

# Adam and Eve

## Bible Verse

Wisdom begins with the fear of the LORD, but fools despise wisdom and instruction. (Proverbs 1:7)

## Bible Story

Genesis 1:27, 31; 2:15-17; 3

## FaithPoint

God gave us free will to choose the path we take.

## What You Need to Know

God created Adam and Eve in God's image and placed them in the garden of Eden. God's instructions to them were very simple: "Don't eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, because on the day you eat from it, you will die!" (Genesis 2:27). It's one little instruction, and yet because they succumb to the temptation offered by the snake, they choose not to obey God.


Why does God give Adam and Eve the ability to choose for themselves in the first place? The Bible does not state specifically, but to have a true relationship with God, one must enter the relationship knowingly and willingly.

This story of the first sin introduces suffering and death. It's very clear that the suffering and death are brought about by humans, humans well aware of what God said the consequences would be. Today's Bible verse, Proverbs 1:7, states clearly that those who are truly wise have a deep respect for God.

Almost every day of our lives we are given opportunities to make choices. For tweens we sometimes think the choices are not that important; however, with every choice tweens make they build the character they will depend upon their entire lives. Every choice between good and evil affects their relationship with God.

Will they choose to cheat on a test, take drugs, bully or gossip about another tween, or will they study hard, live healthily, and treat others with respect? The choices are theirs.



Activities marked with  contain options to use recycled or repurposed materials.



Activities marked with  may require extra preparation.

# Gather

Choose the activities that best suit your situation.



## Creation Art

**Supplies:** a wide variety of craft supplies such as paper, self-drying clay, fabric, paints, wire, foam board, and so forth

*Begin with the concept of creation.*

- 🕒 Gather and lay out a wide variety of craft materials.
- As tweens arrive ask each to choose from the provided materials and create something. What they create and the materials used are each tween's choice.
- When all have arrived bring them back together and encourage those who wish to do so to share their creation and why they created what they did.
- Explain that God created the earth and everything in it out of chaos. One of the things God chose to create was humans.

## Make a Choice

**Supplies:** Leader's Guide—p. 86, scissors, pencils or markers

*Introduce the concept of choosing freely to do God's will.*

- 🕒 Make several copies of the fruit shapes on page 86.
- Ask tweens to choose a fruit shape and cut it out.
- Encourage them to think of an important choice they've had to make this week and write what they had to choose between on the chosen fruit (for example, whether or not to tell the truth about why homework didn't get done, and so forth).
- Gather the fruit and lay them aside for use during "Do-Overs?"

## "Choose Your Snack" Time

**Supplies:** two or more types of snacks—one healthy and one unhealthy choice would work well

*Continue emphasizing choice.*

- 🕒 Purchase snacks.
- Ask tweens to take a snack of their choice. (They are allowed only one.)

**ROCK SOLID:** Tweens in Transition, Leader's Guide

- As they eat discuss why each chose their snack and the possible consequences.

## Let's Talk

Supplies: **Tween Challenges CD-ROM—Fall 2011 discussion starters**

*Get to know your tweens better.*

- 🕒 Print a copy of the discussion starters for yourself.

Ask the three questions for Fall, Session 1.

# The Bible

## My Joys and Concerns

Supplies: **FaithZine—pp. 20-21, pencils**

*Practice the spiritual discipline of prayer.*

- Ask tweens to list one joy and one concern in their **FaithZines**.
- Ask those who wish to do so to share what they have written.
- Pray for individual joys and concerns or pray a general prayer.

Tweens will update prayer lists each week. Have them put their names on their **FaithZines** so that what they've written can remain private.

## What Do You Really Know?

Supplies: **Tween Challenges CD-ROM—challenge #1, pencils**

*Discover how much tweens already know about the story.*

- 🕒 Print and make copies of "What Do You Really Know?"
- Have tweens take the challenge without using their Bibles.
- Then proceed to the next activity—checking their facts in the Bible.

## Bible Reading and Fact-Checking

Supplies: **Bibles (CEB), completed challenge sheets**

- Make assignments for reading the following Scriptures: Genesis 1:27, 31; 2:15-17; 3:1-14, 16, 22-24.



### CD-ROM TIP

Print all challenges, activities, patterns, and discussion starters for the Fall quarter now. Keep in a folder. Be sure to keep CD-ROM where it won't be lost for future quarters.

- Have tweens check their answers to the challenge as the Scriptures are read.

- After the readings go through the questions and answers together.

NOTE: To check the answers for the names of Adam and Eve's children have tweens quickly look up Genesis 4:1-2 and 5:3.

SAY: Adam and Eve committed the first human sin. Sin is any action that separates us from God. Adam and Eve's sin was disobedience.



## “The Other Choice” Discussion

*Push thinking about choices a little deeper.*

ASK: Adam and Eve had a choice to make. What was the choice? (*To obey God and not eat the fruit or to do what they wanted and eat it.*)

ASK: What do you think might have happened if they had chosen to listen to God instead of the snake and had not eaten that fruit?

SAY: We don't know what would have happened. What we do know is that God gave people free choice because God wants us to choose to have a true relationship with God.

# Live God's Word

## Do-Overs?

Supplies: fruit made earlier in “Make a Choice”

- Have tweens take turns reading the choices, letting the group decide what would be the best choice and why.
- Ask if they've ever made a choice and wished they could have a do-over.

## Who's Your GPS?

Supplies: FaithZine—p. 3

*Introduce the concept that we don't have to go it alone, but we must choose our mentors wisely.*

- Read together, "Who's Your GPS?"
  - Give tweens time to work individually the portion where they are to draw or write the answer to the question, "Who's the GPS in your life?"
    - When finished if someone wants to share, allow it.

## GPS Floor Game

Supplies: Leader's Guide—p. 87, scissors, newspapers or scrap paper

*Work with the concept of moral choices and those we listen to.*

- 🕒 Make two copies of the choices cards and cut the cards apart.
  - Use newspapers or scrap paper to lay out a path a little at a time according to directions from the guide.
  - Choose one tween to be the walker.
    - Give a copy of the choices to two tweens. Assign one to be Guide 1 and the other to be Guide 2. Each tween will read one part of the choice.
    - As each choice is read the entire group (except for guides) must decide which choice to make. Once the choice is made the guide with the chosen choice will tell them which path to take.
  - You will make the path at this time by laying down two or three pieces in front of the walker in the direction noted by the guide.
  - Continue with readers giving new choices and walker following the path you create.

**SAY:** Every choice we make forms part of our character.

**ASK:** Why is it important to choose the right people to guide us?

**SAY:** While we make bad choices we are always given a chance to make better choices. The more often we make good choices, the easier good choices become. We often see celebrities in rehab after they have become addicted to drugs and gotten in trouble. It's good for them to go to rehab, but how much better their lives would be if they had made the choice not to take drugs at the beginning. Perhaps they needed to listen to good guides.



# Send Forth



## Create a Worship Wall of Light

**Supplies:** Tween Challenges CD-ROM—five-pointed star pattern, posterboard, markers, scissors, adhesive

*Create a wall that will enhance worship while providing a visual reminder of the scope of the Bible and a review aid for those who will have missed sessions.*

 Print the five-pointed star pattern from the CD-ROM.

- Ask one tween to make a sun and one to make a moon. These will be the center of the worship wall and symbolize creation.
- Ask two other tweens to each make a small star using the pattern. Have tweens write the name ADAM on one star and EVE on the other star.
- Hang all four pieces on the wall in the worship area.

## Worship

**Supplies:** Bible (CEB), candle, candleholder, matches or lighter. **Optional:** CD, CD player

- Play music to set the mood for worship.
- Ask a volunteer to light the candle.
- Read Proverbs 1:7.

**PRAY:** O Lord, our creator, let us follow your words in all things. In Jesus' name we pray. AMEN.

- Extinguish the candle.

If tweens take turns leading the closing worship, see page 83 for reproducible instructions.

## Peek at Next Week

**Animals and Rainbows:** Print and make copies of challenges #2 and #4 (Tween Challenges CD-ROM).

**Bible Story by Numbers:** Photocopy "Noah's Story by the Numbers" (Leader's Guide—pp. 88-89), one per group; cut apart the strips.

**Bible Verse Comparison:** Print and make copies of challenge #3 (Tween Challenges CD-ROM).

**ROCK SOLID:** Tweens in Transition, Leader's Guide