too?" Philip couldn't believe it as the man gave him a ticket for this special visit. That night he could hardly sleep. It was good to have the autograph, but talking to him and listening to him was far better! And he would see him again next Saturday! Yes, it is exciting to get to meet someone famous like that. But it is even more wonderful to get to know Someone far greater than any TV star. The Lord God wants you to know Him. He, the Creator of everything, made you so that you can know Him. Adam and Eve knew God in the Garden of Eden in a very special way. He talked with them. They talked with Him. He was their God and their Friend. Although God is spirit and has no body, He is a person. He thinks, feels, speaks. He is Someone you can know.

It was sad that Adam and Eve lost that special friendship with God. There was a lot of sadness in the world now. How sad Adam and Eve were when their son Abel was murdered. How sad they were when angry Cain and his wife left home.

Scene 1

Place Cain and descendants (B-27).

In the land of Nod Cain and his wife had children, and in turn their children had children and so on. Probably many of these people were like Cain and refused to love and trust God. But many of them were very clever people. One was the first man to make musical instruments. He made things like a flute and a harp. So for the first time ever these musical sounds were heard. Another discovered how to make iron and brass red hot until they were soft. Then he could beat them into shapes making knives, swords and ploughs. What a difference those inventions made. But these clever people did not know God. Being clever is not any help when it comes to knowing Him - the Bible tells us that "the world through wisdom did not

know God” (1 Corinthians 1:21). God makes Himself known to people. He helps them to understand what is written about Him in the Bible. He helps people to get to know Him. It is good to remember that, because it means that you do not have to wait until you have learned a lot at school. In fact the Bible tells us that God often makes Himself known to children. He wants you to know Him. He wants to be real in your life. Just as He still wanted Adam’s family to know Him.

Remove all figures.

Scene 2

Place Adam and Eve (B-16) and baby Seth (B-28).

God gave Adam and Eve another baby boy to take Abel’s place.

They named him Seth. When Seth grew up he and his family did want to know and obey the Lord God.

Remove all figures.

Scene 3

Place Seth and descendants (B-29).

God was pleased to help them to know Him. Adam and Eve could teach the things they knew about God to their grandchildren, and great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren. You may think, great-great grandchildren ... that’s a lot of “greats”.

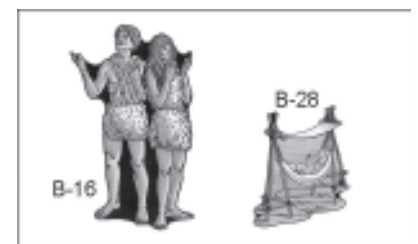
Well, listen to this - before Adam died he had great-great-great-great-great-great (*count six on your fingers*) grandchildren. Adam was 930 years old when he died - nearly 1,000 years old! At that time people lived far longer than they do now. We are not sure why. Perhaps it was because the world was a much healthier place and the people were more fit. Perhaps God allowed it so that the older people could teach the younger ones. That was how they learned - they had no books.

Adam had a great-great-great-great grandson called Enoch. I’m sure he taught Enoch many things. We do not read much about Enoch in the Bible, but all that we do read about him is good.

Enoch certainly learned about God from others - not from a Bible for they didn’t have a Bible then. He learned about sin, how he was a sinner, that he needed to be forgiven. He learned that God had promised to send a Saviour, One who would take away sin and break Satan’s power. Enoch didn’t only know these things, he came to put his trust in God. He believed that one day God would send a Saviour and so depended on God to forgive him. He not only knew about God. He came to know God. There is all the difference between knowing about someone, and knowing that person. Philip, whom we mentioned at the beginning, knew a lot about the TV star. But what a difference it made when he met him and talked to him! Only then did he know him personally. It may be that you know a lot about

also boasted about a murder he had committed (Genesis 4:23-24). While the culture that developed around Cain’s family was advanced in many ways, they were interested mainly in the selfish pursuit of pleasure. They seemed to have no desire to know or please God. Enoch’s words in Jude 14-15 indicate the sinfulness of the world at that time.

Flashcard 4-3



Seth means “appointed one.”

Flashcard 4-4

“Then men began to proclaim the name of Yahweh” is the literal translation of this phrase from Genesis 4:26.



Preschoolers will enjoy counting the four “greats” with you.

See Hebrews 11:5 for a tribute to Enoch’s faith and obedience.

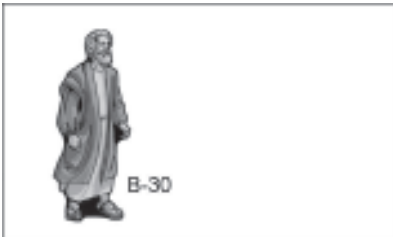
Enoch means “consecrated” or “dedicated”. This is a different person than the

CTU

Enoch mentioned in Genesis 4:17, who was Cain’s son. The Enoch in Seth’s family was a contemporary of Adam’s other great, great, great, great grandson, Lamech.

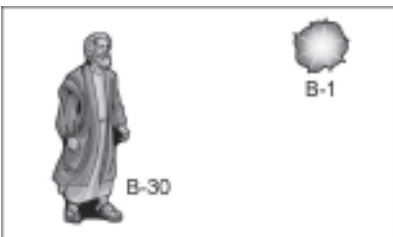
Read, or have an older child read, the verse from your Bible.

Flashcard 4-5



There are a number of theories explaining why people lived such long lives in ancient times. Some think it was because of the healthier climate. They may have also had healthier bodies because sin had only begun to have an effect. Others believe it was God's means for populating the new earth more quickly.

CTS



God. You can answer the quiz questions. But, you have never got rid of that sin in your life that keeps you away from God. So God is not real in your life. You know about Him, but you do not know Him personally. You need to come to Jesus Christ, the Saviour Who came as God promised. He has died for sin. He has broken Satan's power. He can forgive you today. Then you will begin to know God. He said, "No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). It is through Jesus Christ that you get to know God. Perhaps you do not understand this, but you really do want to know God. If that is so, I'll be glad to talk with you when the meeting is over. Just come and sit on one of the seats at the front (*or designate another suitable place*) and I'll know that you want to talk with me about this. It is a wonderful thing when God is real in your life and you truly know Him as Enoch did.

Remove all figures.

Scene 4

Place Enoch (B-30).

When Enoch grew up he got married. When he was 65 years old his wife had a little baby boy whom they called Methuselah. As they watched their little boy grow up I'm sure they never thought that he would be the oldest person mentioned in the Bible! He didn't die until he was 969 years old! Yet he died before Enoch, his father! That is a puzzle. How could Methuselah be the oldest man mentioned in the Bible and yet die before his father? We will discover the answer at the end of the lesson. If you know the answer, just keep it a secret until then!

Methuselah was different because he lived for so long. Enoch, his father, was special for another reason. The Bible says that Enoch "walked with God" (Genesis 5:22). What does that mean?

Allow children to participate.

When you go for a walk with someone, you talk and listen to each other, you stay together. It was just like that with God and Enoch. Enoch got to know God very well.

Place symbol for God (B-1).

God wants you to know Him too. If you have trusted Jesus Christ as your Saviour, that is just the beginning of getting to know God. You should be getting to know Him better as time goes by.

Beforehand prepare dialogue with two older children. Do not use the script exactly, adapt to show how the two children you choose actually got to know each other.

We all know that Kathy and Sharon are good friends. They are going to tell us how they got to know each other.

Sharon We go to the same school. On the first day we sat beside each other. So we got talking.

Kathy Sharon told me where she lived.
 Sharon Kathy told me she liked cats and had a pet called Betsy.
 Kathy Sharon told me she had a baby brother.
 Sharon Kathy told me she wanted to be a nurse.

Teacher You talked a lot! That is one way to get to know a person. If you know the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, then talk to God often.

Place wordstrip "talk".

That is one way to get to know Him better. Spend some time every day telling Him different things. You can tell God you love Him, tell Him that you think He is very great, tell Him you are sorry for something wrong you have done, thank Him for something He has done for you or given you, share your problems with Him. If you don't talk to Him, you will not get to know Him better.

Now Kathy, supposing Sharon did all the talking and never listened to you. How would you feel?

Kathy I wouldn't like it at all. She couldn't get to know me if she didn't listen. But she doesn't talk all the time, she listens as well.

Teacher That's good. It's like that with God. If you are a Christian, you also get to know God better by listening to what He says.

Place wordstrip "listen".

The best way to listen to God is to read a little of the Bible each day. Try to remember and think about what you read. Also when you come here and listen to the Bible being taught, God will speak to you and you should listen.

Sharon and Kathy, do you spend a lot of time together?

Sharon Yes, we play together at school.
 Kathy Also, we visit each other. Sometimes we stay overnight with each other.
 Sharon And we can telephone each other.

Teacher If you didn't spend time together you wouldn't be such good friends. God wants every Christian to spend time with Him.

Place wordstrip "spend time".

Every day you should try to have a special time when you can be quiet, read the Bible and talk to God. Some Christians have this time with God before they go to

CTS

CTS

CTS

CTS

school; others have it when they get home and before they watch TV or do homework; others spend this time with God before they go to sleep at night. You know what time is best for you. God wants you to know Him better, so make sure you spend time with Him.

Enoch spent a lot of time with God. That is why the Bible says he “walked with God”. Enoch also did what God told him to do. It is important to obey God if you want to know Him well.

Place wordstrip “obey”.

You cannot be close to God if you are disobedient. So when you read something in the Bible which you should do, then do it. When you read something that God doesn’t want you to do, then don’t do it. Obey God!

Can you remember the four things you should do as a Christian? (Talk to God, listen to God, spend time with God, obey God.)

Enoch did all of these for over 300 years. Then one day his family and friends could not find him.

Remove all figures.

Scene 5

Read, or have an older child read, the verse from your Bible.

Flashcard 4-6



Perhaps one asked another, “Have you seen Enoch?” “Do you know where Enoch is?” They looked everywhere but didn’t find him. He wasn’t there. The Bible says, “He was not, for God took him” (Genesis 5:24).

Place Enoch (B-31).

That means that God moved him from earth to Heaven. He did not die. That is why we can say that Methuselah died before his father, for Enoch never died! This happened to just two people in the Bible - the other person was Elijah.

CTS

In Heaven Enoch now knows God in a better way than he ever did before. If you love the Lord Jesus you too will go to Heaven and there you will get to know God even better than you know Him now. Only the Christians who are alive when the Lord Jesus comes back will not have to die. But even if you die before that, your soul - the real you - will go to Heaven. You will be with God, you will know Him forever and ever. How wonderful!

CTU

But this is only for those who trust Jesus Christ as Saviour and begin to know God. What about you? Today you can trust the Lord Jesus to forgive all your sin and to bring you to God. Today you can begin to really know God - He wants you to know Him!

Review questions

- 1 Who is the most important Person whom you can know? (God.)
- 2 What inventions did some of Cain’s family make? (Musical instruments like flute and harp; tools out of brass and iron like knives, etc.)
- 3 Why do you not have to wait until you have learned a lot, before you can know God? (Because God helps people to understand Him and what He has shown about Himself in the Bible, He often makes Himself known to children.)
- 4 Who “walked with God” in our lesson? (Enoch.)
- 5 How do you come to know God as real in your life? (By asking the Lord Jesus to forgive your sin.)
- 6 Can you remember four ways in which a Christian can get to know God better? (Talk - pray; listen - read your Bible; spend time - have a special time each day; obey - do and don’t do things as He shows you in the Bible.)
- 7 What big surprise did Enoch’s friends and relatives get one day? (Enoch was no more, because God took him away.)
- 8 Where was Enoch? (In Heaven.)

Review game

Mystery words

Prepare two sets of five or six cards. Fold them in half and write a mystery word on the bottom portion of each, one letter per card. (Choose words from the lesson, memory verse, songs, etc.)

Cut two lengths of string, each about one metre (3 ft) long, or use the ones from lesson 1.

Divide the class into two teams and ask two children from each team to hold a string between them.

Hang the cards for each word in order, inside out, one word on each string.

Ask questions alternately between the teams.

When a child answers correctly his team earns 100 points and he may flip a card on his team’s string to reveal a letter. If he guesses the word his team earns 200 points.

The team earning the most points wins.

Preschool review game

Animal matching game

(See lesson 1 - page 13.)

Lesson 5

God will punish sin (Noah)

Scripture for teachers

Genesis 6:1 - 9:17

Hebrews 11:7

2 Peter 2:5

Central truth

God will punish sin

Application

Unsaved: Come to Christ and you will be safe from judgement

Saved: You can be sure you are safe from judgement

Memory verse

Review John 17:3

Or

If you are using this as an individual lesson, we suggest:

“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus ...” Romans 8:1

Visual aids

◆ Flashcards: 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 5-4, 5-5 and 5-6

Or

◆ Figures: B-1, B-23, B-32, B-33, B-34, B-35, B-36, B-37, B-38, B-39, B-40, B-41 and B-42

◆ Backgrounds (optional): Outdoor and water scenes

◆ Cut along dotted line of ark (figure B-36) so that the door can be opened and closed at the appropriate place in the lesson

And

◆ Red flag, or sign with “Caution” or “Danger ahead” printed on it

Lesson outline

Introduction

Talking about a red flag

Progression of events

1 People disobey God

2 Noah lives righteously

3 God speaks to Noah **CT**

4 Noah preaches **CT**

5 Noah builds the ark

6 The people mock **CTU**

7 The ark is finished

8 The animals go in

9 Noah and his family go in

Climax

10 The flood comes

11 All outside the ark die **CTU**

12 All inside are safe **CTU**

13 The ark rests on Mount Ararat **CTS**

14 Noah and his family come out of the ark and worship God **CTS**

Conclusion

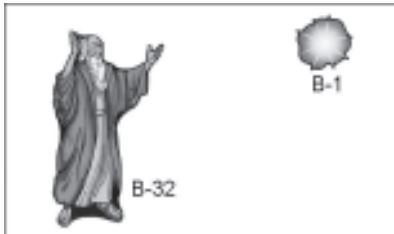
God places rainbow in the sky **CTU**

Alternatively, you could use a sign with "Caution" or "Danger ahead" printed on it, and adapt the examples accordingly.

Preschool lesson - If you skipped lesson 4, omit any mention of Enoch.

Flashcard 5-1

If you have new children in class, let children who were there for the previous lesson recall events from the story.



Flashcard 5-2

Lesson

When you see a red flag (*if you have one, show it*) what does it mean?

Allow children to participate.

You may see it along the road - there are roadworks, or at the coast to show that you should not swim, or on a truck to show that there is something sticking out. It is a warning sign. If you pay no attention to the warning you are in danger.

Scene 1

Long ago there were many, many people in great danger. Around the time of Enoch and afterwards the people turned against God and disobeyed His rules. They began doing things their own way. It was as if the people thought and planned all the time to do things that would be most horrible to God. Indeed the people were so bad that God was sorry He had made them.

But there was one man who loved God and obeyed Him.

Place Noah (B-32).

This was Enoch's grandson Noah. The Bible says just the same about him as it did about Enoch - he "walked with God" (Genesis 6:9).

Place symbol for God (B-1).

It was to Noah that God spoke about what He was going to do about all the wickedness and sin in the world. "I cannot let this wickedness continue. I will destroy man whom I have created." God told Noah that He would send a terrible flood on the whole earth as a punishment for the people's sin. God is so good and pure that He can never say, "It doesn't matter when people disobey Me." He is holy and He hates sin. He must act against it and punish it. When He punishes, it is always a just and fair punishment. It is always what the person who has disobeyed deserves.

CT

This was what Noah told the people after God had spoken to him. He was then 480 years old. He told the people that God hated their disobedience. He preached that they should turn from their sin to God. He warned them of the terrible punishment that was coming. But they refused to listen to the warnings. It seems that Noah's wife and his three sons Shem, Ham and Japheth were the only ones who listened. Aunts, uncles, cousins and all the others paid no attention to God's warning.

CT

It may be that God is warning you today. There are wrong things in your life that displease Him. You have been selfish. Your brother wanted to borrow one of your books to read, but you would not allow him. You displeased God who says that you should love God most and others as much as yourself (Matthew 22:37-39). But you love yourself most and that displeases God very much. Or perhaps you are bad-tempered when you are told to switch off the TV, or you

tell lies to get out of trouble. These, and many other wrong things you do, show the sin that is in your life and God has a warning for you: He must and will punish your sin. The punishment will not be a great flood, but to be put away from Him forever. That is the worst thing that could happen to anyone. Think carefully about God’s warnings and don’t be like the people who refused to listen to Noah.

Remove all figures.

Scene 2

Preaching wasn’t the only thing Noah did at this time. God had told him to do something very, very unusual. He was building a boat, the Bible calls it an ark.

Place ark (B-34).

The ark was very large! Noah had three sons and he must have explained to them when they were still young, “God told me to build an ark because He is going to send a flood. He will destroy everyone from all the earth because of their wickedness. I am warning the people to turn to God and turn away from their sins. We want many to come with us into the ark and be saved from the terrible flood.”

As they grew into men, Shem, Ham and Japheth each found a young woman who was willing to become his wife and be Noah’s daughter-in-law. The friends of these young women probably made fun of them.

Place mocking people (B-35).

But the young women too, were willing to stand for God, though others around mocked and went their wicked way.

Place Noah (B-33).

Each day Noah and his family worked on the ark. Cutting trees, carrying logs, getting them shaped and hammered into place. The people must have stood by and made fun of them. They had never seen a boat like this. They also had never seen rain and Noah was telling them that water would fall from the sky. He said God would punish them but they laughed, they just went on in their bad ways and nothing happened. I’m sure they mocked Noah and his family.

“Hey, ark builders, you’d better hurry. You might not get your boat built before it starts to rain.”

“Won’t you feel stupid sitting in a boat where there is no water?”

“Crazy old Noah!”

For many, many years the people mocked Noah. They didn’t change their ways and they seemed to get away with it. It did not seem as if God was going to punish anyone, but He had said He would! It is just like that today. Many people disobey God and nothing happens to them. You cheat in school, God does not punish you. You think



Flashcard 5-3

If possible, make comparisons of the ark’s size to buildings or other landmarks familiar to your class. *The Ryrie Study Bible* (Moody Press, Chicago, 1978) states that the ark’s “carrying capacity equalled that of 522 standard railroad stock cars (each of which can hold up to 240 sheep) ... Today it is estimated that there are 17,600 species of animals making 45,000 a likely approximation of the number Noah might have taken into the ark.”

Preschoolers will enjoy pretending to build the ark.

See Hebrews 11:7.

See 2 Peter 2:5.



CTU

Read, or have an older child read, the verse from your Bible.

mean thoughts and nothing terrible happens to you. But the Bible says God will punish sin. "It is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgement" (Hebrews 9:27). That means that at the end of your life, when you meet God, He will punish you for your sin. He will put you away from Him forever to the place of punishment called Hell. Please do not be like those people who laughed and thought it would never happen.

Remove all figures.

Scene 3

One day there was no more hammering or lifting wood. 120 years after the day Noah started the ark was finished - three storeys high and divided into many rooms.

Place ark (B-36) with door open.

It was covered with pitch. This was sticky, like tar, and it caused the boards to become waterproof as it was put on the inside and outside of the ark. But there was more work to do before the rain would begin.

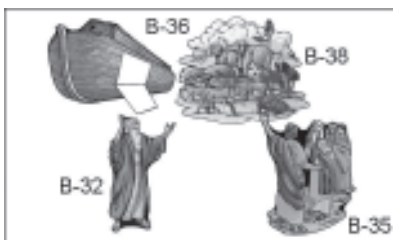
Place Noah and sons (B-37).

Noah and his sons must have carried food into the ark - lots of it! Not just food for people, but also food for animals, for God had told Noah that two of every kind of animal and bird and insect were to be taken into the ark. And they were to take seven of those birds and animals used for offerings. The carrying of food into the ark probably brought more laughter and mocking from the people who stood around and watched.

Place mocking people (B-35).



Flashcard 5-4



Preschoolers will enjoy pretending to be animals boarding the ark. Older children can discuss the types of animals that were there.

Scene 4

The Bible does not tell us how all the animals were brought to the ark. But perhaps God brought them.

Remove Noah and sons (B-37). Place animals (B-38) and Noah (B-32).

Two elephants, two giraffes, two dinosaurs, kangaroos, lions, tigers, monkeys, dogs, cats, cows, horses, mice, all the different kinds of animals you can think of. Seven sheep and seven of the other animals that would be used for offerings were brought until all the animals that God wanted in the ark were there. God, who made the animals and gave them their migrating habits, could make them move towards the ark when He wanted them to do it

Remove animals (B-38).

Then God spoke to Noah. "Go into the ark," He said.

Noah and his wife, Shem and his wife, Ham and his wife and Japheth and his wife all went in.

How many people were there? Yes, just eight. The others refused to come.

For seven long days nothing happened. No rain. Everything was as it had been before. Surely the people outside were laughing. They must have called all kinds of mean things to Noah's sons.

"You were stupid to listen to your crazy old father!"

"When will you admit you were wrong?"

"We can't see any rain."

"Crazy family!"

Remove Noah (B-32) and close door on ark (B-36).

Thud! What was that? The door had been closed - not by Noah, but by God. Then it happened! The rain came. It came faster than you and I have ever seen it rain. It was as if it poured from big spouts all over the sky. Not only did the water come from the sky, but it came up from the ground as well. The Bible says the water came up in fountains from the earth. The water came so fast from above and below that it was not long before the great ark began to float.

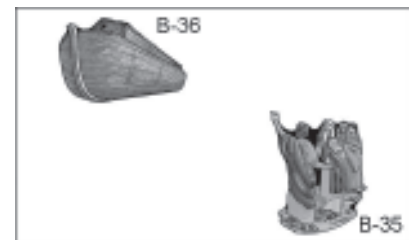
Remove all figures.

Scene 5

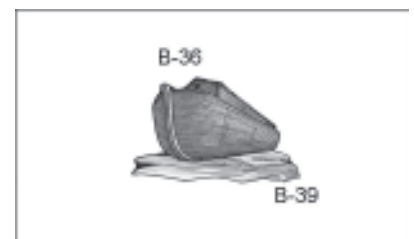
Optional background: Water scene. Place ark (B-36) and waves (B-39).

There was no more laughing and mocking. Instead there were cries for help and mercy. Probably some people hammered on the side of the ark. People must have fled to the mountains, others must have climbed trees. But the water continued to rise. It was too late - all the people died. God had given them 120 years to turn from sin but they had refused to do so. They had refused to listen to His warning. God punished them in a way they deserved. All were punished - whether young or old, clever or not clever, rich or poor. Because God is such a fair Judge, He will always punish sin and He will be just with all. He said the flood would come and it did. In the Bible He says that after death all who have never trusted Jesus Christ as Saviour will be punished forever. No one will be able to say, "It's not fair," for it will be deserved by each one. What about you? Will you be among those who will be separated from God forever? Do not go on in your disobedience, turn from it and trust in Jesus Christ. Do not be like the foolish people who laughed at Noah.

Inside the ark Noah and his family could hear the rain, they could feel the heaving of the water. They knew the ark was rising. But they were safe. There was just one place of safety and they were in it. How happy and thankful they were that the great boat took the force of all that rain and water.



Flashcard 5-5



CTU

CTU

Read, or have an older child read, the verse from your Bible.

“The ark rested ... on the mountains of Ararat” (Genesis 8:4). Ararat has been identified as a huge volcanic mountain near the border between Turkey and Iran.



Perhaps as you have heard about God’s punishment for sin you are sad and worried for you know that is what you deserve. Are you asking, “Is there any way to be safe from the punishment I deserve?” The answer to your question is in the Bible - the answer is, “Yes!” There is one Person Who can keep you safe. When I think of the ark, I think of this Person. The ark took the force of the water and the waves and kept Noah safe. Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, was the only Person Who did not deserve to be punished for sin. He never sinned, yet God’s plan was to punish His own dear Son for the wrong we have done. Jesus Christ was nailed to a cross and died. There He took the awful punishment of God for our sin. He rose from the dead and He is a real living Person today. Noah and his family had to go into the ark to be safe. God wants you to come to Jesus Christ to ask Him to forgive you and to depend on Him to keep you safe from the punishment you deserve. The Bible says, “There is therefore now no condemnation [or punishment] to those who are in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1). When you come to Jesus Christ you can be sure you are safe because Jesus Christ has taken your punishment and God will not punish you as well. It is wonderful to be depending on Him and to know you are safe, just as Noah and his family knew they were safe.

For 40 days and 40 nights the water came down from the sky and up out of the ground. The highest mountains were well under water. Every living thing, except fish and water creatures, died. Then the rain stopped. The sun shone. The wind blew. The ark floated, but gradually the waters began to go down. One day Noah and his family could feel that the boat was touching and resting on solid earth again. But of course they still had to stay inside.

Remove all figures.

Scene 6

Place ark and mountain (B-40).

The sun still shone. The wind still blew. The waters continued to go down. Finally the tops of the mountains could be seen. Noah waited for 40 days. Then he opened the window and sent out a raven. The raven is a strong bird, it flew to and fro and did not come back to the ark. Noah also sent out a dove. It could not find any place to rest and it also could not keep flying all the time. So the dove came back to the ark and Noah brought it in. A week later Noah sent out the dove again. It came back with an olive leaf in its beak. Noah knew now that the waters were going down. When he sent the dove out a week later, it did not return at all. About six months after the ark rested on the earth, Noah and his sons removed some of the roof of the ark. The ground looked dry, but God did not tell them yet to leave the ark. Noah wisely waited for God’s instructions.

Nearly two months passed. What a long time it must have seemed to Noah's family. They had been a whole year in the ark.

Finally God spoke, "Go out of the ark Noah. Bring out everything you took into the ark with you, animals and birds and creeping things. Let them multiply and spread over the earth."

How exciting it must have been to walk out on the clean earth.

They had been kept safe!

If you have trusted Jesus Christ to keep you safe from God's punishment, if you are a Christian, then you are safe. You will never be punished for your sin by God because He punished His dear Son in your place. You do not have to be afraid to die, for you will live with God forever. God's promise is, "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1). Aren't you thankful for that, Christian boy and girl?

Scene 7

Place altar (B-23) and Noah and his family (B-41).

Noah and his family were certainly thankful. The very first thing Noah did was to build an altar and offer sacrifices to the Lord. They prayed and thanked Him for His care of them. God gave a wonderful promise - that He would never flood the whole earth again. Then God put something in the sky to remind them and us of that promise. He made a beautiful rainbow.

Place rainbow (B-42) in sky.

You too have seen the rainbow. It should remind you of God's promise - a promise which He has always kept.

Noah and his family were so thankful for all God's kindness to them. They were glad they had gone to the one place of safety. Are you like them? Do you know that you are safe because you are trusting Jesus Christ?

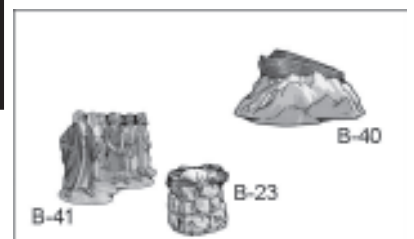
Or are you like all the other people? They heard God's warning, but did not listen. They knew of the one place of safety but did not go in. They went on in their disobedient ways and God had to punish them. Oh, listen to God's warnings! Come to Jesus Christ, the only One Who can keep you safe from the punishment you deserve. If you really long to be safe, come to Him now. As you sit there speak to Him quietly in your heart. You could tell Him something like this, "Dear Lord Jesus, I know I deserve God's punishment. I am sorry I have been disobedient and I want to be different. I am so glad You were punished in my place and I ask You to save me now."

Review questions

- 1 Why did God send a great flood on the world? (Because of the sin of the people who went their own wicked ways, without God.)

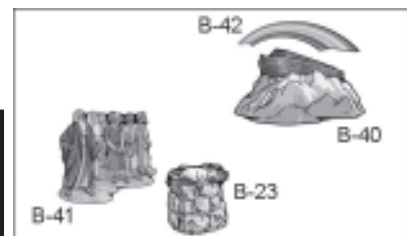
CTS

Read, or have an older child read, the verse from your Bible.



You may want to bring five or six large stones to class and have some of the children pile them up like an altar.

Flashcard 5-6



CTS

CTU

Review game

Pick a pair

Drape several strings over the edge of a box or paper bag so that one or both ends hang over the outside edge.

Divide the class into teams and ask questions alternately between the teams.

If a child answers a question correctly he may draw two strings. If he draws two ends of the same string his team earns 50 points; if he draws two separate strings his team earns 100 points.

The team earning the most points wins.

Preschool review game

Clubbers' favourite

Come prepared with any props you might need and let preschoolers play their favourite review game.

- 2 What did Noah do as he built the ark? (He warned the people of the punishment that would come.)
- 3 For how long did Noah build on the ark and preach to the people? (For 120 years.)
- 4 Why will God always punish sin? (Because He is pure, holy and just. Therefore He must always punish sin.)
- 5 How many of each animal were in the ark? (Seven of those animals that would be used for offerings, and two of the other kinds.)
- 6 Who shut the door of the ark? (God.)
- 7 What happened to all the people outside the ark? (They were all punished and died.)
- 8 In what way does the ark make us think of the Lord Jesus Christ? (Jesus Christ can keep you safe from punishment, just as the ark kept Noah and his family safe.)
- 9 What did Noah and his family do when they came out of the ark? (Noah built an altar and offered sacrifices to the Lord.)
- 10 Why did God put a rainbow in the sky? (As a reminder of His promise that He would never flood the whole earth again.)
- 11 What will happen to all those who refuse to trust Jesus Christ as Saviour? (They will be separated from God for ever and ever.)
- 12 In what way was Noah like Enoch? (He walked with God.)

Thank you God

Carry-over activity - lesson 1

Thank you God
for creating ...

“In the beginning God created
the heavens and the earth” Genesis 1:1

Thank you God
for creating ...

“In the beginning God created
the heavens and the earth” Genesis 1:1

Copy, cut out and keep in your Bible



Summary of steps for counselling the child who wants to come to Christ

Make sure the child understands about

God

Who is God?
God made us. He speaks to us through the Bible.
God is holy and pure. He loves us.

Sin

What is sin?
Sin is disobeying God's commands. It is against God.
Speak about specific sins.
The child is a sinner by nature and act. (We sin because we are sinners.)
Sin deserves punishment.

The Saviour

Who alone can take away your sin?
God the Son died on the cross for sinners.
The Lord Jesus rose again from the dead.
He is Lord of all.

Explain how to be saved

Explain what the Lord wants us to do, and what He will do.
Use a Bible verse (*John 1:12; 3:16; 6:37; Acts 16:31; Romans 6:23 or 10:13*).
What does the Lord want you to do?
What will the Lord do?
Warn about difficulties.
Ask: "Do you want to trust Christ, or would you rather wait?"
Encourage the child to pray audibly (if ready).

Speak about assurance of salvation

Go back to the Bible verse you used.
Speak about a changed life.
Tell him what the person who is truly trusting in Christ can know.

Give (later) some advice about the Christian life

Read and obey your Bible.
Talk to God, our heavenly Father.
Tell others what the Lord has done for you.
Ask God to forgive you when you sin.
Meet with other Christians.
Remember the Lord promises: "*I will never leave you*" (*Heb 13:5*).