

Leader's Guide: Ages 12-14 God of Wonders Part 2: Genesis through Joshua Unit 6, Lesson 27

The Fall of Man

Lesson Aim: To know the importance of respecting the boundaries that God provides.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The God Who Provides

THE WORD

What He Has Done: God banished Adam and Eve from the garden when they disobeyed Him. **Scripture Focus:** Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-24; James 1:13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:13 **Key Verse:** Genesis 3:23

Christ Connection: Romans 5:12, 18; 8:37-39

THE WAY

The Big Question: Why did only one sin cause God to banish Adam and Eve from His presence?

UNIT 6 FOCUS VERSE

"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:19

Unit 6: The God Who Provides				
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim	
27	The Fall of Man,	God banished Adam and	To know the importance of respecting the	
	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-24; James	Eve from the garden	boundaries that God provides.	
	1:13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:13	when they disobeyed Him		
28	Cain and Abel,	God showed mercy and	To see how God provides us with all we need	
	Genesis 4:2b-16	justice to Cain.	to avoid sinning against others	
29	God Saves Noah,	God provided a way to	To explore what it means to trust God	
	Genesis 6:5-9, 14, 19, 22; 7:16-	save Noah, his family, and	completely.	
	18, 23-24; 8:1, 6-12; 9:13-15	the animals.		
30	The Tower of Babel,	God scattered the builders	To bring glory to God through our good	
	Genesis 11:1-9; Proverbs 3:3-6	of the tower of Babel.	works.	
31	Abram's Call and Covenant,	God called Abram and	To understand the role of faith in a covenant	
	Genesis 12:1-8, 15:1-6, 18	made a covenant with	with God	
		him.		

LEADER'S ENCOURAGEMENT This week, read Psalm 16:5-11. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for the boundaries You give us. Fill the students with Your Holy Spirit that they might see the blessings those boundaries provide. Amen."

Lesson Aims are based on reflecting God's character as we participate in His actions to, for, and in the world.

Take Home Elements: The Journal Entry, Action Card, and Family Discussion Card may be sent home to encourage students to reflect on the lesson. The Journal Entry is an in-depth personal study. The Action Card is a visual reminder of the Bible story, God's action, and how we can join into that action. The Family Discussion Card gives parents and guardians a way to engage their students in what they are learning.

Leader's Tip: For larger gatherings, teach THE WELCOME, THE WORSHIP, and THE WORD in a large group setting and divide into small groups for discussion with THE WAY.



Suggestion: Choose a game that focuses on concepts related to the lesson such as God as provider, God's protection, or boundaries.

ACTIVITY OPTION 1: TAPE SHAPES

Purpose: To illustrate boundaries.

Supplies: Several rolls of floor tape*, music

Prepare: Use floor tape to create several shapes on the floor (circles, rectangles, squares, stars, or abstract shapes). Make some shapes that are large enough for several students to stand inside and others that only have space for a few students to stand inside.

*If you cannot use floor tape or if it's not available, create various size groups of chairs. With each round, eliminate one of the groups of chairs.

Directions (similar to Musical Chairs):

- 1. Play music as students walk around the room.
- 2. When you stop the music, students are to stand inside one of the shapes.
- 3. Students that cannot find a space to stand are out for the remainder of the game.
- 4. Each round, remove a shape (or more than one shape) from the floor or reshape it to reduce its size so students are eliminated each round.
- 5. Continue playing until you are down to one shape. The students standing within that shape are the winners.

ACTIVITY OPTION 2: DEFY GRAVITY

Purpose: To illustrate gravity as a good boundary.

Supplies: Balloons (preferably 3 different colors), floor tape or rope

Prepare: Inflate 3 balloons per student. Define the play area using floor tape or rope.

Directions:

- 1. Choose 3 students to play. Each student gets 3 balloons (of a different color, if available).
- 2. On your signal, students must keep their 3 balloons in the air.
 - They must stay within the boundaries of the play area.
 - A student is eliminated if he or she holds a balloon, if a balloon touches the ground, or if he or she allows a balloon to rest on his or her body.
- 3. The last student to keep all 3 balloons in the air is the winner.
- 4. If you have time, you may wish to play again with 3 different students.



Ideas for Ontional Visuals

Note to Leader: The instructions below are suggestions only. Adapt this time of worship to suit your environment, resources, and cultural expression. Encourage students to broaden their view of corporate worship by including a variety of expressions such as group prayer, group praise, silent meditation, singing, listening to music, reading scripture, collecting an offering, drama, dance, visual arts, and/or a physical exploration of nature or neighborhoods.

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Today, w	ve worship God for who He is and what He has done as the Provider.
Read the	Unit 6 Focus Verse: Philippians 4:19.
F	Sing worship songs and guide students to focus on God as our Provider.
	Read one or more of the following passages: Isaiah 41:10; 1 Corinthians 10:13.
	Invite students to offer sentences of praise to God by completing the following sentence: "Lord, we worship You for"

Note to Leader: Adapt this segment to your setting (Sunday School class, youth group, multi-age gathering, youth camp, retreat, etc.). In some settings, you may choose to have a student read the scripture aloud, and then have the leader, in his or her own words, briefly communicate the Teaching Points, the Christ Connection, and the Big Question. In other settings, a teacher, pastor, or other experienced speaker may present a lecture or extended message that includes those same elements.

Ideas for Optional Visuals:

You may choose to include an object lesson, video clip, drama, dance, song, or work of art to illustrate the teaching points.

- Option 1: Discuss what boundaries our parents give us for our protection. How difficult is it to obey those boundaries even when we know they are for the best?
- Option 2: Use a piece of fence to write notes on or hang notes from during the Teaching Points.



TEACHING POINTS

Consider current culture and influences impacting your students, and adjust the teaching accordingly.

Read the suggested scripture and communicate each of the points noted.

Last time, we learned God rested when His work of creation was done and we discovered why it is important to remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

In this unit, we are focusing on God as the One who provides. Today, we will discuss the "Fall of Man" and the importance of respecting the boundaries God provides.

The leader or a student reads Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-24 aloud.

- God blessed Adam and Eve with many good things in the Garden of Eden, including the blessing of His presence. God also blessed them with a boundary (not eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil) to protect them.
- > God is perfect and holy. Therefore, He does not tolerate sin in His presence.
- > Sin does not only refer to wrongdoing in thought, word and deed, but also to our natural tendency to sin due to the knowledge of good and evil. Ever since the first sin, all humankind is born with that natural tendency to sin.
- > The first sin was not only Adam and Eve's falling short of God's standard, it brought with it the natural tendency to sin for all humankind, and so it is known as the "Fall of Man."
- > Just as God gave Adam and Eve a boundary to protect them, He gives us boundaries to protect us. What are some of the boundaries God gives us for our protection?

The leader or a student reads James 1:13-15 aloud.

- God is not the source or cause of the evil, but he does allow it.
- God gives us the freedom to choose to live within His boundaries. Living inside God's boundaries brings blessing. To live outside of God's boundaries means to accept the consequences of those behaviors.

THE WORD Presentation continued

The leader or a student reads 1 Corinthians 10:13 aloud.

> We cannot overcome temptation on our own. If we trust in God, He is faithful to help us overcome.



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

What is the connection between this story and Christ?

The leader or a student reads Romans 5:12, 18 aloud.

- ➤ Who is Paul referring to in verse 12? In verse 18?
- > Through Adam came condemnation, sin, and death for all people. Through Jesus came justification and life for all people.
- > We are saved through Jesus' one righteous act, His death on the cross.

The leader or a student reads Romans 8:37-39 aloud.

➤ In these verses, Paul reminds us we have hope through Christ. Nothing can separate us from the love of God!



THE BIG QUESTION

Introduce and elaborate on this question. Students will answer it in their discussion group.

Why did only one sin cause God to banish Adam and Eve from His presence?



Respecting the boundaries that God provides

THE WAY Discussion



GETTING STARTED Display and review the Discussion Group Covenant below:

We will include everyone here, treating one another with respect and kindness. We will encourage everyone here to express their thoughts and opposing views.

Every student shares his or her best experience or greatest challenge of the past week.



READ IT AGAIN

Read Genesis 2:15-17; 3:4-13 silently or aloud.

With all the trees God provided for Adam and Eve, why do you think they ate from the one tree God told them to avoid?

In verses 8-9, God would have known where Adam and Eve were. Why do you think He asked them where they were?

How did they respond (v. 11-13) when God asked them if they are from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?

What were the consequences of Adam and Eve's sin (v. 14-24)?



THE BIG QUESTION Invite students to share their answers.

Why did only one sin cause God to banish Adam and Eve from His presence?



TAKE ACTION Lead students in a discussion using the questions below.

Why do you think God was protecting Adam and Eve from the knowledge of evil?

How do you describe the difference between one sin and our natural tendency to sin?

What might be a blessing that comes from respecting God's boundaries?

Ask each student to complete this sentence: **God calls us to respect the boundaries He provides, SO THAT others might**_____.



PRAY Share prayer requests and answered prayers.

Have students pray with partners, or have the whole group pray together.



FINAL FIVE MINUTES When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

Give each student Action Card #27 and Journal Entry #27. **Take home today's Action Card** as a reminder of how we can join in what God is doing. Use the Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. Complete your Journal Entries at home and keep them together in a notebook or in your Bible. Optional: Provide parent or guardian with Family Discussion Card #27.

The Fall of Man

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-24; James 1:13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:13

- Pray!!! Ask the Holy Spirit to show you what He wants you to learn from this passage.
- Now read Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-24; James 1:13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:13.
- Make a list of all the things God allowed Adam and Eve to do in the garden.

- What was the one thing God did not allow in the garden?
- In Genesis 3:6, what three things did the serpent say to Eve convincing her to take the fruit?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

- By forbidding Adam to eat fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, God was proving a boundary. If Adam had respected that boundary, from what would he have been protected?
- How is it dangerous for us to have knowledge of evil choices we can make?
- Why do you think a good and perfect God cannot be in the presence of sin?
- How does it encourage you that God provided covering for Adam and Eve, even though they had sinned against Him?

WHAT CAN I DO?

- What boundaries has God provided in your life to protect you?
- Why are those boundaries sometimes difficult for you to respect?
- What might be a blessing that comes from respecting those boundaries?

THE FALL OF MAN

GENESIS 2:15-17; 3:1-24; JAMES 1:13-15; 1 CORINTHIANS 10:13

GOD BANISHED ADAM AND EVE FROM HIS PRESENCE.

WE ARE CALLED TO RESPECT THE BOUNDARIES GOD PROVIDES.

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IN OUR FAMILY, WHAT BOUNDARY HAS GOD GIVEN THAT HAS BEEN A CHALLENGE TO RESPECT?

WHAT IS A POSITIVE WAY WE CAN ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER TO RESPECT THOSE BOUNDARIES?

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