LESSON 3

SIN COMES INTO THE WORLD



Aim: **To teach the children that when mankind disobeyed God, sin came into the world.**

Scripture Reading: **Genesis 3:1–13; Isaiah 14:12–15**

Memory Verse: **Romans 5:12**
[S]in entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned …

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Talk about a time when you produced something perfect and very beautiful (or make up a story). Say, for instance, it was a perfect piece of writing with no mistakes. Then something happened – a mug of tea was spilled all over it; the ink ran and it was completely spoilt.

MAIN POINTS OF TODAY'S TEACHING

1. God put mankind in a perfect world. **Show Picture 2. Briefly review Lesson 2 by asking the class questions, referring to the picture.**
2. One day a visitor came to this garden. It was Satan disguised as a snake. He had been an angel of God but he had rebelled or turned against his Creator. He wanted to be greater than God, so he had been thrown out of heaven; he had become God's enemy (Gen 3:1; Is 14:12–15).
3.. God had told Adam and Eve they could eat the fruit of all the trees in the garden except one: the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If they ate from that they would die and lose their close friendship with God (Gen 2:16–17).
   Tell the story of the fall of mankind in your own words. It will be very effective if you could act the part of each character.
4. Satan, disguised as a snake, said to Eve, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" (3:1).
   Eve replied, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die'" (3:2–3).
5. Satan said, "You will not surely die … when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil" (3:4–5).
   Eve had to choose. She could believe what God had said or what Satan was telling her. The two were complete opposites. Eve looked at the fruit. She liked what she saw, so she ate it and gave some to Adam. He ate it, too (3:6–7). **Show Picture 3.**
   Mankind chose to believe Satan, as if God were a liar. But it is Satan who is always the liar!

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6. As soon as Adam and Eve had eaten from the forbidden tree, they knew they had disobeyed God and had lost their open, intimate friendship with him. So they tried to avoid God's presence by hiding from him (3:8–13).

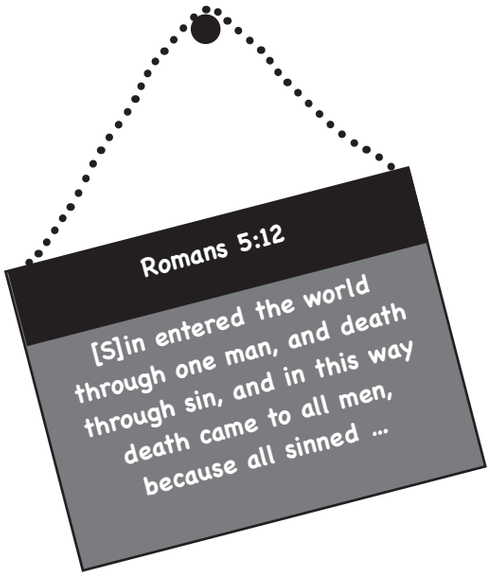
Instil the Memory Verse

This is a relatively long verse. If the children are young, teach only the first half (up to "… and death through sin").

Our Response to the Story

Remind the class of the "Starting point" section of this lesson, about something perfect that was spoilt. God created a perfect world, but the relationship between mankind and God was spoilt by disobedience. This is called sin.

Finish the lesson with a story about a goat that would not stay with the herd, but ran off and got lost. Use this to illustrate that sin means we have run off on our own and lost our way. When we choose to live our lives away from God, we miss the purpose for which we were created.



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