

Adventures with GOD!

THE WORD OF GOD WRITTEN IN OUR CONSCIENCE (A.3.SPRING.2)

Biblical Reference	Genesis 2: 15-18, 22, 23; 3: 1-19
Key Verse	John 15:14
Key Concept	God speaks to me anytime.
Educational Objectives	At the end of this lesson, children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss what God made Adam and Eve do each day in the afternoon. 2. Discuss what God said to Adam and Eve in the garden. 3. Demonstrate how they can talk to God today.

Life Application

After creating the world, God had a close friendship with Adam and Eve. The Bible states that God, Eve, and Adam walked and talked daily like good friends. God taught them many things, especially why God made all living things. They talked to God face to face as friends talk today. Today, children can begin to understand how much God wants to be their friend. Although children cannot see God, God communicates with us through the Bible and the people who help us to understand. Children will also learn that they always have a friend who listens to them through prayer. During the week, encourage parents to pray with children daily to remind them of the lesson.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure w/God materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Introduction		10 minutes
Bible Exploration	Bible	10 minutes
Craft	Plastic Cups, String	10 minutes
Game		8 minutes
Snack		5 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
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.

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 the Key Verse for the day 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 story?

Introduction: Review the previous class lesson and repeat the Creation story. Ask children to recall what they learned from last week's lesson. Perhaps each child can say what happened each day out loud, "And God said, Let there be light" (show children where they can find it in the Bible). Emphasize again that God spoke and things happened. Focus on the sixth day when God created humans.

Bible Exploration: If you have puppets, consider using them along with the story. Another alternative is to use cardboard figures. At this age, it's helpful to provide visuals so children can respond and learn better. Read today's passage found above. Discuss how special the friendship was between God, Adam and Eve. Ask about the conversations they must have had

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on their walks. What things do they imagine? Offer an opportunity for children to share what they feel. Children may talk about the animals, the beauty of creation, plants, fruits, flowers, etc.; perhaps God, Eve, and Adam spent beautiful moments near a stream, in a beautiful countryside, etc. (let their imagination flow). Continue to the next part of the story when God spoke of a tree. God said Adam and Eve could eat fruit from all of trees because He created everything for them. Yet, there was one tree in the garden that God warned them not to eat. There were many, many trees with delicious fruits to pick from whenever Adam and Eve wanted, but God forbid them from eating the fruit from one single tree. One day, a very bad snake invited Eve to eat the fruit of the forbidden tree. She was faced with a decision, and she knew God forbid her to eat from that tree. But Eve chose to disobey and ate the fruit. Eve then offered a piece of fruit to Adam, who ended up disobeying God, too. Adam broke the trust formed from their beautiful friendship with God.

God entered the garden that afternoon as usual. But this time, Adam and Eve were hiding from God. Adam and Eve felt ashamed because of what they did. When Adam and Eve did not obey God, they sinned. God was sad because God knew Adam and Eve could not continue the friendship. God sent them out of paradise so they could no longer see God's face. God did not forget about them, and neither did God leave them alone in the world. God was always near Adam and Eve, and although they could not hear God's voice, they spoke to God and knew God was listening to them. It was not the same; the sin of disobedience broke that communion. Yet, God remains our friend through the good and bad just as God did with Adam and Eve. The Bible says that God's friends should do what God commands. Ask: Who wants to be friends with God? **Explain**

Activity: Invite two children to walk together in friendship, just as Adam and Eve did with God. Allow them to wander around the room, while encouraging them to talk politely to one another about creation, and so on.

Craft: There are two pictures found on pages 6 and 7, one with Adam and Eve in the garden and the other after they left the garden. Children can color these illustrations while discussing the story.

Snack: Thank God for the many opportunities we have to talk about God, and know God is listening. For a snack, you can bring fruit such as an apple, and put a note with the word "No". Explain that the fruit is off limits to eat.

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).

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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?

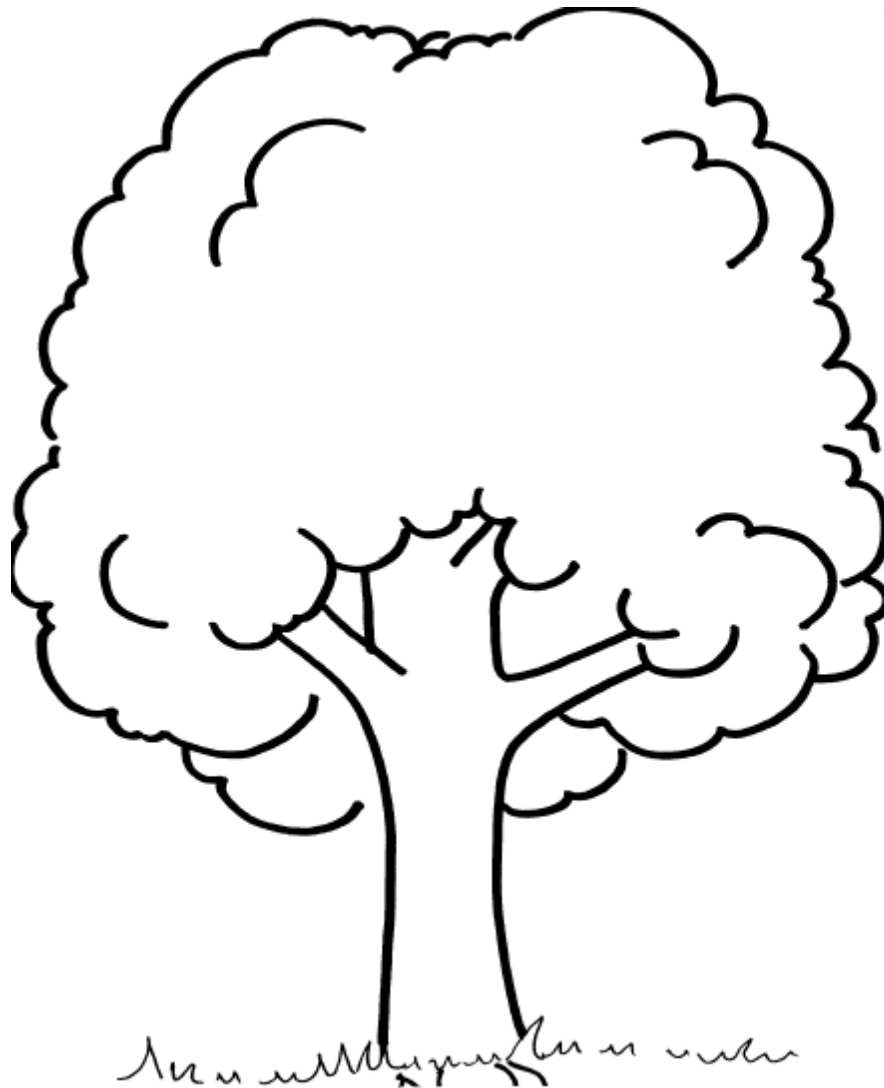
Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle, explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, the candle reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded,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

Color the tree, and add some fruit!



You are my friends if you do what I command. John 15:14

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Illustration

Adam and Eve in the garden



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Illustration

Adam and Eve are sorry for disobeying God

