

Lesson 1: In the Beginning

This lesson focuses on the verses from Genesis 3:1-20

- ¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"
- ² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,"³ but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.' "
- ⁴ "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman.⁵ "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."
- ⁶ When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.
- ⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.⁹ But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"
- ¹⁰ He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."
- ¹¹ And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"
- ¹² The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."
- ¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"
The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."
- ¹⁴ So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,
"Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals!
You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life."
- ¹⁵ And I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will crush your head,
and you will strike his heel."
- ¹⁶ To the woman he said,
"I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing;
with pain you will give birth to children.
Your desire will be for your husband,
and he will rule over you."
- ¹⁷ To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,'
"Cursed is the ground because of you;
through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life."
- ¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you,
and you will eat the plants of the field.
- ¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground,
since from it you were taken;
for dust you are and to dust you will return."
- ²⁰ Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

1.1 Look at this painting.

1.2 Answer these questions:

a. What is the fruit that Eve tried to taste?

b. Can you guess the name of the tree which bore this fruit?

c. What are the characteristics of the creature that passed the fruit to Eve?



Adam and Eve by Titian, a 16th century Italian painter

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d. Can you name the kind of leaves that cover the body of Adam and Eve?

e. What is Adam trying to signal to Eve?

2.1 Read aloud the verses from Genesis 3:1-24.

Go to questions in 1.2 a-e again. What differences can you spot between the text and the images depicted in the painting?

2.2 Locate and circle the following idioms which are derived from or which appeared in the above passage.

- a. Sweat of your brow
- b. Ashes to ashes, dust to dust
- c. Forbidden fruit
- d. Garden of Eden
- e. Cool of the day

2.3 Matching exercise:

Link the phrases on the left to their respective meanings on the right.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • I have known him since Adam. | • Voice box that sticks out |
| • Adam's apple | • mankind in general |
| • Son of Adam | • since a long time |

2.4 Literary devices (for advanced learners)

Onomatopoeia - the formation of a word, as cuckoo or boom, by imitation of a sound made by or associated with its referent.

Example: Crush your head, strike his heel.

Alliteration – repetition of the consonant of two words or more in a word group.

Example: thorns and thistles

Parallelism – two or more parts of the sentences have a similar form to give a balanced structure.

Example:

And I will put enmity
between you and the woman,
 and between your offspring and hers;
he will crush your head,
and you will strike his heel.

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3. Influence of the Bible in the arts

3.1 Poetry-reading (for advanced learners)

A lot of literary works are inspired by the creation story in the Bible.

Do you understand these poems better after reading the Bible?

a. Eden is that old-fashioned House

We dwell in every day
 Without suspecting our abode
 Until we drive away.
 How fair on looking back, the Day
 We sauntered from the Door --
 Unconscious our returning,
 But discover it no more..
 - Emily Dickinson (1830-1886), an American poet

b. Paradise Lost

Of Man's First Disobedience, and the Fruit
Of that Forbidden Tree, whose mortal taste
Brought Death into the World, and all our woe,
With loss of Eden, till one greater Man
Restore us, and regain the blissful Seat,
- from the opening verse of John Milton's Paradise Lost, Book 1

3.2 Music appreciation

3.2.1 Listen to Jilly Black's song (2005) – Sweat of your brow.

3.2.2 Read the lyrics. Discuss the main theme of the song. Pay attention to the chorus. What does "sweat to your brow" here refer to?

4. Discussion:

Temptations usually come under a beautiful cloak. Discuss the following questions with other students:

- a. How did the serpent in this story tempt Eve? Why was Eve tempted?**
- b. What is the biggest temptation in your life?**

5. Activities (for younger learners):

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5.1 Work with your partner(s) and sequence the story of "The Fall of Man" by arranging the sentence strips in the correct order.

5.2 You will play a game called Pictionary. Your teacher will give you a worksheet with several boxes. Choose 2-3 idioms to draw in the boxes from the list below: Adam's apple, son of Adam, forbidden fruit, since Adam, sweat of your brow. Ask other students to guess which idiom you are drawing.

5.3 You will play a game called Bingo. Your teacher will give you a worksheet with grids. Choose 9 of the following words and write them in the grids. Your teacher will call out some of the words to see who can make the first BINGO.

Words to choose: serpent, Adam, Eve, God, forbidden fruit, sweat, brow, crush, strike, childbearing, offspring, curse, thorns, thistles

6. Take home message:

We face temptations in the world from time to time. Temptations are difficult to resist, but not impossible. The verses below tell us how to react in the face of temptations.

¹⁵ Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷ The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever. (1 John 2:15-17)

Attachment Resources

Lyrics of "Sweat of your brow" by Jilly Black (2005)

Verse #1:

Give thanks to Almighty
For all the little things
Sometimes we give up on the little man, typically.
We have food in our bellies
Even when the phone don't ring
Our roof ain't leaking
And so it's time for us to sing
(Hey-eh, Hey-eh eh eh eh eh)
And even when it ain't going on
You gotta still keep being strong
Just believe me
(Hey-eh, Hey-eh eh eh eh eh)
And even when things seemed to change
I know that one thing still remains (Oh! oh)

Chorus:

You gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left
Gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left
Gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left
Gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left
Gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left

Verse #2:

Get rid of your worries
Don't try to justify
The one who giveth can taketh at any old time.
Enjoy all your struggles
And appreciate the plight
Cause when darkness turns to light
Everything will be alright (Ya..ya)
(Hey-eh, Hey-eh eh eh eh eh)
And even when it ain't going on
You gotta still keep being strong (Oh oh oh oh)
(Hey-eh, Hey-eh eh eh eh eh)
And even when things seemed to change
I know that one thing still remains (Oh'ya)

Chorus:

You gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left
Gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left
Gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left
Gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left

Bridge:

Then you'll discover
Times are changing
More wonderful
More beautiful
That step after amazing is
You and I
Let them tell you nothing else
Cause the answer's in yourself

Chorus:

You gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left
Gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left
Gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left
Gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left
Gotta sweat to your brow,
You and me break
Step to the right and
Step to the left

I like to move it, move it
You like to move it, move it
I like to move it, move it
You like to MOVE IT!
I like to move it, move it
You like to move it, move it
I like to move it, move it
You like to MOVE IT!

Acknowledgements:

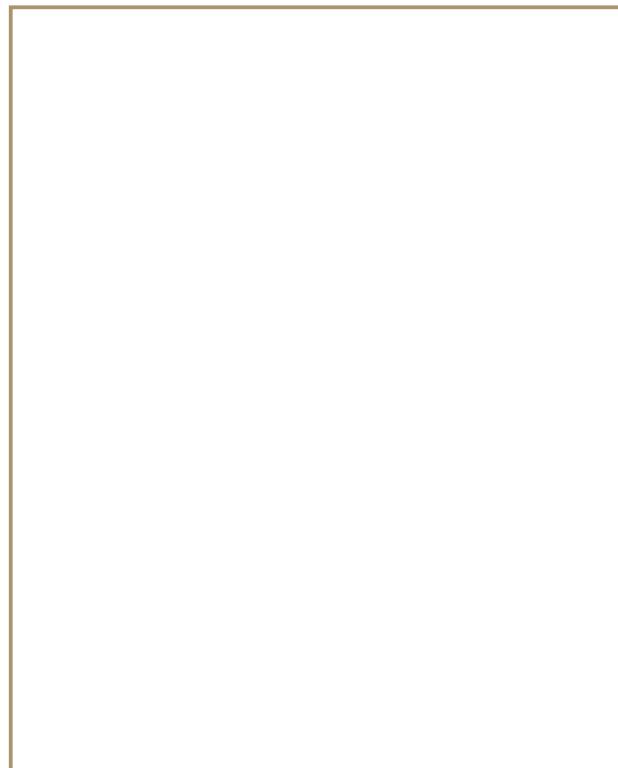
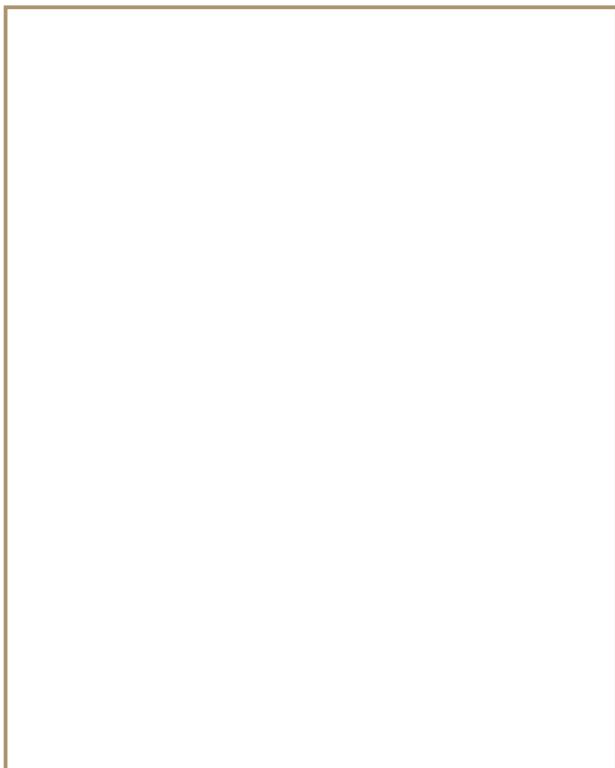
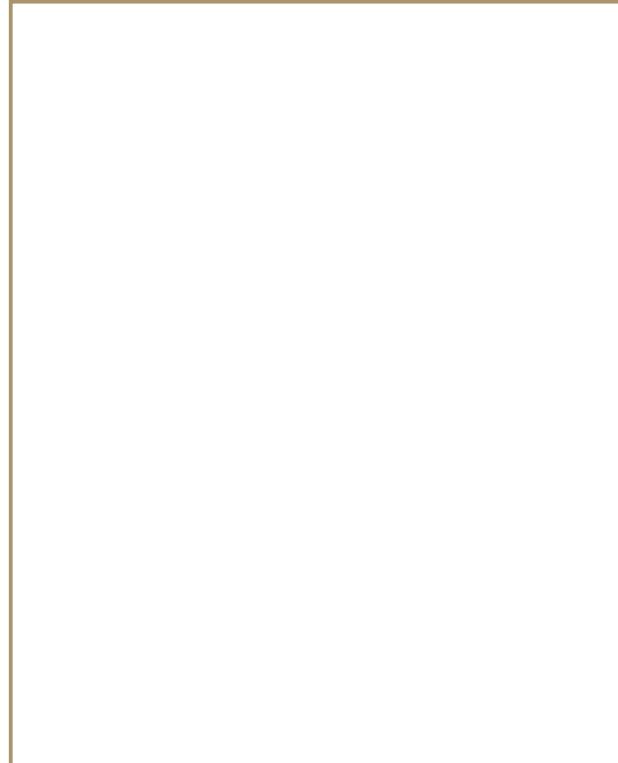
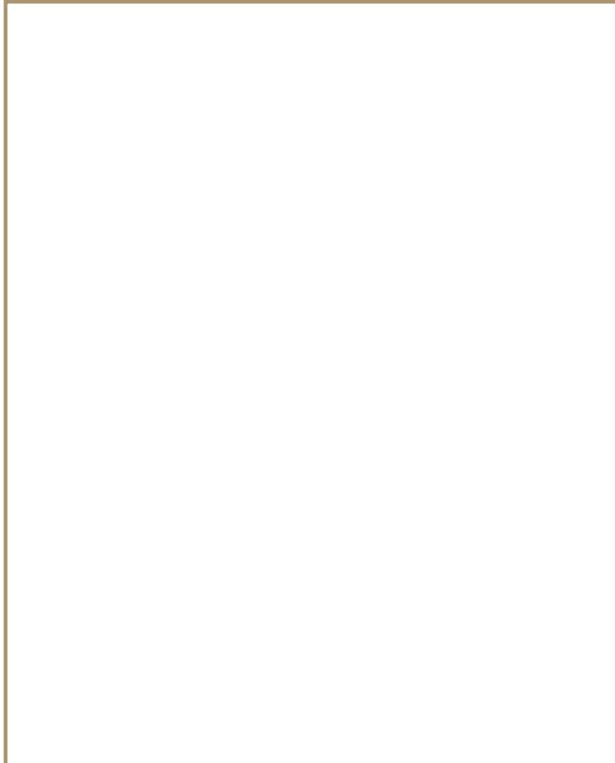
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Pictionary:

Draw pictures of the following idioms:

**Adam's Apple, Son of Adam,
Forbidden fruit, sweat of your brow**

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1. Sequence the story of “FALL OF THE MAN”

Write numbers 1 to 10 in the brackets to show the sequence.

- () When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.
- () Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."
- () For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."
- () To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life."
- () Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.
- () By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."
- () Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.
- () So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life."
- () To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."
- (1) Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

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2. Sequence the story by arranging the sentence strips in correct order -----

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her,

Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden

Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals!"

You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,'

"Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life

By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

Bingo

Students may choose 9 of the following words and write them in the grids. After 5 minutes, teacher randomly calls out some of the following words to see who can make the "BINGO" first.

Serpent, Adam, Eve, God, Forbidden Fruit, sweat, brow, crush, strike, childbearing, offspring, curse, thorns, thistles

Bingo

Choose 9 words from the suggested word list and put them in the grids. One word or one phrase in each grid.
