# What Happened to God's Beautiful Angel?

GOD GIVES ME FREEDOM TO CHOOSE BECAUSE HE IS LOVE.



**MEMORY VERSE**

**"Let us choose justice for ourselves; let us know among ourselves what is good" (Job 34:4).**

## Word of the Week—Jealousy:

Wanting what another person has or can do. This week, think about how you can be the opposite of jealous.

This lesson is based on Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:2-19; *The Great Controversy,* pp. 492-504; and *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 33-43.



PRAY: Thank God for opportunities to love and serve Him as the angels do.

☐ SUNDAY

# Lucifer, the Magnificent Angel

God created many, many beautiful angels. There were thousands and thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand of them! How does the Bible describe the number of angels God created? Read Hebrews 12:22.

Their glorious songs of praise and happy voices filled every part of heaven. All those shining angels loved God and enjoyed being with Him. Each one of them was delighted to serve God and go as quick as a flash of lightning to obey their God. But one was God's special angel. He sparkled with twinkling jewels and sang with a clear voice as he led heaven's choir.

This magnificent angel was Lucifer. Everyone loved and respected Lucifer. He had an important and responsible place in heaven, right beside God's throne.

He was God's talented and strong covering angel, called a cherub. Happiness filled his heart as he served God as the leader of the angels. Heaven was filled with joy and wonder.

DO: Look for an older person in your neighborhood who may not know the truth about God's love. Pray for a way to gently share this week's Big Idea with them (God gives me freedom to choose because He is love).

## Think . . . Then Talk About It

- *What would it be like to live in heaven, where all the angels love and serve God?*
- *Just like the angels, we can happily enjoy God's presence and serve and worship Him too.*



**PRAY:** Humbly thank God for the special things you can do. Ask Him to help you not to become proud.

MONDAY

# The Beginning of Pride

Lucifer knew he was a very beautiful angel, and he thanked God for His amazing mind. He knew he was creative, and he praised God for making him strong and swift. He knew he was very smart, and he thanked God for His wisdom. Lucifer knew that God loved him, and he loved God.

One day, for a reason that no one can imagine, Lucifer looked at himself, and he didn't think about how creative God was. Lucifer felt very proud of the strength and swiftness God had given him, but he didn't praise God for his good looks or his many skills.

**PARENT FAITH TALK:** You may like to share with your child the special things you see in them. Help them understand that these abilities are gifts from God, and that He loves it when we use them to be a blessing for others.

We don't know how long Lucifer admired himself or whether he looked in the reflection of a still pond or a bright pillar. We don't know how many times he adored his thick hair or his sparkling jewels. But the Bible tells us what started to happen in Lucifer's heart when he admired himself. What was it? **READ EZEKIEL 28:17** (first half).

Something was hatching in Lucifer's heart—something selfish and proud. Something was turning sweet into sour, and happy into sad. It was the seed of sin that leads to bitterness.

God knew what Lucifer was thinking, and He was so very sad that His beautiful angel was beginning to love himself more than anyone else—even more than God.

## THINK . . . THEN TALK ABOUT IT

- *What talents can you praise God for? For example, do you sing well, or run well, or have a kind heart?*
- *Why do you think being proud and selfish is dangerous?*

We are happiest when we love God and are grateful for the special things we can do. But if pride creeps into our hearts, things begin to change.

**DO:** Look for things in which you can see your reflection. Which works the best? Think about how Lucifer loved his own reflection. What does the Bible tell us is more important than thinking about ourselves? Read **Philippians 2:3**.

TUESDAY

# The Beginning of Jealousy

Lucifer watched Jesus speaking with God the Father. What were they discussing? How Lucifer wished he knew! Actually why didn't he know? Wasn't *he* the first of the covering cherubs, the highest order of angels? Wasn't *he* the angel who was closest to the throne of God? Why was *Jesus* invited to talk closely with God the Father, and he wasn't?

Lucifer felt jealous of Jesus. The more he thought about Jesus, the more jealous and poisonous his thoughts became.

But he kept thinking them anyway. God knew how poisonous jealous thoughts can be, so He warned us about them in the Ten Commandments. What did God say? **Read Exodus 20:17.**

God knows that when we really, really want *anything* someone else has, our hearts will fill up with a poison that will never make us happy. If only Lucifer would stop to think about this.

But he didn't. He didn't think about how God created all things through Jesus. Why would Lucifer, a created angel, be jealous of the One who created him? Whatever was he thinking?

Thinking too much about himself was making his thoughts ugly and crooked; so crooked that he even said, "I will be like [God] Most High" (Isaiah 14:14).

No one had ever been jealous in heaven before. Every angel was happy that their angel friends had special gifts. No one even knew what jealousy was! How sad that Lucifer was inventing stinking thinking.

## Think . . . Then Talk About It

- *What would the world be like if there were no jealousy or pride?*
- *How do you feel when you really, really want what someone else has? (Remind your child that many people work hard for whatever they have.)*

God loves to help us keep our hearts loving and free from the poison of jealousy.

**Pray:** Thank God for helping you to be happy with the blessings He has given you. Thank Him for reminding us in His Word that jealousy is a poisonous thing (Proverbs 14:30).

**FastFact:** According to *Wikipedia*, there are more than 600 different kinds of poisonous snakes in the world! They can hurt and kill, just as jealousy kills good things in people's hearts.







**Do:** Create a heart as a reminder that God can help us keep our hearts free from jealousy and give us happiness with what we have. You may like to cut red from pictures and make a mosaic heart, draw or paint a heart, or make one from clay or salt dough.

**PRAY:** Sing your memory verse. Pray that God will help you choose what is right and good.

**DO:** Shake equal amounts of oil and water together in a jar. Look at the mixture and think about heaven being a happy place where all the angels are good friends. Let the jar sit for a few minutes; then look at the oil and water again. What has happened? What does it remind you of?

**PARENT FAITH TALK:** You may wish to share a time that gossip or lies have been said about you or someone you love, and how that made you feel. Also share how you feel when godly friends share kind and good things about others.



☐ **WEDNESDAY**

# LUCIFER INVENTS GOSSIP

It wasn't long before Lucifer whispered his thoughts to other angels. He was very clever and made it sound as if he were just trying to help God with some new ideas. He told the angels that they didn't really need God's laws, and that heaven would be a much better place if they could just do whatever they wanted.

No one had heard anything like this before! Lucifer worked closely with God as the leading angel, and all the angels respected him. But now they were confused.

Some angels thought he must know a lot more than they did, and they started to believe his gossip. Others were very upset to hear what he was saying about God.

It wasn't long before Lucifer became bolder, and he gathered many angels around him as he whispered clever lies. What does the Bible say a whisperer will do? READ PROVERBS 16:28.

The angels had always been the best of friends, but the whispered lies were damaging their friendships.

The loyal angels were sad that their happy home was becoming polluted. They loved Lucifer and tried to remind Him that God was powerful, loving, and kind. But he would not listen. He had become selfish and jealous. He didn't care whom he hurt, so long as he got his own way. His sneaky ways convinced a third of the angels to side with him.

## THINK . . . THEN TALK ABOUT IT

- *How do you think our loving God felt about Lucifer's gossip and lies?*
- *What can you do when you hear someone saying nasty things about another person?*

Our loving God is very happy when we believe what He says. He knows how much gossip and whispered lies will hurt us and our friendships.

THURSDAY

# God Loved Lucifer

Lucifer's selfish thoughts took root and grew like a weed. When the angels loved his music, Lucifer's pride grew. When he saw Jesus and God the Father talking together, jealousy grew and began to strangle the love in his heart.

God the Father and His Son, Jesus, loved Lucifer so much that they tried to stop his poisonous, jealous thoughts. Jesus talked with Lucifer many times and showed him how kind and fair God's government was. God's law was all about love and selflessness.

Lucifer knew Jesus was right and he was wrong. He had gossiped and told lies. He had been selfish and proud. He thought about how he'd acted and wondered if he should change. Jesus told him he needed to say he was sorry to all the angels and admit that he was wrong. Lucifer knew God would forgive him if he did this. How did Lucifer know this?

*Read 2 Chronicles 7:14.*

Even though this verse had not yet been written, Lucifer and all the angels knew this was exactly what God's big heart would do.

But the proud thoughts had deep roots in Lucifer's heart. How could he say he was sorry? How could he admit in front of the whole universe that he had been wrong? No, he couldn't! So he hardened his heart and chose to continue his rebellion.

**PRAY:** Ask God to give you a loving, forgiving heart. Ask Him to help you be brave when you need to say you're sorry and admit you were wrong.

## Think . . . Then Talk About It

- *How hard do you find it to say you are sorry and admit you have been wrong? Why do you think it is hard for us to admit something we have done wrong?*
- *Think of a time you did say you were sorry. How did the other person respond, and how did it make you feel?*

Sometimes it might be difficult to say we're sorry when we have made a mistake or hurt someone, but God fills us with peace when we ask for forgiveness!

**DO:** Pull up a big weed in your garden and look at the roots, or find a picture of a plant and its roots in a book or online. What do they remind you of in Lucifer's heart? What do they remind you of in the hearts of God's loyal angels?





☐ **FRIDAY**

# War Ends It All

God allowed Lucifer to gossip and tell lies about Him until the whispering became so loud that it turned into open rebellion. God allowed this because He is love. He didn't make robots. He created beings who could choose to love and serve Him or choose to go their own way.

All of heaven took sides. Thousands of angels chose Lucifer's side. He tricked a third of all the angels. The other two thirds were loyal to God and stood waiting to see what would happen.

Then a war began in heaven. We don't exactly know what kind of war it was, but in the end God won the war because He is wise, strong, and mighty. What happened to Lucifer?

Read Isaiah 14:12 and Revelation 12:7-9.

What a sad way for things to end for God's most glorious angel. When Lucifer realized he had lost the war, he openly declared his rebellion against God's law and His government. Lucifer had become Satan.

That was a sad, sad day for all of heaven. God had done everything possible to save Lucifer, but the seed of sin had grown into pride so big and ugly that he just didn't want to be rescued and forgiven.

## Think . . . Then Talk About It

- *How do you think God's angels felt when they saw their friends choose to leave heaven with Lucifer?*
- *What helps you to make good choices, even when your friends do something that is wrong?*

Because God loves us so much, He uses true, strong, and loving words to help us choose His way every day.

# Friday Night

## Share and Praise

Use musical instruments or objects in your house to make music to represent: love in the hearts of God and the angels that chose Him; and then pride and rebellion in Lucifer's heart. Then sing a praise song to God, or "Trust and Obey" *(The Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal*, no. 590).

## Family Journal

- One thing I've learned about God's love in this story is that . . .
- Draw or write a response to your memory verse.

## For You, Parents

"A compassionate Creator, in yearning pity for Lucifer and His followers, was seeking to draw them back from the abyss of ruin into which they were about to plunge" (Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 39). Be encouraged that God lovingly works to draw your children to Himself when they want to make choices that oppose His way.

## Do

Draw a big circle on a piece of paper and mark it into thirds. Draw beautiful, happy angels in two thirds of your circle, and those who followed Lucifer in the remaining third. Look at your two thirds and thank God that many angels stayed loyal to God.

## Pray

Thank God that He uses only true and loving words. Ask Him to help you stay happy with what you have.








SABBATH SPECIAL

# Choose Wisely

Jesus is love, peace, and joy. Pride, selfishness, greed, and gossip began with Lucifer. When we choose Jesus, it affects what we do and how we treat other people. What would you do in each of these situations?

**1.** Imagine that you received two remote-control cars for your birthday. Your brother wants to play with one of the cars, but it is brand-new and you don't want him to scratch it.

## What would you say?

**A.** *"No, they are my cars, and it's my birthday. I want to play with my cars by myself all day."*
**B.** *"You can play with one of them for two minutes while I watch you."*
**C.** *"Sure, let's play together, but do you mind if we just play with them on the carpet until we learn how to drive them properly?"*

**2.** Imagine there is a shy girl in your class who often plays by herself on the playground. One day she drops her lunch box, and everything goes flying all over the ground. Most of the children laugh at her. She is very embarrassed.

## What would you do?

**A.** Laugh along with the rest of the class and watch her trying to pick up her lunch out of the dirt.
**B.** Smile at her and help her pick everything up. Tell her she can share your lunch.
**C.** Tell the story to everyone and whisper about how this girl is always so clumsy.

**3.** Imagine that you are really good at drawing. Everyone is amazed at your artwork.

## What would you do?

**A.** Tell all your friends, aunts, uncles, and your mom and dad that you are the best.
**B.** Refuse to help your little sister with her drawings because you don't want her to learn to be as good as you. You feel annoyed at her because she always copies you.
**C.** Share your talents by making some beautiful cards with your artwork, and send them to people who are sick, sad, or lonely.