

# Adventures with GOD!

## THE WORD OF GOD WRITTEN ON OUR HEARTS AND MINDS (C.3.SPRING.2)

Biblical Reference	Genesis 3:1-24
Key Verse	Hebrews 8:10
Key Concept	I can keep the word of God in my heart and mind; the word of God helps me make choices that God gives me the freedom to make.
Educational Objectives	At the end of this lesson, children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain how God's word is written on our hearts and minds</li> <li>2. Describe how God's love was seen in the freedom he gave Adam and Eve to choose to follow God</li> <li>3. Memorize the Key Verse</li> </ol>

### Life Application

God is a God of love. We are invited to know God and to be in a relationship with God. God invites us and we choose. The more we come to know God and implant God's word in our hearts and minds, the more we'll be able to make decisions in tune with God's desire for us. How does God's word help us make good choices? God never stops loving or seeking us, even when we make bad choices. God always offers an opportunity to repent and experience grace and mercy.

### Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Learning centers		15 minutes
Bible Exploration	Bible, questions	10 minutes
Key Verse	Big sheet of paper, little pieces of paper	10 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes

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Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute
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## INSTRUCTIONS

**My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review:** As children enter, take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets, and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials at [CovChurch.org/children/adventures-with-god](http://CovChurch.org/children/adventures-with-god).

**Opening Prayer:** Gather children around a candle. Light the candle, and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them, palms up, as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

**Prayer Example:** Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

**Bible Reading:** Explain that we read the Bible first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out stretched, palms up, to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read Genesis 3:1-9 twice and ask children to respond.

**Question Examples:** What did you notice in this passage? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you though the passage?

**Learning Centers:** Have the materials and instructions ready to go at each center. Tell children they can choose which Learning Center to go to; explain what the different Learning Center options are, and ask if they have any questions. Then allow children the opportunity to choose which center to go to. When children are finished at each of the centers, invite them to come together and sit in a circle. If there is extra time, an extra illustration and activity are found on pages 8 and 9.



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**Bible Exploration:** After reading Genesis 3:1-24, ask the following questions; you can answer the questions together or divide up into four groups and have each group present their answers. 1) What was Adam and Eve's life like in the garden, before they disobeyed God? 2) What was so tempting about the tree and the fruit on it? 3) What did God tell Adam and Eve about the tree? 4) What are the consequences of their decision? 4) How do we see God's love and care even after they ate from the tree?

Because the love of God is so big and beautiful, we have the freedom to choose whether we will be in a relationship with God or not. What is it that helps us to make decisions and choices? What is it in our hearts or minds that tells us when we're making a bad choice or decision? How does God's word take root in our hearts? When children are tempted to do something they know will hurt their relationship with God, what can they do? And when they sin, when they make a wrong choice, what can they do? (Repent, receive God's forgiveness and mercy.)

Together think of an image or a phrase that can be added to the mural.

**Key Verse:** Today's Key Verse is Hebrews 8:10. Write the Key Verse on a large piece of paper, and as children repeat it several times, cover up one word at a time. Continue to cover up one word at a time until children memorized the entire Key Verse.

## **Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:**

**G=God's Word:** What is the story? (Give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story).

**R=Relationships:** Is there anything in today's Bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the Bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others. Give children a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead).

**O=Outward Action:** Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week).

**W=Worship:** Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? What would you like to say to God?



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**Closing Prayer:** Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle, explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, the candle reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

**Prayer Example:** Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen

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## CENTER OF INVESTIGATION

Materials: paper, Bibles, pencils

Instructions:

1. Read Genesis 3:1-24.
2. Answer the questions.
3. Write or illustrate your conclusions on a big sheet of paper.

What happened in the garden? How did it affect all of humanity?

In what ways did Adam and Eve sin? What did they do?

What was their excuse for making this decision?

What would have happened if they listened to and obeyed God's Word?

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## CENTER OF EXPERIMENTS

Materials: Bibles, paper, markers, pens, old magazines, glue, scissors

1. Read Genesis 3:1-24
2. Create together a different ending to the story. What would have happened if Adam and Eve followed God's instructions instead of choosing to listen to the serpent?
3. Take time to think of a situation you've been in when you knew God wanted you to do, but you were tempted to do otherwise. Find a creative way to represent this experience (draw a picture, make a collage, make word art, etc). Then each child can share his or her experience. After every child in the group shares, pick one of the examples to share with the group at large.

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## CENTER OF APPLICATION

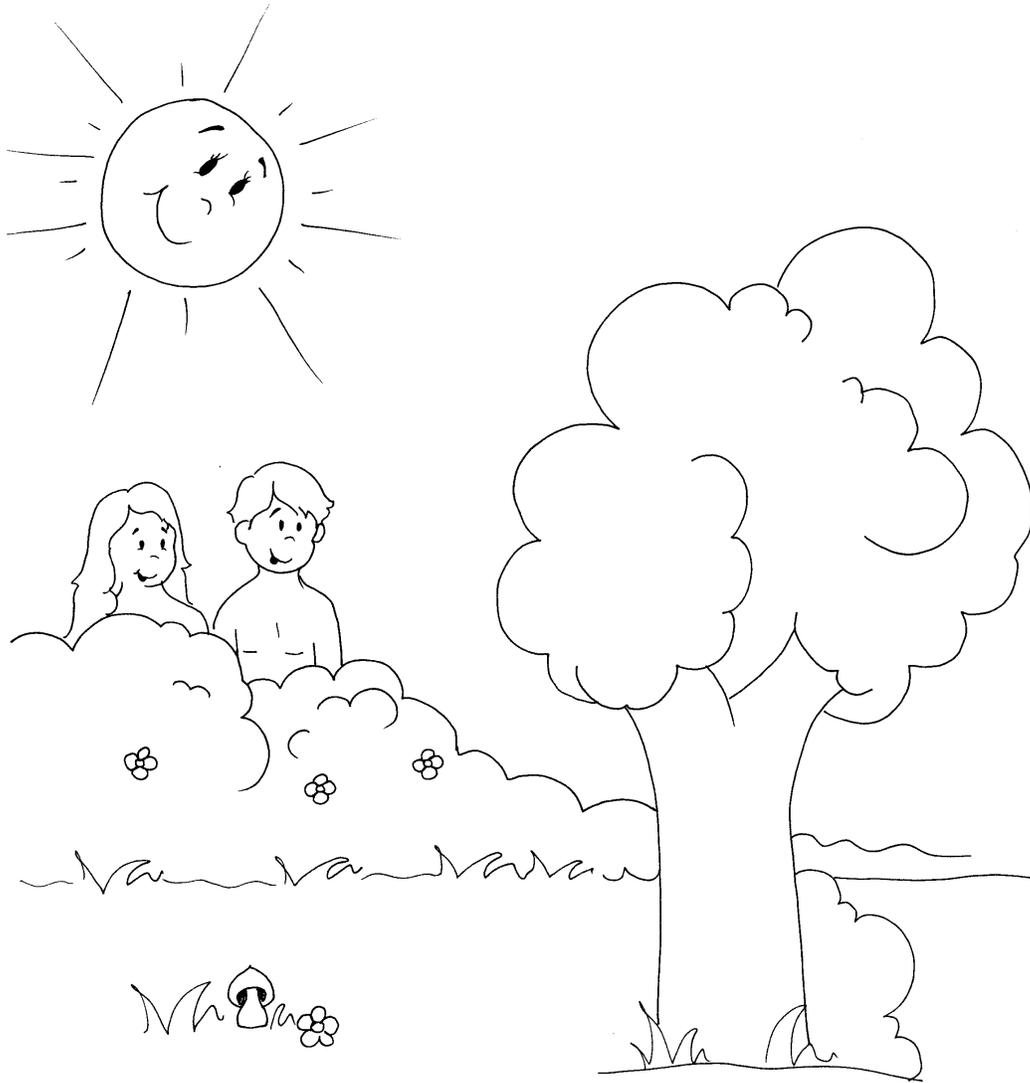
Materials: Bible, paper, pens, markers, old magazines, scissors, glue

Instructions:

1. Read Genesis 3:1-24.
2. Talk about the decision that Adam and Eve made. Then, talk about the choices we have to make; God gives us freedom to choose. How do we know what is best for us and what God desires for us? How does God's word guide us?
3. Make a collage together on a large piece of newsprint. Draw images that represent what it looks like when we follow God's word in our heart, and what it looks like when we choose to follow our own wisdom.

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## ILLUSTRATION



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## ACTIVITY

Adam and Eve aren't the only ones hiding in the garden. Can you find the bunny, bird, snake, mouse, turtle, butterfly, squirrel, toad, and snail? Color the animals once you find them!

