

# Week 3

## The First Sin

A long, long time ago, God made our world. It was filled with beautiful things. There were flowers, trees, animals, fish, and birds all living together in the beautiful Garden of Eden. Then God made a man and a woman. Their names were Adam and Eve. God told Adam and Eve to take care of all that He had made. God gave just one rule to Adam and Eve. He said that they could eat from the fruit of all trees except for one. If they ate fruit from that tree, they would disobey God. They would know sin and evil.

One day, Adam and Eve broke God's rule. They knew right away that they had done something wrong. They were sorry and afraid. They knew they would be punished. God did not like what they had done. But God still loved them. Still they would have to leave the garden. They would have problems and troubles.

(\*) But God promised that one day He would send a Savior, who is Christ Jesus. He would be punished and die on the cross to take away our sins. But He would

also become alive again, winning the victory over sin and death for us. Because of Jesus, we are now children of God who will one day live with Him in heaven!

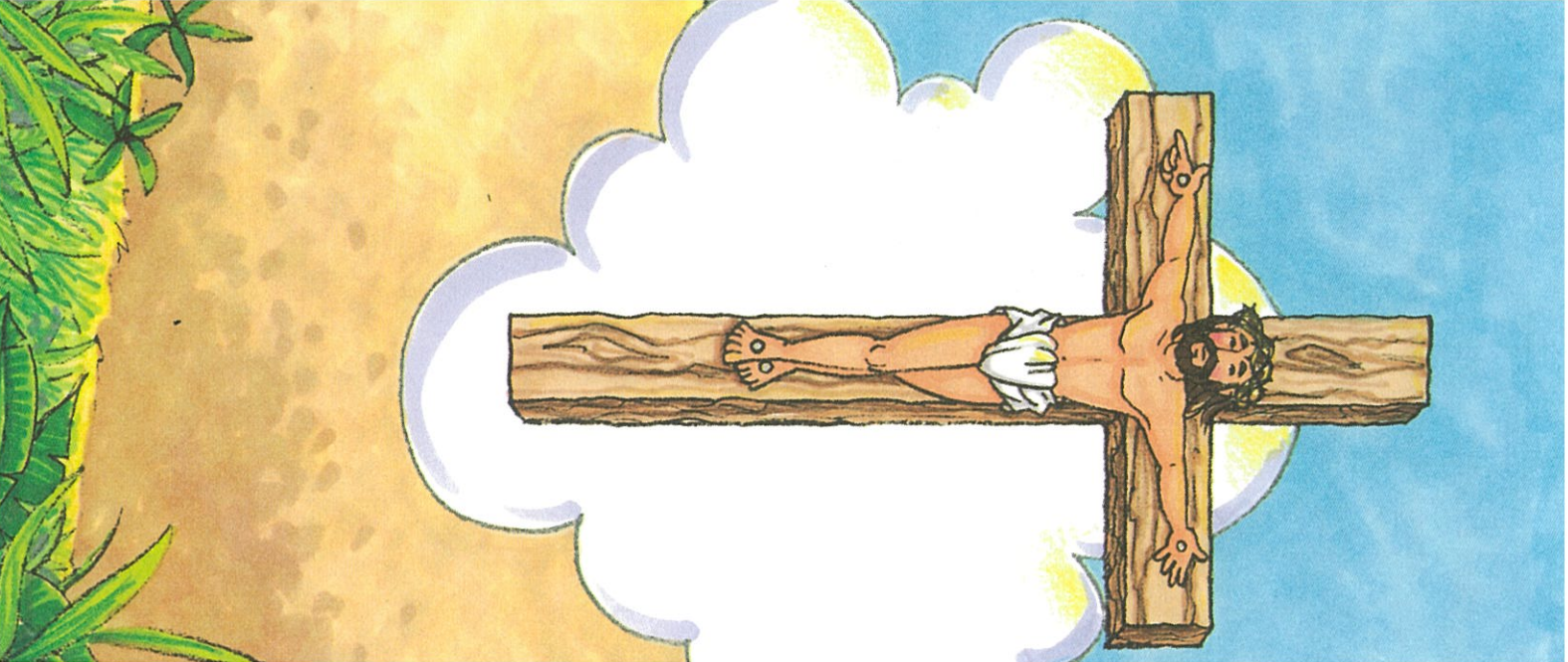
*Fold the family letter back so your child can focus on the big picture as you tell the Bible story. At the point in the story indicated by an asterisk (\*), fold the picture strip forward, overlapping part of the big picture. Talk about what has changed in the picture as you continue the story.*

### Think about It

We all do things that are wrong. God does not like our sin, but He will never stop loving us. He sent Jesus to take away the punishment for our sins and set us free. Read about God's great promise in John 3:16.

### Bible Words

I, the LORD,  
am your Savior.  
Isaiah 60:16



Dear Family,

The problems and troubles we have each day are the result of living in a world changed by sin. This change first occurred at the foot of the tree (in Eden); however, at the foot of another tree (our Savior's cross), we find forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.

This side of heaven, we will struggle with sin and its consequences. Young children may not completely understand the concept of sin, but they do know when they have disobeyed or done wrong. They know the consequences of guilt, anger, and unhappiness. Your home is the perfect place to teach forgiveness. Say the words "I'm sorry, please forgive me" and "I forgive you" to one another. Share Jesus' love and forgiveness with one another often.

Read pages 29-32 of *The Story Bible*. Praise God that Jesus loves and forgives you too!

