**The Fall of Mankind**

**A Bible Story From**

**Genesis 2:8-17; 3:1-24**

**Bible Story Number: 1010050**

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**The Fall of Mankind**

**Bible Story**

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**Background**

God created everything. He created the first man and woman and placed them in the Garden of Eden. He had a relationship with them that was undamaged by sin. This Bible story tells about how this changed because of the disobedience (sin) of Adam and Eve.

**Story from the Bible**

**Genesis 2:8-17; 3:1-24**

This is what the Bible says.

God created both man and woman. He named the first man and woman Adam and Eve. God put them in the Garden of Eden to take care of it and enjoy the plants and trees and living creatures in the garden. God told them they were free to eat from any plant and tree in the garden except from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. God instructed them by saying, “You must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the die you eat from it, you will certainly die.”

Both Adam and Eve lived happily in the Garden of Eden, taking care of all that was in it, as commanded by God. Most important of all, they enjoyed a close relationship with God.

However, one day the Devil came to Eve in the form of a serpent. He spoke to Eve and said, “Did God really say, ‘You can’t eat from any tree in the garden’?”

Eve said to the serpent, “We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. But about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God said, ‘You must not eat it or touch it, or you will die.’”

The serpent told Eve, “No! You will not die. In fact, God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God.” Eve looked at the tree and saw that the fruit was very pretty and looked delicious, and she thought that if she ate it she would become like God. She looked at the fruit and decided that it would be very tasty, so she plucked the fruit from one of the branches and took a bite. It was good and she gave the fruit to Adam and he ate it.

After both Adam and Eve ate the fruit, their eyes were opened and they became aware of their nakedness. Fear and shame entered their lives.

They heard God walking in the garden and hid from Him. He called out to them, “Where are you?”

Adam said, “I heard You in the garden and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.”

God asked, “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

Adam blamed Eve, and Eve blamed the serpent.

God was very angry. He punished the serpent. He told him he would crawl on his belly and eat dust. He told him there would always be hostility between him and the offspring of man. Ultimately, the offspring of man would crush his head and the serpent would bruise the man’s heal.

God also punished Adam and Eve because they did not obey him.

Eve was told she would experience pain in childbirth and that her desire would be for her husband, but he would rule over her.

God told Adam that the ground was cursed because of him. He would have to work for food, and the ground would produce thorns and weeds. And, ultimately, he would die and return to the ground he came from.

God made clothing out of animal skins to cover Adam and Eve’s nakedness. He drove them out of the garden and would not let them return to it.

That concludes this story from the Bible.

**Retelling the Story**

Let’s review this story by retelling it as a group. We want to retell it as faithfully as we can to the story from the Bible. We do not want to add to it or leave out anything important. Who will get us started?

**Questions**

* How did Adam and Eve disobey God?
* What did the serpent do? Who was he?
* What were the consequences of the disobedience of Adam and Eve?
* What did you like about this story?
* What did you not like about this story?
* What did you learn about God from this story?

**Prayer**

Prayer is more than a way to end the session. It is time to talk to God. Public prayer is a model for others. Boldly ask God to guide participants to use the Bible story with others. Ask God to give you and the participant’s insight and understanding as you think about this biblical event.