

God's Plan: 2 BE WITH US!

What happens
when I
disobey God?

Bible Story

The Sin Separation

Genesis 2:8–9, 15–17; 3:1–24

Bible Verse

"[A]ll have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God." Romans 3:23

Sin separates
you from God.

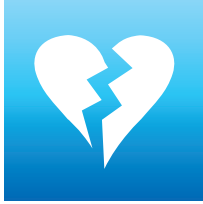
Session Goals

1. PARTICIPATE in telling the story of Adam and Eve.
2. IDENTIFY things that can happen because of sin.
3. ASK God for help to follow his commandments.
4. CHOOSE to live as a member of God's family.

Spark Principle— Cause & Effect

Whatever we do (a cause) has a result (an effect). Whenever we sin, the effect is separation from God.





Broken Heart

A broken heart has long stood for heartache caused by physical or emotional separation. When Adam and Eve sinned, the result

was their separation from God—physical, emotional and spiritual. This separation results when we sin, too. The heartache caused by this separation is felt by God and by us as well.

Heart Prep

Although Adam and Eve were created without sin, God gave them the power to choose between right and wrong. They each had a free will. God placed them in a perfect place, the Garden of Eden, and told them they had the freedom and use of the whole garden, except for one thing. God said, “You are free to eat from any tree of knowledge of good and evil. From that tree you shall not eat; when you eat from it you shall die” (Genesis 2:17).

The temptation of Eve began when the serpent put in Eve’s heart the wicked, terrible thought that something other than God’s plan was best. He wanted to make Eve question God’s goodness and to shake her simple faith in God’s love.

All people since the fall, without respect to position or class, have been sinners before God. “Therefore, just as through one person sin entered the world, and through sin, death, and thus death came to all, inasmuch as all sinned” (Romans 5:12). The entire nature of people has been brought under the condemnation and curse of sin. We must have a Savior.

In the same chapter that records this story of sin is the promise of victory over it. Read Genesis 3:15, for here a Redeemer is promised! The Chief Engineer of heaven was working out all of this plan before the world’s foundation and long before people sinned or realized their need. The cross of Calvary stands so related to all the ages that the sacrifice of Jesus Christ once and for all (1 Peter 3:18) fulfilled the promise of a Redeemer and provided salvation to all who believe since the very fall of Adam and Eve.

Bible Story Recap

God placed Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden to take care of it and enjoy it. They talked with God face-to-face every day in the cool of the evening.

Adam and Eve were free to eat from every tree that was in the garden—except for the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If they did eat the fruit, they would die.

Then one day, a serpent, the cleverest wild animal God created, spoke to Eve. This serpent was really God’s enemy, Satan. “Did God REALLY say that you couldn’t eat from EVERY tree in the garden?” the serpent slyly asked. When Eve told him about God’s one rule, he replied, “This fruit won’t make you die! It will make you WISE. You will be like God!”

Eve looked at the fruit. It WAS beautiful. And it WOULD be wonderful to be wise like God. She reached out her hand, took the fruit and bit into it. She handed it to Adam, and he bit into it as well. Suddenly, they both knew that they had chosen to do something terribly, terribly wrong.

Soon, Adam and Eve heard God walking in the garden. So they hid! For the first time in their lives, Adam and Eve didn’t want to talk with God. Something had come between them.

When God asked Adam what had happened, Adam blamed Eve. Then Eve blamed the serpent. The truth was that they both had chosen to disobey God. Because of their sin, Adam and Eve would have troubles that they had never known before—sadness and hard work and pain. They would grow old and they would die, just as God had warned them.

Daily Recap

At the end of each session, take time to reflect on what happened. Use these questions as a guide:

- What was your greatest struggle today? How did you respond?
- Thank God for wanting to be with you! Invite Him to prepare the hearts of the kids to respond to their need to be with Him.
- Pray, asking God to help each child in your group understand His love.

Causing the Effect



Preparation

Photocopy Causing the Effect Instructions and cut apart. Place each set of instructions on a different table. Place toothpicks, some of the bendy drinking straws, bowl of water and some of the towels on table with "Toothpick

Trick" instructions. Place multicolored marbles and some of the bendy drinking straws on table with "Marble Marvel" instructions. Place sandwich bags, pitcher of water and sharpened pencils on table with "Pencil Piercings" instructions.

Note

Toothpick Trick was tested with both flat and round toothpicks. Both types of wooden toothpicks worked. We also tested wooden matchsticks, which we'd read would also work. We had no success with the matchsticks.

Procedure

Children rotate freely between the tables, trying the different experiments. Make sure there is a helper at each table to lend a helping hand, read instructions for early readers and otherwise supervise children's activities.

Note

Marble Marvel was tested with both wide and narrow bendy drinking straws. The marble spun more using the narrow straw, but the marble easily landed again on the wide bendy straw.

Conversation

How many of you did the Toothpick Trick? Did you expect the effect you caused? How about with Marble Marvel? Pencil Piercings? In each of these

experiments, we **CAUSED** an interesting effect, something you likely didn't expect. Today's Spark Principle says that whatever we do (a cause) has a result (an effect). Whenever we sin, the effect is separation from God. Our sin separates us from God!

What is today's Daily Plan? Pause for children to respond, "2 BE WITH Us!" The Bible says, "[A]ll have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23). Every one of us sins. There are times when we do wrong things. But God loves us enough that He promised to send someone to make a way for us to be close to Him again. And He promises to help us not do wrong things when we ask.

Pray, **Dear God, thank You for loving us. Please help us not to do wrong things. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Lab Journal

Grades 1 and 2: Children complete "All Tangled Up" activity on page 9 of their *Lab Journals*.

Grades 3 and 4: Children complete "Aha! Now I Know What Causes That!" activity on page 8 of their *Lab Journals*.

Grades 5 and 6: Children complete "Never Together" activity on page 8 of their *Lab Journals*.

Materials

- ☐ Causing the Effect Instructions (pp. 68–69)
- ☐ toothpicks
- ☐ bendy drinking straws
- ☐ bowl of water
- ☐ towels
- ☐ multicolored marbles
- ☐ resealable plastic sandwich bags
- ☐ pitcher of water
- ☐ sharpened pencils
- ☐ large bin (or sink)



These photos show the final results of the Toothpick Trick and Pencil Piercings. The photos don't appear on the instruction sheets, because we don't want to give away what happens before the kids do the experiment. There isn't an "after" photo for the Marble Marvel experiment, because what happens is the marble hovers just above the straw and spins. This doesn't show in a photo.



Causing the Effect Instructions

Toothpick Trick

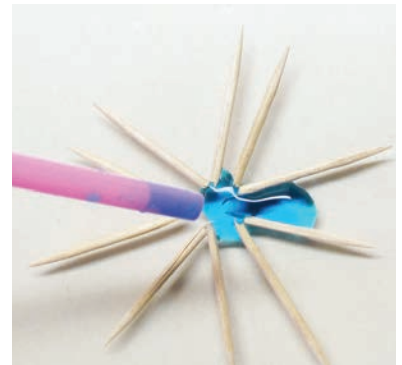
What to Do

1. Bend five toothpicks in the middle so that they snap but are still hinged with a small piece of wood. If a toothpick breaks into two pieces, throw it away.
2. Arrange toothpicks in a circle with the ends pointing out (photo a).
3. Dip a drinking straw into bowl of water. Place thumb over the other end of the straw to pick up some water.
4. Place end of straw over the middle of the toothpicks and remove thumb to drop water (photo b). (The water in the photo has had food coloring added so that you can see the water. You don't need food coloring in your water.)
5. Watch what happens.

a.



b.



What's Happening

Ever notice wooden doors at your house sometimes "stick" when it's humid or raining? The wood in the door absorbs moisture and expands. The same thing is happening here. The dry wooden toothpicks absorb the water through the break and expand in size, and the expansion causes the toothpicks to move.

Marble Marvel

What to Do

1. Bend the straw and hold at the bend with the short end of the straw pointing up. Place the other end of the straw in your mouth.
2. Carefully place the striped marble on the end of the straw. (Note: Your marble doesn't HAVE to be multi-colored, but it's easier to see what happens if it is.)
3. Start blowing through the straw, slowly at first and then as hard as you can.
4. Watch what happens.

What's Happening

The faster air moves around an object, the less the air pushes on it. The marble spins and lifts from the straw because gravity is pushing DOWN on the marble at the same rate the air you are blowing is pushing UP on it. See if you can land the marble back on the straw by slowly stopping the flow of air through the straw.



Pencil Piercings

What to Do

1. Check pencil tips. Make sure they are sharp.
2. Pour some water into a sandwich bag, filling it about half full. Securely seal bag.
3. Hold the top of the bag with one hand and pick up a pencil with the other hand. Slowly pierce the bag with pencil, and keep pushing the pencil through the bag until it comes out the other side (see photo). Don't pull the pencil out of the bag again!
4. Watch what happens.
5. Pierce the bag with a few more pencils.
6. Hold the bag over large plastic bin or a sink before you remove the pencils!



What's Happening

Resealable plastic bags are made out of a polymer called low-density polyethylene. The chains of molecules in polymers are very flexible and are what make the bag stretchy. When the pencil pierces the bag, it easily slips between the chains of molecules, but the flexible nature of the strands helps form a watertight seal against the edge of the pencil. Once the pencil is gone, the hole remains, so the water leaks out.