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1. **Introduction**

In the first lesson of this series you were taught how the Bible came to be. It is the ultimate source of authority for these lessons. Then the attributes of God were taught to you followed by the story of creation. First God created the angels. Then later in six days God created the material world. On the seventh day God rested because his work of creation was complete. It was perfect and good in every way. No part of God's creation was flawed.

In this lesson you will learn more from the Bible about God's work in history. It is very important that you listen carefully to the details of each part of the story so that you will know what happened long ago in history and how it affects us today. This lesson teaches the origin and outcome of evil in the spirit world. It also teaches how evil and sin came to humanity and how it has affected history. All of this teaching is based upon the Bible, God's Word for us.

What is God like? God is supreme and sovereign. No one or any being is equal to God. God is omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient, holy, and righteous. Everything that God does is good. No person or being shares the attributes which belong to God alone.

It is important to understand that disobedience and rebellion against God and his commands is sin. God judges all sin, he does not ignore it. When Lucifer rebelled against God, God judged him for his rebellion and Lucifer became Satan. God also judged the angels who joined Lucifer's rebellion. They became fallen angels or evil spirits which are also called demons. Satan and all the fallen angels hate God and fight against him. They hate people and want people to sin against God. However, Satan and the evil spirits will never be able to overcome God. They are created beings who must submit to the authority of God.

It is important to understand that God demands obedience to his commands. Obedience to God's commandments is not an option, it is required of all people to obey God. God expects people to make right moral choices and to obey him always. All sin is against God and it will be punished by God's holy and righteous standard. Do not be deceived and think that you or anyone else can get away with sinning against God.

Bible Lesson 2 (BTJ)

1. Review

Teacher: What did you learn in the first meeting about the Bible? Tell me what you know about the Bible which is God's message to us.

Patrick: The Bible is a good book from God. It is God's message to us. He wants us to know him as he has made himself known to us through the Bible.

Teacher: That's right. God gave us the Bible because he wants us to know him. He loves us and desires that we know him. This shows us that he is truly a good and perfect God.

Teacher: Where did the Bible come from? Who wrote the Bible?

Patrick: God had prophets write down his message a long time ago. He caused them to know his message and they wrote it so that it would not be lost. The prophets only wrote what God gave them. They did not include ideas from other beliefs and religions.

Teacher: Do you remember how many prophets wrote God's Word?

Patrick: God gave his Word to forty men who lived a long time ago. Each of them wrote what God gave to them.

Teacher: That's right. Many of the writers of the Bible did not know each other because the Bible was written over a time period of 1600 years.

Teacher: Why did God want his message written and preserved for us today?

Patrick: God wants us to know him personally. That's why he gave us the Bible. I think that this shows us that God loves people and wants us to know him and to have a personal relationship with him.

Teacher: You have said it very well. God wants each one of you to know him personally. He wants every man, woman, and child to know him personally. It is not good that people do not know about God.

Patrick: God is different from the deities our forefathers taught us to worship. Those deities were tricksters and no one had a personal relationship with them.

Teacher: Tell me, what else have you learned about God?

Patrick: We have learned that God is eternal. He has had no beginning and he will never end. He just exists. He knows everything and he is everywhere present at the same time. He is not restricted to being in just in one place or country at a given time. God is Spirit. He is not like us because we have a body. God is all-powerful. No power equals God's power. He is the most powerful of all. He is the greatest. He is greater than all the mythological characters our forefathers taught us to worship. I want to learn more about God because he is the greatest.

Teacher: It is very good you want to learn more about God. I am glad you are remembering what I taught you about God. I will continue to teach you more truth about God. What else have you learned about God?

Patrick: We learned that God created all of the angels. They are spirits. God created them as good spirits. He created them so that they would serve him. Teacher, if all of the angels were good spirits when God created them, where did the evil spirits that we fear come from? I'm puzzled. I have been thinking about that because we know about the evil spirits.

Teacher: You have asked an important question. It is not good for you to be puzzled about the origin of the evil spirits. Today I will teach you a real story about the origin of the evil spirits. However, let's first talk about the rest of the things you learned at the first meeting. What else did you learn?

Patrick: We learned how God created everything out of nothing. God is so great that he just spoke and his power made everything right the first time. God knows everything and does everything right. He made the sun, the moon and the stars. He made all the good things on earth for us to enjoy. He did not need those things himself because he is spirit.

Teacher: That's right because God is eternal and existed well before any material things were created. But God did not need food or water to sustain him. God knew that he was going to create Adam and Eve on the sixth day so he made all the good things on this earth first. Then he created the first parents of all people, Adam and Eve. God created mankind to be greater than the rest of his creation including birds, fish and animals. He wanted the earth to be filled with people so he gave us the ability to have children. He gave us the ability to talk to each other, to think and to plan to do things. We are not like dogs or pigs that cannot think. When God made Adam from the ground, He breathed into Adam the breath of life which is what gives us our life today.

Patrick: The story of God creating all things stirs my heart. He truly is great and awesome. However, I have been thinking about how God made everything perfect and comparing that truth with the way things are today. Why are things not perfect today? Look, there are lots of bad things in the world which were not in the Garden of Eden. People get angry with each other and fight. Sometimes there is war and people are killed. Look at all the diseases and sicknesses. Where did they come from? Look at our gardens. They are not like the Garden of Eden. Our gardens grow weeds and we have to work hard to have enough food to eat. What happened? Why is our world not totally good like it was for Adam and Eve? What happened?

Teacher: You are right. Our world today is much different from the Garden of Eden. As you said, today people experience many hardships. There are wars, people fight in the village, people get sick and die and we mourn when there are deaths and burials. Death is so painful. There are diseases among us and our animals get sick too. Sometimes our gardens produce well, the next time they are affected by diseases and insects destroy our food. There is a reason why things are different today. Listen very carefully. Today I am going to teach you the reason why our world is the way it is instead of the way God created it.

2. Lucifer's Rebellion

Teacher: Long ago when God created the angels, he made all of them perfect. None were made with a flaw or with evil within them. All of them were very good in every way. God chose one angel, Lucifer, to be more prominent than the other angels. As the creator and owner of all of the angels, God had the authority and power to designate Lucifer as the most prominent angel. Even though Lucifer was more prominent than the other angels, God still expected him to obey him all the time. Lucifer and all of the other angels were perfect and were supposed to serve God alone. They lived with God in a very good place called heaven.

When God created everything else, the angels witnessed his acts of creation. They saw how he made everything perfectly. They saw how God carefully created Adam and breathed into him the breath of life. They saw that God designated man to fill the earth and rule over everything on the earth. They saw how God made Eve from one of Adam's ribs and she too became a living soul. The many angels which God created witnessed God's perfect creation of the material world and his special creation, man. Do you think all of the angels rejoiced and were happy to see the awesome creation by God? Listen carefully to the next part of this story

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After God had created everything, something terrible happened. Lucifer, the most prominent angel, rebelled against God, his creator. Why did Lucifer rebel against God? Lucifer rebelled against God because he wanted to be greater than God. He wanted to take God's place and rule over everything. Lucifer decided that God, who had created him, would not rule over him. Lucifer wanted to be greater than God. He did not want to submit to God. When Lucifer rebelled, he sinned against God.

When Lucifer rebelled against God, he influenced some other angels to follow him and join in his rebellion against God. These angels believed Lucifer and turned against God. They wanted Lucifer to be the greatest. Lucifer's rebellion against God was a very wicked and evil action. He sinned against God because he wanted to be greater than God who created him. Can an angel who has been created by God be greater than God who made him? No, he cannot be greater than God, his creator.

Lucifer wanted all the angels to rebel against God. However, most of the angels did not listen to Lucifer's temptation. They said, "No, we will not follow you. We will follow our creator God. We will obey him and only worship him." These good angels made the right choice. They had right thoughts about God and were loyal to him. They refused to turn against God.

It was wrong for Lucifer and the other rebellious angels to try to overthrow God. They sinned against the almighty, holy God. What do you think God did when Lucifer tried to overthrow him? Was Lucifer able to plan his rebellion against God without God knowing about it? Do you think Lucifer and the other rebellious angels had enough power to frighten God? Could God be overcome by Lucifer?

Listen carefully. The instant Lucifer rebelled against God, God knew about it because he knows everything. God exercised his power and defeated Lucifer and the rebellious angels. God was angry with Lucifer and the rebellious angels. He judged them and expelled them from his presence because they had sinned against him and were now his enemies. No longer could they serve him and worship him in heaven. No longer did Lucifer have a special place of prominence before God. No longer could the rebellious angels be in the presence of God among the faithful, good angels. They were wicked and God cast them out from his presence. They could never be restored to their former position of being perfect, good angels.

What happened to Lucifer and the rebellious angels when they were cast out from God's presence? Listen very carefully. Lucifer's rebellion against God failed and he became Satan. And the angels that followed him became evil spirits or demons. The origin of Satan and the evil spirits is their own wickedness of rebelling against God. Satan and the

evil spirits are very wicked. All their ways are evil, wicked, deceitful, deceptive and untruthful. They cannot be trusted. They do not speak the truth. Satan and the evil spirits are very wicked and they hate God. They do evil actions only because they are God's enemies. They constantly fight against God's purposes because they hate him.

Let's ask ourselves some questions. Why did Lucifer and the rebellious angels turn against God? How could Lucifer do such an evil act against the almighty, holy God? God did not do evil to Lucifer because he is totally good. He is perfect. He is undefiled by sin, and free from all wickedness. Everything God does is right and perfect.

Why did Lucifer and the rebellious angels sin against God? God did not mistreat nor act unjustly toward them. Lucifer chose to rebel against God and led other angels to join him in this rebellion against God. Their rebellion was a senseless and awful sin against God. Lucifer and the angels who followed him acted wickedly toward God and God judged them for their rebellion. He cast them out of his presence because he is holy and he cannot tolerate evil. From there on Lucifer has been the enemy of God and he is called Satan which means the adversary.

3. Hell Was Created for Satan and the Demons

The Bible teaches us that God is holy. That is who he is. All his ways are right. He acts righteously always. He does not make mistakes nor does he ever do an evil action, he cannot sin. All of God's ways are right. He is holy.

Remember, God had created Lucifer and all the angels to be with him and to serve him. He wanted them to obey him all the time. However when Lucifer rebelled against God, he became the evil adversary of God. Do you think God could overlook Satan's rebellion? Could God ignore Satan's rebellion against him? God could not overlook Satan's sin. He judged him as well as the angels who followed him. God is holy so he judged them and cast them out from his presence because now they were wicked and sinful. They were his enemies. Remember, the instant Lucifer and the angels who followed him rebelled against God they became evil in every way. Now Lucifer is called Satan, the enemy of God. And the rebellious angels are called demons or evil spirits.

God also created a place of punishment and torment for Satan and the demons. This place is called hell. It is a big, burning fire that does not end. In the future, God will put Satan and the demons into this never-ending fire to punish them forever because they sinned against him. This will be their unending punishment for rebelling against God.

God created Hell for Satan and the demons because they sinned against him. God had created them perfectly but they refused to submit to God. Satan and the demons wanted to overthrow God so that they would be worshiped and obeyed like God. Their rebellion was so wicked that God made an everlasting, unending fire called hell for them. Hell is a place of unending torment which God made for Satan and the demons who followed him in his rebellion against God.

Where do you think Satan and the evil spirits are today? Do you think that they are already in the never-ending fire of punishment? Listen carefully. Today Satan and the evil spirits still exist. They are the enemy of God and do many wicked things because they are totally wicked and evil. They hate God and fight against him every day. They do many evil actions because they are angry at God. They want bad things to happen all over the world.

From the time of Lucifer's rebellion to this present time, Satan and the demons have wanted to overthrow God. They continue to fight against him all the time. However, it is impossible for them to overthrow God. Remember, God is all-powerful and he cannot be overcome by any being. The Bible teaches us that sometime in the future God will place Satan and the demons into the never-ending fire of punishment and they will be there in torment forever because they sinned against God.

4. Satan Tempted Eve

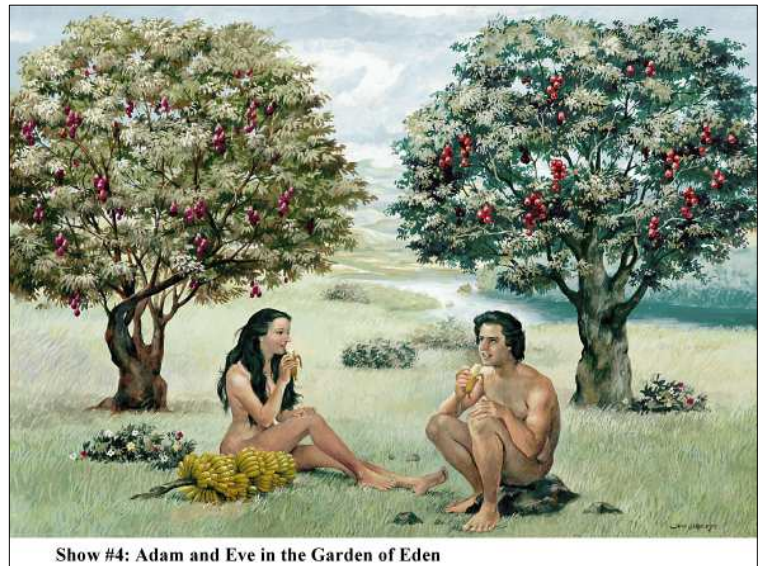
When God created the whole earth and everything in it, Lucifer and all of the angels witnessed this marvelous event. Lucifer and all of the angels saw how carefully God made Adam and Eve. They saw how much God loved them. God provided everything they needed in the beautiful Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve were God's most important creation and they had a special relationship with him. They were able to talk to each other and to God. They could think and make choices. They were superior to the other parts of creation. Do you think Lucifer was happy with God's good creation? Do you think Lucifer wanted Adam and Eve to have a special relationship with God?

Even though Lucifer saw how good God made everything, he did not want to submit to God. So he rebelled against God and became Satan, the enemy of God. From then on he fully intended to ruin God's good creation. Satan saw that God's perfect creation reflected God's goodness in many ways. He also saw God's special creation, Adam and Eve, living in the beautiful Garden of Eden which God had specially created for them. God had abundantly provided for Adam and Eve in every way. Do you think Satan liked that?

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Listen carefully to what happened next. Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden where God had placed them. It was a beautiful place and they had everything they needed. They didn't sweat pulling weeds from the garden. There was no sickness there. They did not argue or get angry with each other. Best of all, God talked to Adam and Eve. He loved them very much and cared for them. Life was very good in the Garden of Eden.

Do you remember the two trees that God had planted in the middle of the garden of Eden? God planted many kinds of trees in the Garden of Eden. In the middle of the garden there were two special trees. One was the tree of life. It was a good tree. The other one was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God warned Adam and Eve about the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He said, "You are not allowed to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat from it you will die." God warned them and he wanted them to obey him. He was their creator so he had the right to tell them what to do. He knew what they should do. He knew what they should not do.



Satan, the enemy of God, hated Adam and Eve because they were good and God was pleased with them. Adam and Eve loved God. Satan wanted to ruin the good relationship which Adam and Eve enjoyed with God. Satan wanted them to follow him instead of God. He wanted Adam and Eve to rebel against God just like he did. Remember this: Satan hates God and fights against God. He wanted Adam and Eve to turn away from God and to disobey like he did. Satan is very clever and tells crafty lies. He cannot speak truthfully because he is totally wicked.

In the Garden of Eden, Satan through a serpent came to Eve and said. "Did God really say that you cannot eat from any tree in the garden?" Satan said this to Eve because he wanted to trick her into believing whatever he would say. Eve answered Satan and said. "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.'"

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Then Satan through the serpent lied to Eve and said, “You surely will not die!” Satan lied to Eve because he wanted her to disobey God and die. Satan did not want Eve to be good. He did not want Eve to be on right terms with God. He wanted her to rebel against God and thereby become evil and sinful.

Satan continued speaking to Eve and said. “God knows that in the day you eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” Satan tempted Eve to disobey God by telling her lies.

Let’s talk about Satan’s lies for a moment. When God created Adam and Eve, what were they like? Did they lack anything? God created them perfectly so they were perfect in every way without any sickness or sin in them. Their bodies were perfect and they loved God, their creator. God had given them perfect knowledge and instructions about living in the Garden of Eden. He told them to eat freely from all the trees except one, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God did not want them to experience evil. He wanted them to know and experience only what is good and what is right. God loved them so he provided for all of their needs.

Let’s think about it. Was there any reason for Eve to listen to Satan’s lies? Did Satan provide good things for her? No, there was no reason to listen to Satan. He promised Eve a better life than God had already given to her and Adam. Was it possible for wicked Satan to give Eve a better life than God had already given to her? No, it was not possible.

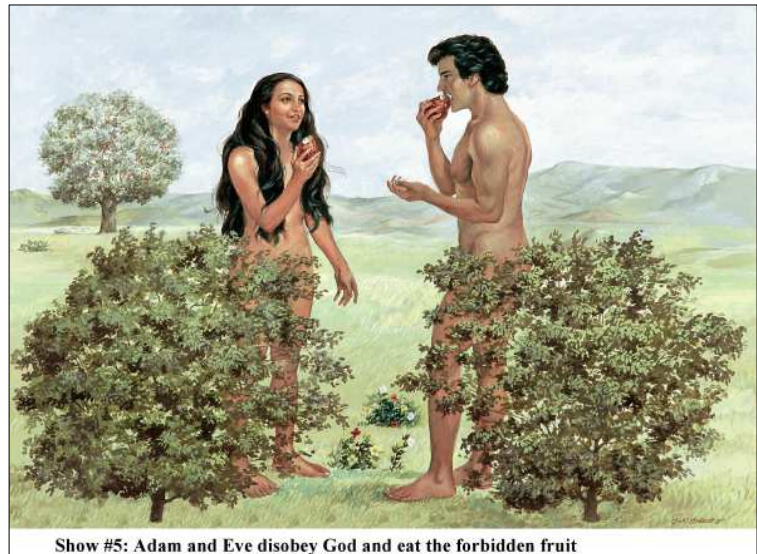
Satan is totally wicked and he could not do any good thing for Eve. Satan, who is evil in every way, could not provide for Eve what he had promised. Satan knew that he was lying to Eve but he did not care. He wanted Eve and Adam to sin against God so that **they** would be sinful. Should Adam and Eve choose to disobey God’s prohibition, then God would judge them for sinning against himself.

Why did Satan tempt Eve to disobey God’s prohibition? Listen carefully. Satan tempted Eve because he is against God in every way. He wanted Eve whom God had created perfectly and without any sin to rebel against God as he did. Satan hates God and wants to destroy all of the good things God has created.

Whom will Eve obey? Do you think she will obey God, who always speaks truth? Or will she obey Satan who always tells lies? Whom should Eve obey? Is there any reason for Eve to even consider obeying Satan’s crafty lies? Did not God provide everything which Adam and Eve needed? Was there not enough other food in the Garden of Eden for them? What happened next?

5. The Fall of Man

Eve listened to Satan's clever lies and she lusted for the forbidden fruit. She thought, "What shall I do? It looks so good to me." Eve had a moral choice to make. No one could make it for her. She had to choose to either obey God who always speaks truth or listen to Satan who tells lies. She could not do both at the same time. Either she would obey God or obey Satan. When Satan tempted Eve with his lies, he presented himself as the ultimate authority. However, he was lying. There is only one true ultimate authority and that is God. God always speaks truthfully. Satan, however, is a liar and does not speak truth.



Eve looked at the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and saw that it was good for food. She lusted for it.

"Ah, this looks so good, it must taste very good. I think I will try it just this one time," she thought. "If I eat of it then I will become so wise. I want to be wise. That would be good, wouldn't it?"

In her heart Eve was deceived by Satan's innocent sounding lies. Now she felt the urge to eat the forbidden fruit. Eve willingly took some forbidden fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to Adam, her husband who was with her and he too ate. Right there Adam and Eve sinned against God by disobeying him. They chose to obey the lies of Satan and to disobey God. As they disobeyed God by eating the forbidden fruit, instantly they were sinners. Their eyes were now opened and they knew that they had sinned against God. Something was very wrong. They felt so unclean.

Do you think Adam and Eve still had a good relationship with God after they had sinned against him? No, immediately that relationship changed. Now they were sinners. Their perfect relationship with God was broken because they obeyed the lies of God's enemy. Adam and Eve felt a change come upon themselves because now they were sinners and estranged from their wonderful creator, God.

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God had warned them of the consequences of disobeying his prohibition concerning eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He clearly told them, “In the day you eat of it you will die.” When God spoke this warning, he was not playing tricks on them. No, he was telling them the truth and expected them to obey his command.

What do you think God meant when he warned them should they eat of the forbidden fruit they would die? God knew if they disobeyed him, they would become wicked and sinful. They would be sinners separated from him. No longer would they have an unhindered, open relationship with him. Sin would separate God from Adam and Eve and they would be sinners without a way to undo what made them become sinners. When Adam and Eve sinned, that ended their good relationship with God just as God had warned them. Their perfect relationship with God was over.

Now that Adam and Eve were sinners, their bodies changed. They began to age. This aging process would continue until finally they would die. Then they would no longer breathe and their bodies would be dead. They would die just like we see people die today. Their lives would be over and their bodies would be returned to the ground in a grave.

The reason people die today is because Adam and Eve sinned against God and became sinners. Because they became sinners, they had to die. Sin’s payment is death just like God said. Since that time, everyone ages and dies. This is the exact opposite from what Satan had promised them. Remember? Satan had said to Eve “you will not die.” Satan lied because he is a liar. He wanted Adam and Eve to rebel against God like he did. He wanted them to disobey God and become sinners who are separated from God. He wanted them to die.

After Adam and Eve sinned against God, where was Satan? Did he become their true friend because they sinned against God? Now that they obeyed him instead of God and were sinners, did he stay by their side to help them? Where was Satan after they had sinned? Satan is a liar and a deceiver. After Adam and Eve sinned, Satan could not help them. He does not help anyone. He wants people to rebel against God because he hates God.

God created a never-ending fire, hell, to be the place of punishment for Satan and the demons for having rebelled against him. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they chose to submit to Satan’s lies and they sinned against God. Now they too were enemies of God just like Satan and the demons.

Since Adam and Eve obeyed Satan instead of God, they too deserved to be punished in this never-ending fire of punishment because they were separated from God. They no

longer enjoyed a free, open relationship with God. If they died in the state of being separated from God, then they too would have to be in hell forever. This is the awful outcome of Adam and Eve sinning against God.

Why should Adam and Eve have to go to hell if they died in a state of being separated from God? God had clearly warned them that should they eat of the forbidden fruit, they would die. That means God had placed a death sentence upon one who would sin against him. However, if Adam and Eve had obeyed God, they would not have died.

When Adam and Eve obeyed Satan, they sinned against God. That meant the death sentence for sinning had to be exercised upon them and they immediately became spiritually dead. When they died spiritually, they were separated from God and without any way to undo their sin against God. Since they could not undo their sin of eating the forbidden fruit, they were now headed for the never-ending fire of punishment. Why? Because they obeyed Satan, God's enemy, and they became sinful and wicked. At this point in Adam and Eve's life, they were separated from God and had no means for undoing their sin. All they could do was experience sin's consequences.

6. After the Meeting

One of the main goals of this section of the lesson is to ascertain how well people are understanding the lesson. As you use questions to discover the level of comprehension of the lesson, be prepared to ask additional follow-up questions that are not listed in this dialogue.

Work hard at putting people at ease as you interact with them. Give them time to express themselves. Demonstrate that you want to understand what they are saying. As you work with them, they should become more and more relaxed and open to articulate their understandings or misgivings about the lessons.

As you interact with the people, do not allow yourself to be rushed. Give the people time and space to respond to what they are learning. Be prepared to lead them to discover and understand biblical truth. That means engage them in the thinking process so that they come to the right conclusions. Otherwise, if you always make the conclusions for them, they may agree with your conclusion without fully understanding the issues at stake.

Setting: Patrick and Joseph met to discuss things they were learning from the Bible teaching sessions.

Joseph: When we heard all the good things God did in creation, I kept wondering, Why is it not like that today? What happened? Why do so many bad things happened today?

Patrick: That's exactly what I was wondering, now I know. Adam and Eve sinned against God and became sinners. Once sin was in the world, lots of things changed from the way God had created them.

Joseph: Now what do we do? Is there hope for us? All of us are sinners. Will we just die and go to hell?

Patrick: We have to listen to this teaching so that we can learn how this sin problem can be resolved. Do you remember what Teacher told us?

Joseph: Teacher said if we believe the message that he is teaching us then God will do for us what he did for him. I do not know what that means. I know Teacher is not afraid of the evil spirits like we are. I want to have a good life like he has.

Patrick: All of us need to keep learning about God. The only way we can learn about him is to listen to the teaching.

Joseph: You are right. It is not God's fault that we do evil things. He is totally good. He

cannot sin. He does not tempt us to sin. We have been deceived in many ways by the lies of Satan. He is God's true enemy. What shall we do? We have followed the lies of the enemy of God all our lives.

Patrick: If Lucifer had not rebelled against God, then he would not have deceived Eve to eat of the forbidden fruit. God created him perfectly and he was a perfect spirit. He was supposed to obey and serve God. There was no reason for Lucifer to rebel against God. Lucifer acted wickedly when he rebelled against God and became Satan.

Joseph: The teaching about hell is awful and frightens all of us. But, it was Satan's fault because he rebelled against God. God was right when he made hell for Satan. He deserves to be punished by holy, righteous God who created him.

Patrick: Satan hates God which is why he tempted Eve to sin. God had clearly spoken to Adam and Eve when he prohibited them from eating fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He said if they ate from its fruit, then they would die.

Joseph: I think Eve lusted for the fruit just like we lust for things. When we lust for something, it always leads to trouble. First we lust for something, then we do what it takes to get what we have lusted for.

Patrick: Yes, that's right. It was the same way with Eve. She lusted for the fruit then she made a moral choice to eat some. Then she acted like we do when we commit sin. We want others to join in our bad actions because it makes us feel good. Eve did the same thing. She gave some of the forbidden fruit to Adam and he also chose to eat it.

Patrick: All of the wickedness that we see in our village goes back to Satan's wickedness. It is like we are in his family and he rules us. Whether we like it or not, we are wicked. We are helpless sinners. We are powerless to stop sinning. We cannot save ourselves. I wish we were in God's family like Adam and Eve were before they sinned. I feel so helpless and dirty inside. What are we going to do?

Joseph: We have heard a lot of new teaching about this good God and his perfect creation. We also heard about his enemy Satan and how he wants all of us to live wickedly. We heard how he deceived Eve and Adam. They rebelled against God and became sinners. We too are sinners. We are helpless. We are separated from God just like Adam and Eve were when they sinned. We are helpless. We have no answer for overcoming this sin problem. We cannot save ourselves from our sin problem. If we die in our sins, we will all go to the never-ending fire of punishment.

Patrick: Are you afraid of dying in your sins? I am. Tomorrow, all of us must attend the

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meeting and listen to Teacher's teaching. We must listen well and we must think only about this message. We must not go to the meeting then think about food or work while Teacher is teaching God's message to us. We must listen to his teaching. We must learn this message so we can believe it before it is too late and we die.

1. Review of the Lesson's Themes

God is supreme and sovereign: Emphasize that God is greater than all beings. No being is equal to him. God's sovereign position can never be usurped by any power or being.

God is omnipresent, omnipotent, and omniscient. He is holy and righteous:
Emphasize that God's character cannot change. He is who he is all the time. He does not share these attributes with other beings.

Emphasize that rebellion against God is sin: God expects all of his creation to be subservient to him and to obey him. Emphasize that God cannot tolerate sin. God judges sin according to his righteous standard.

God judges sin: When Lucifer and the angels who joined him rebelled against God, they failed to overthrow God. Emphasize that God judged them and created the place of the never-ending fire of punishment for them. This is a real place which is called hell.

Satan is the enemy of God: Satan and all the fallen angels hate God and they hate people. They work hard to get people to sin against God. Emphasize that God is supreme and cannot be over powered in any way by Satan.

God expects people to make right moral choices: God expects people to choose to obey him. God did not force Adam and Eve to obey him, he simply expected them to do so.

God warned Adam and Eve about the consequences of sin: Emphasize that God made it plain to Adam that he was not to eat fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil or he would die. That meant should Adam and Eve disobey him they would have to die.

2. Practice telling the Bible Stories

At the end of the lesson, practice telling the story you have just heard. Everyone needs to practice teaching Bible lessons by telling the stories.

Practice telling the stories of this lesson in pairs. One pair should teach one of the stories in the lesson following the Table of Contents for this lesson.

The Table of Contents at the beginning of the lesson lists the stories for each lesson. Some of the stories or sections of a story are short so they should be combined with another section to make exercise of practicing to teach by using stories profitable.

When you are teaching a lesson by telling the story, use questions and illustrations to keep the story interesting and to make the people think about the lesson's meanings. Be prepared to engage the audience with questions which are crafted to bring out how well they understand the meaning of the story.

Use visual aids or objects used in the lesson when you teach a story. Show the pictures at the right time in the story. When illustrations are used, be sure to bring them to a right and logical conclusion. If you do not make the right conclusions through telling the story, people will likely guess what it means and they could easily come to a wrong conclusion.

3. Teaching Tips for Teachers

General Note: In the lesson there are numbered pictures which are like the ones you should show to the people as you teach the stories. These pictures are visual illustrations of what you are teaching and should be explained to the people. Prepare ahead of time the pictures you will need in a lesson. When you come to the picture in the lesson, you should stop at a good point in the teaching and show the large picture to the audience. As you show them the picture, talk about what they are seeing as it relates to the story. As you do this, do not allow yourself to be side-tracked about unimportant details or unrelated questions.

Lesson Point #3:

Teaching on hell: Teach about the subject of hell in such a manner that the audience sides with God for having created hell as a fitting place of punishment for Satan and the fallen angels.

State the facts but do not add extra, non-biblical teachings about hell. Highlight the holiness of God and his righteousness.

Caution: Do not describe hell according to secular descriptions. Only teach about hell as it is portrayed in the Bible.

Goal: People should recognize that hell is a fitting punishment for Satan and the demons. Why? Because that's the eternal destiny of anyone who dies without having been reconciled to God through Jesus Christ. If first they see that God rightly judged Satan and the demons, it will help them to accept the truth of the destiny of everyone estranged from God.

Caution: Do not talk about deliverance from hell through Christ at this time. Let them feel the weight of sin's punishment at this time.

It is important to emphasize that Satan is not in hell today. In the future, God will cast him into hell. But, he is not in hell right now.

Lesson Point #4:

Moral Choice: Teach that God expects people to obey his commands. Clearly, God warned that a death sentence would be executed if his prohibition to eat fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was transgressed.

God expects everyone to make right moral choices. When people make wrong moral

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choices, they sin against God. All sin against God has consequences.

Eve was tempted to sin: Teach what the biblical text says about the serpent. Do not add speculative information about the serpent or Satan.

Contrast the temptation with God's provision for Adam and Eve: Emphasize that God spoke truth always. Satan only spoke lies when he tempted Eve to sin. Emphasize that God had already provided everything for Adam and Eve. Nothing is lacking. God was not withholding from them any good thing he desired for them.

Make it plain to everyone that Satan's lies could not be realized because they were lies. As good as Satan's lies sounded, they simply were not true and he had no power to fulfill his lies.

Be sure to make it plain that Adam and Eve understood God's prohibition. They were not ignorant of God's prohibition and warning.

Emphasize that God holds those who break his commands accountable for sinning against him, for making wrong moral choices.

Blame-shifting: Be aware that some people may be inclined to blame Satan for Eve's transgression. Satan did not make her sin. Remember: God provided everything Adam and Eve needed in the garden of Eden so there was no reason for Eve to listen to Satan.

Take the time to thoroughly explain that Eve was deceived by Satan and chose to obey his lies. Emphasize that Adam willingly ate the forbidden fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He also chose to sin against God.

Responsibility and Accountability: In many cultures there are ways to circumvent responsibility and accountability for one's actions. Be aware of the host society's cultural ways of circumventing personal responsibility and accountability for wrongdoing. Be prepared to bring these escapes into tension with the Word of God.

Note this: If the audience blames Satan for Eve's sin, re-teach the story of Satan tempting her. Emphasize that he could not force her to sin. He did not force her to sin against God. Eve sinned against God because she allowed Satan to deceive her. Adam sinned against God because he chose to eat the forbidden fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Time and Truth:

It takes time for new truth to penetrate the minds of followers of non-biblical religious

systems. Therefore, do not rush teaching the stories. It takes time for people to understand and process what they are being taught. Do not appeal to future Bible stories and biblical truths that have not yet been taught to the audience. At the right chronological time, the stories will be taught and reinforce what you have taught up to this point.

Goal: Through teaching, lead the people in their thinking to agree that the Word of God is the final authority in all things.

Complement the people for listening to God's Word: Encourage them to think about what they had been learning. Encourage them to discuss the lessons among themselves. Encourage them to let you know what they understand and what questions they may have.

Encourage the people to keep coming to the teaching sessions: Tell them that you desperately want them to know God as you know him. Tell them that in order for them to know God as you know him they need to learn more from the Bible story.

4. To the Honorable Teacher

If any part of this lesson is misunderstood, go over that part again. Play that part of the lesson again. Summarize that part briefly for the students then play that part a second time. Then ask questions to ascertain whether or not this part of the lesson is now understood correctly.

Be prepared to use proper illustrations to clarify a given lesson point. Sometimes it is helpful to use a picture and talk about what is portrayed in the picture as you teach.

Simple drama can be useful to make a point clearer in the people's minds. Before using drama, be sure that it is culturally appropriate to do so. If people are not accustomed to understanding simple drama, it may be best to not use it.