

A VERY SAD DAY – THE WORST EVER LIE

BIG IDEA

Adam and Eve didn't believe God was a good God. They thought they knew best – so sin entered the world and spoiled their relationship with God and each other.

PREP *(Kids can help!)*

Buy a packet of snake lollies

Find two rolls of toilet paper

Gather pencils and paper

Find the beret, apron or paintbrush from last session for the parent to dress up as an artist again

Take the painting from last week and spoil it in some way – e.g. rip a bit off, scribble on it

Put everything into the Faith Box before you start

INTRO

THE “ARTIST” PARENT TAKES THE PAINTING OUT OF THE BOX. Act very excited about looking at it again.

Then in shock and horror let everyone see the way it has been spoiled... and be very disappointed and sad.

Explain you will have to think about why anyone would do that. Then tell the children how spoiling something beautiful means it can never be the same again.

Explain that today we are going to talk about the worst ever lie that anyone ever told in the whole history of the world and how it spoiled the most beautiful thing ever.



GAME

TAKE THE TOILET ROLLS FROM THE FAITH BOX.

Choose a child who is wearing something red and one who is wearing something blue. (Choose appropriate colours.)

The other members of the family have 3 minutes to wrap them up

*in the toilet paper – like an Egyptian mummy. “Go”.
(Take a picture if you have a camera.)*

*Award snake lollies to the winners. And see how
quickly the wrapped-up children can get out.*

*Now tell everyone you want them to listen carefully to
today’s story and think about how it feels to be under
all that wrapping.*

READ

**GIVE EVERYONE A SNAKE LOLLY. WHEN YOU
READ “SNAKE” OR “SERPENT” THEY
HOLD IT UP AND HISS.**

“ The Terrible Lie

Adam and Eve lived happily together in their beautiful new home. And everything was perfect – for a while.

Until one day when everything went wrong.

God had a horrible enemy. His name was Satan. Satan had once been the most beautiful angel, but he didn’t want to just be an angel – he wanted to be God. He grew proud and evil and full of hate, and God had to send him out of heaven.

Satan was seething with anger and looking for a way to hurt God. He wanted to stop God’s plan, stop this love story, right there. So he disguised himself as a snake and waited in the garden.

Now God had given Adam and Eve only one rule: “Don’t eat the fruit on that tree,” God told them. “Because if you do, you’ll think you know everything. You’ll stop trusting me. And then death and sadness and tears will come.”

(You see, God knew if they ate the fruit, they would think they didn’t need Him. And they would try to make themselves happy without Him. But God knew there was no such thing as happiness

without Him, and life without Him wouldn’t be life at all.)

As soon as the snake saw his chance, he slithered silently up to Eve. “Does God really love you?” the serpent whispered. “If He does, why won’t He let you eat the nice, juicy, delicious fruit? Poor you, perhaps God doesn’t want you to be happy.”

The snake’s words hissed into her ears and sunk down deep into her heart, like a poison. Does God love me? Eve wondered. Suddenly she didn’t know anymore.

“Just trust me,” the serpent whispered. “You don’t need God. One small taste, that’s all, and you’ll be happier than you could ever dream...”

Eve picked the fruit and ate some. And Adam ate some too. And a terrible lie came into the world. It would never leave. It would live on in every human heart, whispering to every one of God’s children: “God doesn’t love me.”

And it wasn’t a dream. It was a nightmare. A dove flew from Adam’s hand. A deer darted in a thicket. It was as if they were frightened by something. A chill was in the air. Something strange was happening. They had always been naked – but now they felt naked, and wrong, and they didn’t want anyone to see them. So they hid. Later in the evening, as God was taking His walk, He called to them, “Children?” Usually Adam and Eve loved to hear God’s voice and would run to him. But this time, they ran away from Him and hid in the shadows.

“Where are you?” God called.

“Hiding,” Adam said. “We’re afraid of you.”

“Did you eat the fruit I told you not to eat?” God asked them.

Adam said, “Eve made me do it!”

“What have you done?” God asked.

Eve said, “The serpent made me do it!” And terrible pain came into God’s heart. His children

hadn't just broken the one rule: they had broken God's heart. They had broken their wonderful relationship with Him. And now He knew everything else would break.

God's creation would start to unravel, and come undone, and go wrong. From now on everything would die – even though it was all supposed to last forever.

You see, sin had come into God's perfect world. And it would never leave. God's children would be always running away from Him and hiding in the dark. Their hearts would break now, and never work properly again. God couldn't let His children live forever, not in such pain, not without Him.

There was only one way to protect them.

"You will have to leave the garden now,"

God told His children, His eyes filling with tears.

"This is no longer your true home, it's not the place for you anymore."

But before they left the garden, God made clothes for His children, to cover them. He gently clothed them and then He sent them away on a long, long journey – out of the garden, out of their home.

Well, in another story, it would all be over and that would have been... The End – but not in this story... (Explain that you will talk about the end of the story later.)))

Genesis 3

The Jesus Storybook Bible, Sally Lloyd-Jones, pages 28-36, Zondervan © 2007

EXPLORE

QUESTIONS

In what way did Adam and Eve spoil the special garden?

What part of our story does this 'wrapping up' game remind you of?

Do think that God could still see you under all that wrapping?

Why did Adam and Eve hide from God?

God's heart was broken because the garden could never be the same. Adam and Eve chose to disobey God. We call this sin – and now everyone who is born finds it easier to do bad things.

GIVE EVERYONE ANOTHER SNAKE LOLLY.

QUESTIONS

What was the terrible lie that the snake told Adam and Eve?

How did they feel when they disobeyed God?

How do you feel when you do something wrong?

Sin is like being all wrapped up – it wraps itself around us. When we have this stuff on we are not free; we are tied up and can't do things we should do. This makes God sad.

GIVE EVERYONE A PENCIL AND PAPER.

We all do things that make God sad. Write down some things that you have done that make God sad. What can you do to help make it better?

Tell God you are sorry and try to not do it again. God understands and forgives you. And He will always love you.

READ

“God loved His children too much to let the story end there. Even though he knew he would suffer, God had a plan – a magnificent dream. One day, he would get his children back. One day he would make the world their perfect home again... Before they left the garden, God whispered a promise to Adam and Eve: “It will not always be so! I will come to rescue you!... and when I do I’m going to do battle against the snake. I’ll get rid of the sin and the dark and the sadness you let in. I’m coming back for you!” And He would – one day, God Himself would come.”

*The Jesus Story Book Bible, Sally Lloyd-Jones (page 36);
Publisher Zondervan Kidz*

PRAY

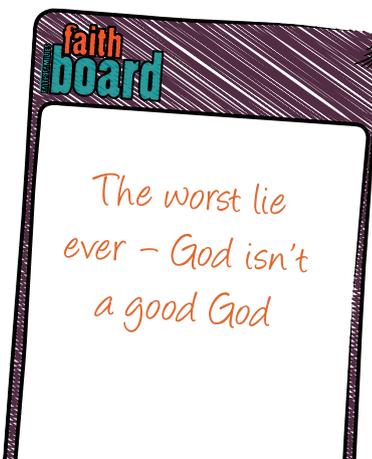
Thank you God that you are there to help us when we are tempted to make bad choices.

Each say sorry to God for things you have done that make God sad.

LIVE

This week run a Snake Award – have a packet of snake lollies available during the week and award them when someone is especially obedient or makes a really good choice.

FAITH BOARD



OTHER IDEAS

1 **Plant a seed in a pot**
Plant a bean seed in small pot and leave it where the children can keep tabs on its sprouting progress. Talk about how God provides our food from His world. We have to co-operate by planting and weeding and waiting for the seed to show signs of growth ... Talk about how God shows how much he loves us by still providing food from the ground – and how we have to work to plant and harvest and to keep the weeds away.

2 **Feed some ducks or other local birds, or make a bird feeder.**

*“Adam and Eve believed a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad lie – God doesn’t love me.”
– Tim Melton*

BUY FOR NEXT SESSION

- A packet of sparkly stars or glow in the dark stars