LESSON 4

THE RESULTS OF SIN



Aim: **To show the children the results of sin.**

Scripture Reading: **Genesis 3:14 – 4:16**

Memory Verse: **Romans 3:23**
[A]ll have sinned and fall short of the glory of God ...

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Tell the class to look around them (if they are sitting out in the open) or outside (if they are inside a building). Perhaps they can spot a piece of earth that someone has tried to cultivate. Point out to them that cultivation is very hard work. Ask them what makes it so difficult. (Weeds, lack of water, etc.)

MAIN POINTS OF TODAY'S TEACHING

1. Cultivation wasn't always like this. **Show Picture 2**. God put mankind in a perfect world, where all the trees and plants grew beautifully and produced abundant fruit. **Show Picture 3. Briefly review Lesson 3 by asking questions. It is important to drive home that Adam and Eve sinned.** They disobeyed God, so they had to be expelled from the garden in order to keep them away from the tree of life (3:21-24).
2. **Show Picture 4. Point out that Adam and Eve do not look very happy now.** Since the fall of mankind, we have to work hard to grow food. The soil produces thorns and weeds along with food crops, and sometimes there is too much sun or too little rain. Since sin has come into the world all creation suffers (Gen 3:17-24; Rom 8:19-21).
3. Adam and Eve had two sons, called Cain and Abel (4:1-2). In the picture, Eve looks very tired. Bringing children into the world and caring for them is hard work. God said this would happen as a result of sin (3:16).
4. The snake is in the picture, too, representing the evil one. In the same way that people consider snakes as their enemy, evil is the dangerous enemy of all mankind (3:14-15).
5. As Cain and Abel grew up, they were taught to worship God. But Cain was rebellious. So when both of them brought God an offering, God rejected Cain's because he knew Cain's heart (4:2-5).
6. Cain was proud, and became angry. God told him to let go of his anger and change his attitude. But Cain was too proud to admit his disobedience (4:5-7).
7. Instead, Cain became jealous of his brother, who served the Lord, and killed him. This only did his relationship with God even more harm (4:8-16). Like his parents before him, he was sent away from God's presence.

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Instil the Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

Disobedience, which the Bible calls sin, cuts us off from God; it makes God withdraw his presence from us. Adam and Eve had to be expelled from the garden, and Cain had to be sent away. God is holy and perfect; therefore, God and sin cannot keep company.

But God also is a wonderfully loving Father. Even while setting out the punishment for mankind's fall into sin, God promised that one day he would send someone born of a human woman who would defeat the evil one who tempted us into sin (3:15). That Saviour did come. He is Jesus Christ.

Finish the lesson with a prayer asking God's forgiveness and thanking him for sending his Son, Jesus Christ, to bring us that forgiveness.



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