



The Story of God | Separation

Separation | Story

Story from... Genesis 1-3

One day, Satan came to the woman in the form of a snake. He asked the woman, *"Did God really say you must not eat any of the fruit in the garden?"*

"Of course we may eat it," the woman told him. *"It's only the fruit from the tree at the center of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God says we must not eat it or even touch it, or we will die."*

The snake lied to her and said, *"You won't die! God knows that your eyes will be opened when you eat it. You will become just like God, knowing everything, both good and evil."*

When Eve saw how good and delicious the fruit looked, and that it would make her wise, she took some of it and ate it. She also gave some to Adam, her husband, who was with her, and he ate it! They chose not to believe God and to believe the lie. Instantly their eyes were opened and they became filled with shame and fear. They strung fig leaves together around their hips to cover their nakedness.

Toward evening they heard God walking about in the garden, so they hid themselves among the trees. God called to them, *"Where are you?"* Adam answered, *"I heard you coming and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid."* God answered, *"Why are you ashamed of being naked? Did you eat the fruit I told you not to eat?"* Adam said, *"It was the woman you gave me. She gave me some."* Then God asked Eve, *"How could you do this?"* Eve blamed the snake saying, *"The snake tricked me into eating the fruit."*

So God said to the snake, *"Because you have done this, you will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. You will be the enemy of the woman and her children. You will bite his heel, but he will crush your head."*

God's heart was broken because of Adam and Eve's disobedience. God always does what is right and true; he could not ignore what they had done. So God punished Adam and Eve by throwing them out of the garden – outside of his care and protection. No longer following God's ways, Adam and Eve were now subject to sickness, pain, and even death.

God told them, *“The way you have chosen to live will now bring you great struggles...
...women will have sharp pains while giving birth.
...men will have to work hard and sweat just to produce a little food from the ground.
...and you’ll both fight to control your relationship.
...then, you’ll return to the ground from which I created you.”*

Even though God punished Adam and Eve, he did not stop loving them.
He even created clothing for them out of animal skins.

I’ve told you a lot so far. Let me ask a few questions...

Separation | Dialogue

Remember this is a dialog, not a quiz. The “answers” below each question are there to help you as a leader guide the discussion toward some key ideas.

What do we know about this serpent? What did he try to do? How?

He distorted what God had said about eating fruit from the other trees.
He lied by telling Eve that the fruit would make her like God. (Where have we seen this before?)

What did Adam and Eve choose to do wrong in the story? Why was it a bad idea?

They chose to disobey God, choosing self and trusting in self, and their wisdom, more than trusting in God—their creator!
It was a bad idea because God told them not to and that they would die if they ate from the tree! What was God’s relationship with his creation?

What was the consequence of their actions?

They were cast out of the beautiful garden and out of God’s presence.
Now their lives would be hard and they would have to care for themselves
Eventually they would die. No longer would humans live forever.

How were Adam & Eve’s relationships affected by their disobedience?

...Relationship between them and God?

Now they were separated from God and his presence. Hiding from God. Afraid.
No longer walking in the cool of the day with him, enjoying all that he had created.

...Relationship between Adam and Eve?

Now Adam and Eve had shame and fear. Immediately they were hiding from God and hiding themselves from each other (covered their nakedness). They instantly began to blame each other and God...

Adam: “The woman YOU gave me gave me the fruit...” (Blaming God and Eve!)

Eve: It was the serpent, he tricked me!” (Blaming God’s creation!)

Why do you think God requires consequences for sin and rebellion?

What did it say in the Story...? "God will never allow evil to remain in his presence, because he is Holy. Review what Holy means: God always does what is good, right and perfect.

What do you think would happen if he didn't? (have a consequence for sin & rebellion)

What do we learn about humans in this story? (Where in the story did you see this?)

Humans can be deceived into believing wrong things.

Humans can choose God's ways or their own ways.

Humans tend to hide and blame when faced with sin.

Humans tend to trust in their own wisdom over God's wisdom...even though he made them!

Are we like Adam and Eve or different from them? How?

Do you think that God gave up on Adam and Eve?

(Where in the story did you see this?)

Did you hear anything that reminded you of previous stories? What connections did you see?

What do we learn about God in this story?

God knows all things; He knew Adam and Eve had eaten from the tree.

God will never allow evil (sin) to remain in his presence.

God judged each of the characters in the story.

He cast Adam and Eve out of the garden and away from His presence.

He promised One who would come to kill the snake.

God keeps His promises.

Although they did not die immediately, Adam and Eve's did eventually die.

God is the source of all grace. He didn't destroy Adam and Eve.

God made clothing for them out of animal skins.

Separation | Additional Dialogue

What from this story can you apply to your own life?

When have you had to face the consequences for doing something wrong or making a bad decision?

How do you chose between right and wrong?

Where does evil come from?