

LESSON 2: GENESIS: GOD GIVES ADAM AND EVE A CHOICE TO STAY CLOSE TO HIM

Leader Guide for One Room

Classroom: My One Room Classroom

 Genesis 3

04/26/2020

Teachers Dig In

Dig In to the Bible

- Read: Genesis 3
- In This Passage: Adam and Eve are in paradise—the Garden of Eden. There's one tree they aren't allowed to eat from. But a serpent tells Eve she can be like God if she eats fruit from that tree. Eve makes the choice to disobey God, and then Adam does, too. Then they're punished and kicked out of the garden. God lets us choose between good and evil, just as he let Adam and Eve make their choice.
- Bible Point: God lets us choose between good and evil.
- Summary Verse: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1).

Dig Deeper

- You'll Be Teaching: *God lets us choose between good and evil.* Kids are faced with choices every day. Use this lesson to help them distinguish between good and evil choices and to recognize that wrong choices have consequences.
- Think About: Think about a tough choice you had to make. How did God help you see what the right decision was?

Dig In to Prayer

- Pray for God to help your kids choose good over evil.

Quick Tip

- While some choices are between right and wrong, others are just between two fun options. Let your kids practice making choices by incorporating options into your teaching time. For example, kids can choose whether to sit in chairs or on the floor, who to partner with, or even which activity to do next. Your flexibility will enable kids to practice making choices.

This Lesson at a Glance



OPENING

Kids share about a topic related to the lesson.

Supplies

- Bible



CORE BIBLE DISCOVERY

Kids are tempted by cupcakes and analyze why people make certain choices.

Supplies

- Bible
- table
- small plates
- napkins
- a variety of snacks, such as fruit, crackers, and cheese (avoid choking hazards, like grapes)
- a plate of 3-5 cupcakes

Easy Prep

- Set the snacks on the table along with plates and napkins. Put the cupcakes right in the middle.



OBJECT LESSON

Kids choose between a raw and hard-boiled egg.

Supplies

- raw eggs (1 for every 2-4 kids)
- hard-boiled eggs (1 for every 2-4 kids)
- 2 colors of markers
- disposable plastic tablecloths
- wet wipes

Easy Prep

- Cover your tables with plastic tablecloths prior to the activity.



CRAFT

Kids make a board game with many choices.

Supplies

- "It's Your Choice!" handout (1 per elementary child) (download [here](#))
- "Color Course Board Game" handout (1 per preschooler) (download [here](#))
- markers
- index cards
- scissors
- envelopes (1 per child)
- 2 pennies per elementary child

Easy Prep

- Make a sample craft to show kids.



MUSIC VIDEO

Kids sing songs of praise to God.

Supplies

- "God Is for Me" (watch or download [here](#))
- "One True God" (watch or download [here](#))
- "Stand Strong" (watch or download [here](#))



TALK-ABOUT VIDEO

Kids watch a video and discuss the Bible Point.

Supplies

- “Programming Robots” teaching video (watch or download [here](#))



TAKE-HOME

Kids receive a take-home page about the lesson.

Supplies

- this week’s “Dig In @ Home” handout (1 per child) (download [here](#))

Easy Prep

- Add your church announcements to the “Dig In @ Home” handout.



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Kids pray about good and evil choices.

Supplies

- Bible

**Marked supplies can be reused from Core Bible Discovery*

Let's keep kids safe! You can help by using supplies as instructed for only ages 3+, purchasing child-safe items, and being aware of allergy concerns.



Supplies

- Bible

Welcome

Thank kids for coming.

Just for fun, have kids high-five three of their friends.

Make announcements.

Introduce new kids.

Celebrate birthdays by having kids whisper the “Happy Birthday” song.

Collect the offering.

Introduce the Lesson

Say: **Today we’re going to learn that God lets us choose between good and evil. Let’s think about people who make good and evil choices.**

Share

Tell kids about the good guys and bad guys in *your* favorite movie.

Have kids form pairs and tell about the good guys and bad guys in *their* favorite movie.

After partners have discussed, ask two or three kids to share with the whole group what they talked about with their partners.

Summarize

Open a Bible, and say: **It’s easy to see good and evil choices in a movie. But we make good or bad choices a lot, too! Let’s see what the Bible says about a choice two people made—and what happened because of their choice. One way God talks to us is through the Bible—his special book. God is here right now, ready to talk to you.**

Pray, thanking God for letting us choose between good and evil.



Supplies

- Bible
- table
- small plates
- napkins
- a variety of snacks, such as fruit, crackers, and cheese (avoid choking hazards, like grapes)
- a plate of 3-5 cupcakes

Easy Prep

- Set the snacks on the table along with plates and napkins. Put the cupcakes right in the middle.

Choose Snacks

Point to the table, and say: **I've prepared an amazing snack for you today! God created an amazing world for humans to live in, and then he created Adam and Eve. They had everything they needed, including plenty of delicious food! So to help remember that, I've got plenty of food for you. You can fill one plate with whatever food you want—but you may *not* take a cupcake.**

Have kids repeat the rules to you.

Stand by the table and watch as kids take their food. If you're concerned some kids might try to take the cupcakes despite your rule, hold the plate and stand by the table so kids can still see them, but you can move them out of the way if a child reaches for one.

When everyone has food, lead kids in this discussion as they eat.

Ask: • **How did you choose what to put on your plate?**

• **What are your favorite foods?**

Say: **For our snack, you had a lot to choose from! There might've been things you didn't want, but there were plenty of other choices. But there was one choice that you knew was against the rules: taking a cupcake.**

We're going to look at a time in the Bible when God had set up a perfect world. And his world included choices. God lets us choose between good and evil. Let's see what Adam and Eve chose to do in God's world.

Choose a Side

Read Genesis 3:1.

Say: **Right off the bat, Eve has a choice. How will she respond to the serpent's question? One choice would be to tell the truth about God's rules. Another choice would be to complain about how strict God is.**

Have half the kids go to the left side of the room, which will represent telling the truth about God's rules. The other half of the kids will go to the right, which will represent complaining about how strict God is. Try to have a mix of ages on each side.

Ask: • **What would make someone choose your side over the other side?** Allow time for kids to talk with the others on their side of the room and then share their best arguments with the whole group.

Gather kids back in the middle of the room. Say: **Let's read on to see what Eve chose to do.**

Read Genesis 3:2-3.

Say: **God lets us choose between good and evil. Eve chose the good thing! The serpent had exaggerated God's rules to sound extreme. But Eve told the truth about what God had asked her to do. But uh-oh...another choice is coming!**

Read Genesis 3:4-5.

Say: **Eve has another choice to make! Will she obey God's rules, or will she eat the fruit?**

Have half the kids go to the left side of the room, which will represent obeying God's rules. The other half of the kids will go to the right, which will represent eating the fruit. Try to have a mix of ages on each side.

Ask: • **Why would someone choose your side over the other side?** Allow time for kids to talk with the others on their side of the room and then share their best arguments with the whole group.

Gather kids back in the middle of the room. Say: **God lets us choose between good and evil. Obeying him is good. Eating the fruit would be evil, because that's disobeying. Let's see what Eve chose!**

Read the first part of Genesis 3:6: "The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it."

Say: **Oh no! This time Eve chose evil! But now she has another choice to make. Remember, she wasn't alone in the garden. Adam was there, too. Normally, sharing is a good choice...but not this time. Eve could choose to convince Adam to disobey, too. Or she could keep him away from the tree so he wouldn't make the same evil choice.**

Have half the kids go to the left side of the room, which will represent keeping Adam away from the tree. The rest of the kids will go to the right, which will represent giving fruit to Adam. Try to have a mix of ages on each side.

Ask: • **Why would someone choose your side over the other side?** Allow time for kids to talk with the others on their side of the room and then share their best arguments with the whole group.

Gather kids back in the middle of the room. Say: **God lets us choose between good and evil. Eve chose evil and gave some fruit to Adam. Faced with *his* choice between good and evil...he chose evil! He ate the fruit, too.**

The serpent told Eve that she'd become like God. But that wasn't true. In fact, it wasn't so great knowing about good and evil! Adam and Eve felt ashamed—something they had never felt before. They used to have a perfect relationship with God, but now they were embarrassed for him to see what they did. So they tried to hide in the garden.

God asked them, "Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?"

Remember, God lets us choose between good and evil. Adam and Eve have another choice to make now...will they tell the truth and apologize to God, admitting their sin? Or will they make excuses and blame each other?

Have half the kids go to the left side of the room, which will represent telling the truth and apologizing. The rest of the kids will go to the right, which will represent making excuses and blaming each other. Try to have a mix of ages on each side.

Ask: • **What would make someone choose your side over the other side?** Allow time for kids to talk with the others on their side of the room and then share their best arguments with the whole group.

Gather kids back in the middle of the room. Say: **Let's see what Adam and Eve chose.** Read Genesis 3:12-13.

Say: **Once again, Adam and Eve made a wrong choice. And their evil choices had consequences. Adam and Eve were punished, and their punishment included things that still punish us today. Their punishment made work a lot harder for us. *And* they got kicked out of the garden!**

Talk About It

Ask: • **Tell about a wrong choice you made.** Share your own example first.

• **Tell about a time you were punished for a choice you made.** Share your own example first.
• **We looked at the choices Adam and Eve had to make. What are choices between good and evil that kids your age have to make?**

• **We talked about *why* people might choose one side over the other in Adam and Eve's situation. What or who guides your choices between good and evil?**

Say: **God lets us choose between good and evil. He wants us to choose good and obey him. When we choose evil, we hurt our relationship with God. But God loves us so much that he made a plan to fix our relationship, even though evil has broken it. One day, many years after Adam and Eve's bad choice, God sent his Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for our evil choices. Jesus chose good over evil *every single time*, but he died as a punishment for all of our evil choices. Let's say thank you right now.**

Pray: God, thank you for loving us so much that you gave us choices instead of forcing us to obey like robots. Please help us choose good over evil. Thank you for sending Jesus to help us make good choices, and thank you for sending Jesus to take our punishment when we choose evil. In Jesus' name, amen.



Which Egg?

Supplies

- raw eggs (1 for every 2-4 kids)
- hard-boiled eggs (1 for every 2-4 kids)
- 2 colors of markers
- disposable plastic tablecloths
- wet wipes

Easy Prep

- Cover your tables with plastic tablecloths prior to the activity.

Observe and Guess

Form mixed-age groups of two to four kids around the tables. Give each group one raw and one hard-boiled egg.

Say: **One of these eggs is raw and one is hard-boiled. Without breaking or cracking the shell, work together in your group to try to figure out which one is which.** Kids might smell, hold, shake, or spin the eggs. If they spin, they'll notice that one (the raw one) spins more slowly than the other. Don't tell them this secret, but let them guess and observe. When they choose, have them mark the raw egg with one color and the hard-boiled egg with the other color.

Drop the Eggs

Say: **Let's see if your choices are correct. Choose one of your group members to stand and hold the egg that you think is hard-boiled approximately 3 feet above the tabletop. We're going to drop these eggs and reveal if you made a good or bad choice. Are you ready?** Have everyone count down from three and watch what happens when the eggs drop. Celebrate groups that chose correctly, and then have groups each choose another member to drop their other egg. Hand out wet wipes so kids can clean up.

Talk About It

Ask: • **How confident did you feel about your choice of egg? Why?**

Say: **Good and evil aren't always obvious. Both options may seem good at the time, but like the raw egg, one turns out to have messy consequences.**

Ask: • **Tell about a time a bad choice led to messy consequences in your life. Did you know it was a bad choice right away?**

Say: **God lets us choose between good and evil. We can ask him for help in making good choices. But when we do make a mess, he'll help us pick up the pieces and learn from the experience.** Have kids carefully clean up the mess by rolling and throwing away the tablecloths.

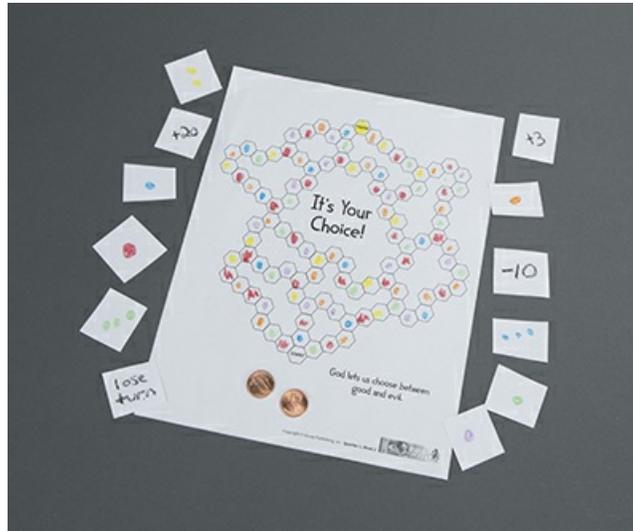


Supplies

- "It's Your Choice!" handout (1 per elementary child) (download [here](#))
- "Color Course Board Game" handout (1 per preschooler) (download [here](#))
- markers
- index cards
- scissors
- envelopes (1 per child)
- 2 pennies per elementary child

Easy Prep

- Make a sample craft to show kids.



Make a Game Board

Give each elementary child an "It's Your Choice!" handout, and give each preschooler a "Game Board Template" handout. Have kids color the spaces using a variety of colors. Ideally, kids will use several different colors. While kids may choose to use fewer, encourage them that a greater color variety will make a more fun game. To save on time, elementary kids can simply make a dot in each hexagon rather than fully filling it in.

Make Cards

Give each child six index cards. Have elementary kids cut their index cards into eight small squares each. Then have kids draw dots on the squares that match the colors on their board, using one color per square. (Preschoolers can color the full index card, one card per color they used.) Older kids can also include a few of these variations (or others they make up):

- two dots of the same color (allowing you to move two spaces of that color)
- three dots of the same color (allowing you to move three spaces of that color)
- plus signs with numbers (allowing you to move forward that many spaces)
- negative signs with numbers (forcing you to move backward that many spaces)
- lose a turn

Have kids each place their cards in an envelope.

Help preschoolers make their playing pieces by each folding two index cards so they stand up like tents and decorating each card with a different picture.

Play the Game

Give elementary kids each two pennies as playing pieces for their game. They'll each use one penny now but take two home to play with a family member. One partner's penny will be heads-up and the other will be tails-up. Then have kids form same-age pairs to play one of their games. To play, kids will take turns reaching into that game's envelope without looking, pulling out a card, and moving their piece according to the instructions. The elementary game incorporates choice because there are many paths to get to the end. Kids can choose which way to go at forks in the road. The preschool game incorporates choice because kids can choose their card (without looking). Preschoolers will return their cards to the envelope and mix them up after each turn.

Talk About It

Ask: • **How did you choose which path to take or which card to pick in your game?**

• **How do you know what the best choice is when you're faced with choices in real life?**

Say: **In a game, sometimes it's easy to see which path will get you farthest. But sometimes it might not be an easy choice. Life can be like that, too. Sometimes it's easy to choose good over evil. Other times, we're not sure what the right choice is. God lets us choose between good and evil, and if we ask him, he will help us make the right choices.**

Encourage kids to take their games home (including the playing pieces) and play with their friends and family, explaining how the choices in the game are like the choices God gives us between good and evil.



MUSIC VIDEO

God Is for Me

[10 min]

Supplies

- “God Is for Me” (watch or download [here](#))
- “One True God” (watch or download [here](#))
- “Stand Strong” (watch or download [here](#))

Tip

- Don't have internet in your classroom? That's okay! You can download the videos before class using the “download” button at the link provided, or just purchase this quarter's DVD [here](#).

Sing Songs to God

Sing the three songs in any order.



Supplies

- “Programming Robots” teaching video (watch or download [here](#))

Tip

- Don’t have internet in your classroom? That’s okay! You can download the videos before class using the “download” button at the link provided, or just purchase this quarter’s DVD [here](#).

Discuss and Watch “Programming Robots”

Say: **We’ve been learning that God lets us choose between good and evil. But I wonder why?**

Couldn’t God have just made us choose good all the time?

Ask: • **Why do you think it would be good or bad if God just made us to always choose good?**

Say: **Let’s watch a video where kids build robots, programmed to do just what they want.**

Watch “Programming Robots.”

Ask: • **If you could program a robot, what would you program it to do?**

• **Can you have a relationship with a robot? Why or why not?**

• **What’s the difference between someone who *chooses* to love you instead of someone who’d be programmed like a robot to love you?**

Say: **If we were programmed like robots, we’d have no choice. But we wouldn’t really love God, and we wouldn’t be doing good out of love. God wants us to choose to love him, because that helps our relationship. God lets us choose between good and evil.**



TAKE-HOME

Dig In @ Home

[0 min]

Supplies

- this week's "Dig In @ Home" handout (1 per child) (download [here](#))

Easy Prep

- Add your church announcements to the "Dig In @ Home" handout.

Distribute a copy of the "Dig In @ Home" handout to kids as they leave, or email it to parents during the week.



Supplies

- Bible

Pray About Evil

Say: **Today we've learned that God lets us choose between good and evil. But we don't have to make those choices on our own; we can ask God to help us. Let's do that now.**

Gather kids on one side of the room. Say: **Let's imagine that this side of the room is a bad or evil choice. Think about a choice facing you this week. Pray silently that God will keep you from making a bad choice.** Allow time.

Have kids move to the middle of the room.

Say: **Jesus prayed about staying away from temptation. Let's pray his prayer.** Read Matthew 6:13, and then have kids pray it by repeating it after you.

Pray About Good

Read Romans 12:21.

Say: **God says we can overcome evil by doing good! Let's go to the other side of the room and imagine it's a good choice.** Lead kids across the room.

Say: **Think about a good choice you could make this week. Silently ask God to help you make that choice.** Allow time.

Read Psalm 34:14.

Say: **God can help you turn from evil and do good. Remember this verse during the week as you try to make good choices.**

Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to make good choices and come back next week to tell you about their choices.