

3

Worship
We worship God, the Creator.

POWER TEXT
"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10).

KEY REFERENCES
- Genesis 3
- *Patriarchs and Prophets,* chap. 3, pp. 52-62
- *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 1, pp. 61-77
- student lesson on page 42 of this guide

OUR BELIEFS
- No. 7, The Nature of Humanity
- No. 8, The Great Controversy
- No. 19, The Law of God

OBJECTIVES
The students will:
- **Know** that after the Fall of Adam and Eve, sin tainted the image of God in us.
- **Feel** secure knowing that God restores in us His image.
- **Respond** by taking a stand to be on God's side in the cosmic conflict between God and Satan.

Harmony Broken

POWERPOINT

We choose to worship God, who keeps us from falling.

The Bible Lesson at a Glance
Adam and Eve were created perfect. They had no bent toward sin or desire for sin. However, using a snake, one day the devil planted into the minds of Eve and Adam the seeds of disobedience. Their choice changed their very natures. For the first time, they allowed selfishness to creep into their hearts. They failed to give God their undivided worship and ate from the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The war between good and evil is the reason there is sin, suffering, and death in this world, but the Bible reveals that God is the ultimate winner.

This is a lesson about worship.
The creation story reveals that as long as Adam and Eve used their freedom to obey and worship God they were happy and reflected His image. As followers of God, it is our privilege to stand on God's side in the great controversy between God and Satan. Jesus' death made it possible for all of us to be restored in God's image. As we spend time reflecting on God's character and worship the Creator we become more and more like Him. In every age worship was a test of faith. God created each person with the ability to choose to worship and love Him.

Teacher Enrichment
"Man and woman were made in the image of God with individuality, the power and freedom to think and to do. Though created free beings, each is an indivisible unity of body, mind and spirit, dependent upon God for life and breath and all else. When our first parents disobeyed God, they denied their dependence upon Him and fell from their high position under God. The image of God in them was marred and they became subject to death. Their descendants share this fallen nature and its consequences. They are born with weaknesses and tendencies to evil. But God in Christ reconciled the world to Himself and by His Spirit restores in penitent mortals the image of their Maker. Created for the glory of God, they are called to love Him and one another, and to care for their environment" (*Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, p. 91).

In what ways do I take a stand for God? What could I share about worshiping God despite its challenges in order to help my students be faithful to God?

Welcome

Welcome students at the door and direct them to their seats. Ask them how their week has been. Encourage learners to study their Sabbath School lesson regularly, and use several minutes to debrief students on the previous week's lesson.

Ask: **What was the most interesting part of the Bible story? What activity did you find the most helpful? Which activity was the most fun?** Invite students to share their experiences and/or the handiworks they created for Sabbath School during the week.

(The leader should be familiar with the previous lesson to be able to direct the discussion.) This is also a good time to have students recite the power text.

Have students begin the readiness activity of your choice. 

Program notes

LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
Welcome	Ongoing	Greet students at door. Ask about their week.	
1 Readiness	10-15	*A. Polluted*	pitcher of water, spoon, container with dirt, clear glass
		B. Like a Magnet	magnet, pieces of paper, paper clips/ small metal objects
* Prayer and Praise	15-20	See page 37. Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.	songbooks, offering plate/basket, world map, pushpins
2 Bible Lesson	15-20	Introducing the Bible Story	two bowls, a desirable object, an undesirable object
		Experiencing the Story	clear glass of water, red food coloring, bleach
		Exploring the Bible	Bibles, white/chalkboard, markers/chalk
3 Applying the Lesson	10-15	*Scenario*	
4 Sharing the Lesson	10-15	*Gifted to Reflect the Image of God*	
* Closing		A. Prayer and Closing Comments B. Reminder to Parents C. Coming Up Next Week	

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READINESS ACTIVITIES

Select the activity or activities that are most appropriate for your situation.

A

YOU NEED:

- ☐ pitcher of water
- ☐ spoon
- ☐ container with dirt
- ☐ clear glass

Polluted

Pour water into the glass. Ask: **What is water like?** (liquid, clear) Point out, if they don't know, that water can change into a solid (ice) and into a gas (air). **Would you be willing to drink this glass of water?** (yes) Stir a spoonful of dirt into the water. Ask: **Would you be willing to drink this water now?** (no)

Debriefing

Ask: **Can this water be fixed so that we could drink it?** (yes) Say: **Polluted water can be cleaned so that it is drinkable, but it is a complex process that takes time. Our lesson today is about how people became contaminated by sin, and how God can clean them again.**

Let's say the power text for today together:

"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10).

Our power point today is:

We choose to worship God, who keeps us from falling.

B

YOU NEED:

- ☐ magnet
- ☐ pieces of paper
- ☐ paper clips or small metal objects

Like a Magnet

Invite a volunteer to the front of the class. Place on the table small metal objects/paper clips, and small wads of paper. Hand the magnet to the volunteer and tell him/her to pick up the wads of paper with the magnet. Then ask him/her to pick up the paper clips with the magnet and watch what happens.

Debriefing

Ask: **What happens when you put a magnet close to a wad of paper?** (nothing) **Why won't the magnet work on the paper?** (There's no attraction between the paper and the magnet.) **What happens when you put a magnet close to a metal object?** (The object moves to the magnet.) **Why?** (There is an attraction between the two.) Say: **In our lesson today we will see that people are like objects attracted to sin. Because of the choice Adam and Eve made in the Garden of Eden, people are pulled toward sin just like paper clips are pulled toward a magnet.**

Let's say the power text for today together:

"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10).

Let's say today's power point together:

We choose to worship God, who keeps us from falling.

Prayer and Praise

Fellowship

Report the students' joys and sorrows that they shared with you at the door (as appropriate). If they have given you permission, share one or two special items from students' Bible study during the week. Acknowledge any birthdays, special events, or achievements. Give a special, warm greeting to all visitors.

Suggested Songs

"The Battle Belongs to the Lord" (*He Is Our Song,* no. 85)
"You Are My Hiding Place" (*He Is Our Song,* no. 96)
"He's Able" (*He Is Our Song,* no. 100)

Mission

YOU NEED:
- ☐ world map
- ☐ pushpins

Use Adventist *Mission* for youth and adults (go to www.juniorpowerpoints.org and click on MISSION) or another mission report available to you. You may use a map of the world where the students can identify and mark with pushpins the location of the mission story.

Offering

YOU NEED:
- ☐ offering plate/basket

Take the time to discuss the meaning and purpose of offerings. Encourage students to give an offering during the church service and explain the reasons church members participate in this way.

Say: **In our lesson this week we will learn about choosing whom we worship in the controversy between good and evil. Our choices have important consequences and affect our eternal destiny. Unfortunately, many people around the world have never heard about God who could save them from the enemy's grip. Our mission offering today will help reach such people with the good news that Jesus saves us from sin.**

Prayer

Ask a student to pray for the offering and for the people who need to hear about Jesus. Invite students to voice their prayer requests and keep a record of these (i.e., list of prayer requests/prayer journal). Give them the opportunity each week to share if they received answers to their prayers. They may also place a mark (i.e., a sticker) on a poster designed for answered prayers. This would help them remember that God is actively involved in their lives and responds to their needs, granting what is best for them.

*Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.

Notes

2

BIBLE LESSON

YOU NEED:
- ☐ two bowls
- ☐ a desirable object
- ☐ an undesirable object

Introducing the Bible Story

Making sure the students cannot see what you are doing, place two items under two upside down bowls. Make sure that one item is something that the students would like and one item is something that they would not like (i.e., a piece of candy and a sprig of parsley or clod of dirt). Ask a volunteer to choose one of the bowls, telling them that whatever is under the bowl of their choice, they can keep. After the student selects the bowl, give him/her the item and show the class what is under the other bowl.

Debriefing

Ask: **Do you think that** (student's name) **is happy with his/her choice?** (yes/no) **Why?** (got something nice, got something he/she didn't want) **Do you think this choice was fair?** (yes/no) **Why?** (didn't know ahead of time what the choice was) Say: **This choice wasn't very important, but there was a choice long, long ago that was very important. Adam and Eve had to make a choice in the Garden of Eden. They had to decide who was telling the truth. Our lesson today is about the great controversy between God and Satan that started with one terrible choice.**

YOU NEED:
- ☐ clear glass of water
- ☐ red food coloring
- ☐ bleach

Experiencing the Story

Place a clear glass of water on a table in front of the class. Say: **This glass of water represents the lives of Adam and Eve. As we learned in our lesson today, Adam and Eve were created perfect, with no tendencies to sin.** Drop a few drops of red food coloring into the water and stir it around. Say: **This red color represents sin. As you can see, the sin has changed the water. Now it is no longer clear, no longer pure. This is what happened with the first sin. Adam and Eve were no longer pure. Their very natures changed. But God did not leave them without help or hope**. Pour one quarter to one half of a cup of bleach into the mixture. Say: **This represents God's power through Jesus and the Holy Spirit in our lives. When we connect with God, He changes us and makes us clean again.**

Let's say our power text together:

"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10).

YOU NEED:
- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ white/chalkboard
- ☐ markers/chalk

Exploring the Bible

Copy the following table on a white/chalkboard where all can see. Write in the texts and questions. Divide the texts among the students. Have them look up a text and answer the question. Write their answers in the column provided then go to the next question.

Texts	Questions	Answers
Genesis 1:26, 31 Psalm 8:3-8	What were people like before sin?	very good, in the image of God, crowned with glory and honor, rulers over all the animals
Genesis 3:6-15 Romans 5:12 Jeremiah 17:9 Matthew 15:19	What happened to people as a result of sin?	eyes opened, afraid, blamed each other, blamed God, they changed, were alienated from each other and God
1 Corinthians 15:22 2 Corinthians 5:17 Galatians 5:24 Psalm 51:10	How did God take care of the change in people caused by sin?	sent Jesus to give life, to make people into new creations, to create a new heart in people

Let's say today's power text together:

"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10).

Accommodation for students with special needs:
Allow students who experience difficulty with this activity to work with a partner.

Scenario

Read and discuss the following scenario with your students:

Felix grew up in a home where his parents got divorced. His father was an alcoholic and abusive. His parents separated when Felix was a young boy, and life was rough for a long time. One day, however, Felix attended a church service and after that, he started to read the Bible. He learned that humans were created in the image of God. However, Felix finds it difficult to understand how a man like his father is made in God's image.

Debriefing

Ask: **How can you help Felix understand this challenging question?** (Accept various answers that reflect the difference between Adam and Eve's original, sinless character, and the sinful nature we possess today.) **Why is it important for him to understand that because of sin God's image in us was distorted? (**Because then he could help his father get to know Jesus, who could change him into a new person.)

Say: **We can help Felix and others like him realize that because we live in a sinful world, we do not naturally reflect God's image. We need to choose a relationship with God and ask Him to recreate His image in us. If we choose God, He changes our lives no matter how badly we messed up. Even people like Felix's dad could be restored in His image, if he is willing to allow God to change his life.**

Remember that:

We choose to worship God, who keeps us from falling.

4 SHARING THE LESSON

Gifted to Reflect the Image of God

Have students find a partner for this activity.

Say: **Choose one or more of God's character traits (love, free will, rational thought, creativity, responsibility for the environment) that you would like for God to strengthen in your life. Share it/them with your partner. Then ask your partner to share with you the character traits that he/she would like God to strengthen in his/her life. Make a conscious choice to allow God to transform your life. Pray together asking that God may change you so that you will reflect His image day by day.**

Let's remember that:

We choose to worship God, who keeps us from falling.

Closing

Prayer and closing comments:

Say: **"Father, help us to take a stand to be on Your side when we face choices between good and evil. Amen."**

Reminder to parents:

Say: **Check out the student Bible study guide to find Parents' Pages for your use in family worship, or however you wish to use them to spiritually guide your children. You may listen to the podcast of the lesson online at www.juniorpowerpoints.org/podcast.php?channel=1.**

Coming up next week:

Say: **Cain and Abel bring different sacrifices to God. The way we worship God reflects whether we love Him.**

Notes

Student lesson

Harmony Broken

Have you ever done something that turned out bad? Have you ever wished you could change something you did back to the way it was before? That's how Adam and Eve felt. Try to picture what may have happened on the day when they made the worst choice of their lives.

Eve felt the tiny feet of a butterfly when it landed on her hand, and she woke up. The tiny wings waved as if saying, "Wake up, you sleepyhead." Eve looked for Adam and found him standing nearby.

"What will we do today?" she asked.

"Today I want to work on the trellis for the outer wall of the garden," said Adam.

"I want to gather berries," Eve said.

"We can do . . . ," Adam said at the same time that Eve said, "We can do . . ." and in unison they finished, "both." They laughed. It was amazing how much alike they were.

Adam and Eve had learned so many things. The Creator had shown them the intricacies of the blades of grass under their feet. He had explained how they could smell the fragrance of the flowers, how they could see the colors of the birds, and how they could hear the sound of water across rocks. Yes, they had learned so many things, but they had so much more to learn. They knew they would never tire of exploring their new world.

Each day angels from heaven answered their questions and told them stories. One story troubled them: the story of the rebellion in heaven. Angels told Adam and Eve the sad story of Lucifer, the brilliant one who had fought against God. They explained how he had traveled from world to world trying to gain new members for his war against God.

"God's enemy is also your enemy," the angels said. Adam and Eve were relieved to learn that the enemy could not approach them and could not follow them around. God had restricted him to the tree. Adam looked at Eve, and Eve looked at Adam. Now they understood why God had told them not to eat from the fruit of this tree. *How wonderful that the Creator had warned them.*

"Stay together," the angel said. "You will be stronger to resist the enemy if you are not alone."

Together they worked on the trellis. Eve held vines while Adam tied them together. Then Eve saw a berry bush and ran to it delighted. She plucked a berry and popped it into her mouth. Then she saw another bush and ran to it. Then she saw another and another. Finally she stopped. "Adam, look at these," she said as she turned, but he wasn't there. A chill traveled up her backbone, but she thought, *It doesn't matter. Adam can work on the trellis while I find berries.*

Eve remembered the angel's words, "Stay together." *I'm smart enough to recognize the enemy if I see him,* she mused, *and besides, the tree is on the other side of the garden.* Eve continued her wandering until she found herself at the tree. *This fruit is so beautiful. It looks delicious. I wonder why the Creator would not want us to eat it?*

"Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" a tantalizing voice seemed to come out of nowhere as if reading her mind and answering her unspoken question. Eve looked around. No one was there, neither Adam, nor an angel. A serpent was in the branches of the tree, surrounded by clusters of fruit.

"We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden," answered Eve, "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.'"

"You will not certainly die," sounded the smooth, tempting voice of the serpent. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Eve looked at the fruit. She looked at the serpent. *Isn't this a most interesting creature God has made?* she wondered in amazement.

Eve sank her teeth into the pithy whiteness. *It is so sweet. This is delicious! I've got to tell Adam!* she thought.

Eve plucked some pieces of fruit and ran to find him. Adam heard Eve coming before he saw her. She sounded excited. Then he saw the fruit.

"Eve, what have you done?" he asked with a terrified look on his face after listening to her account. Adam realized the gravity of Eve's act. He knew that the consequences of her sin would lead to death. But he could not bear the thought of being separated from the one he loved so much. So he took a piece of fruit and ate it.

Both Adam and Eve realized that they had disobeyed the Creator's command, and for the first time in their lives they were afraid. They ran from the presence of God and looked for a hiding place among the bushes of the garden.

It wasn't long before they heard the familiar voice of the Creator calling them.

"Where are you?"

They felt terribly guilty.

KEY REFERENCES

- Genesis 3;
- *Patriarchs and Prophets,* chap. 3, pp. 52-62;
- *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 1, pp. 61-77
- Our Beliefs, nos. 7, 8, 19

POWER TEXT

"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10).

POWER POINT

We choose to worship God, who keeps us from falling.

"I heard You in the garden, and I was afraid," Adam replied.

"Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" God questioned.

Adam pointed to Eve. "She gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

"What is this you have done?" God questioned Eve.

"The serpent deceived me, and I ate," she replied.

Adam and Eve realized the change in themselves that sin had caused. Where they were once happy, they were now sad. Where they once had peace, they were now afraid. Where they once had thought only about the well-being of the other, they were now concerned with self. If only they could reverse their poor choice . . . but it was too late.

God looked at the serpent and said, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life."

Then the Creator turned to Eve, saying, "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe."

Finally God spoke to Adam and said, "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life."

The Creator looked sadly at Adam and Eve, who had joined the rebellion against God. Yet He did not leave them without hope. The sentence pronounced against Satan, the enemy, was a promise to Adam and Eve: "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" (Genesis 3:15).

Satan had expected to have full control of Adam and Eve and their descendants. Instead he learned that they would have a way to resist him. By faith in the promised Redeemer they would one day return to the paradise they had lost. This thought gave Adam and Eve a glimmer of hope. Their hearts united in praise to the Creator for His rescue plan.

Sabbath

DO Do this week's activity on page 32.

Sunday

READ Read Genesis 3:1-5 and this week's story, "Harmony Broken."

LEARN Memorize the power text, Psalm 51:10.

ASK Pray for the Holy Spirit to help you understand what God has done to solve the problems caused by Adam and Eve's first sin.

Monday

READ Read Genesis 3:6-15.

WRITE In your Bible journal, write in your own words the meaning of God's promise to Adam and Eve (verse 15).

MARK Underline the words in verse 15. What is your understanding of this promise?

PRAY Thank God for His promise to redeem us from the curse of sin.

Tuesday

READ Read Romans 5:12.

MARK Underline the words that show that sin entered the world through one man and that death came to all men. The sin of Adam and Eve caused sin and death to come to all their descendants. Everyone inherited this changed condition.

REFLECT Think about how sin has affected your life. For what things do you need to ask God's help?

PRAY Tell God how you feel about the whole sin problem that happened because of Adam and Eve's choice.

Wednesday

READ Read Matthew 15:19 and 1 Corinthians 15:22.

THINK Reflect on how Adam's sin brought death while Jesus' sacrifice offers eternal life for all who believe.

REMEMBER Recall a time you were shown mercy by someone instead of being penalized. What was your reaction? Remember to be like Jesus and show mercy to those who wrong you.

PRAY Ask God to help change you into someone more like Him.

Thursday

READ Read Galatians 5:24 and 2 Corinthians 5:17.

DISCUSS With an adult, talk about the meaning of these texts.

APPLY Those who belong to Jesus are like new people. In what areas of your life do you need God's help so that you can become a new person?

PRAY Thank God for giving us a way to overcome sin.

Friday

READ Read Genesis 1:26 and Psalm 51:10.

DISCUSS At family worship, talk about how God created us in His image and how He offers to re-create us into His image. What was God's solution to the problem of sin?

SHARE Tell someone what you have learned about how sin changed human nature and how God can change us into His likeness.

PRAY Thank God for Jesus, who restores in us God's image and helps us become more like Him.