

WMA!

GENESIS

THE STORY OF ADAM AND EVE

How to use

We wrote this curriculum for those of us who might have been given a last minute assignment to lead a group. If you can put your hands on the supplies you should be able to walk in and teach this lesson with minimal prep. But you don't have to wait to the last minute either. All groups benefit from preparation. So take some time, if you have it, to read through the lesson before you meet.

Each of these lessons can be led in different ways. Please be sensitive to your group. You might have a group that really wants to dig into an idea, or you might have a group that just needs to hear the basic truth. You get to decide that as you meet.

Finally, please feel free to discard any of this content to stay in your group's context. The best curriculum for your group is you, caring for them as they get to know God.

Have ideas about this curriculum? Be part of the revolution and give us some feedback at <https://theyouthcartel.zendesk.com/home>

who wrote this:



Brad Hauge is a Northwest boy through and through who can't shake his boyhood love of Pearl Jam or the Mariners. He really likes Jesus and really likes students. And he really likes helping students realize they can totally be a part of what Jesus is up to in our world. He gets to do that for a living in Spokane, WA where he work as the Director of High School Ministries at First Presbyterian Church.

the rest:



Paul Martin has been practicing youth ministry for nearly two decades integrating his other loves - woodworking, music and education. Paul's blog, beingministry.com, fleshes out youth ministry, discipleship and other ideas about serving adolescents.

Copyright

All rights reserved. No part of this curriculum may be reproduced in any form by any electronic or mechanical means including photocopying, recording, or information storage and retrieval without permission in writing from the author.

Scripture quotations marked NIV are taken from THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

All rights reserved worldwide.

The Youth Cartel, LLC
www.theyouthcartel.com
Email: info@theyouthcartel.com
Born in San Diego

ADAM AND EVE

objective:

The story of human creation is full of mystery: A man made out of dust and a woman made out of a rib; A talking serpent, a tree of knowledge and forbidden fruit; Disappointment, nudity and lifelong banishment. Through this lesson we hope to sort out some of the mysteries and point to the greater truths of who God is and who we are as his creation.

activity:

Adam & Eve Comic Books

what you'll need:

- Groups of students that consist of 3-4 students
- Large enough paper that it can be folded to create a 4-page comic book, or 4 pieces of paper that can be stapled together.
- Markers for each group
- A Bible for each group

the mission:

Create a comic book portraying the Adam & Eve story in Genesis 2 and 3.

the rules:

Allow students ample time to review the story in their Bible and choose 4 scenes to recreate in their comic book. Each book should have a cover picture, a title and then the three scenes they find most pivotal to telling the story depicted on the remaining three pages.

Once their comic books are complete, allow the groups to present and share their works of art.



Prep

- Spend some time reading the Adam & Eve story found in Genesis 2 and 3.
- Spend some time re-acquainting yourself with the parable of The Prodigal Son and the parable of The Good Samaritan.
- Gather large sections of butcher paper or as large of paper as you can find and markers for your opening activity.

tweak:

Sometimes it's easier for students to do something while you lead the group. You might want to let them continue working on their comic while you lead the group. This might seem distracting, but it also puts less pressure on an individual if they can look at something other than the leader.

DISCUSSION

open with:

Ask members of each group, “What helped you choose the title for your comic book?”

What scenes did you include from Adam and Eve’s story? What scenes did you leave out? Why?

Ask your group to raise their hands if they 1) believe Adam and Eve to be historical people who really lived as told in Genesis or 2) believe Adam and Eve to be fictional characters in an important story or 3) don’t think it matters.

after reading, ask them:

Instruct students to answer these questions as themselves (young, educated, literal-truth appreciating, Western-culture immersed people in the 21st century):

What about this story just makes no sense at all?

Is there any part of this story that feels like a reasonable account of how humans came to be created?

Instruct your students to answer these questions as a Jewish person living a LOOONG time ago (someone who didn’t have access to history books or movies, news reporters, google or twitter):

What about this story would make sense?

Is there any part of this story that feels like this is how humans came to be created?

Do you, long-dead Jewish person, take this story literally? Why or why not?

say something like:

One of the most famous stories Jesus ever told was about a son who demanded his share of the family inheritance and left his family. He then proceeded to live a wild and reckless life squandering all of his money and leaving him with nothing but pig slop for food. The son then repents and comes crawling home to his father who welcomes him home with open arms (Luke 15: 11-32).

Another story told by Jesus is the little story of a traveler who was beaten, robbed and left for dead along a road between Jerusalem and Jericho. A priest walked by and avoided the man. So did a Levite who passed by later. Luckily a Samaritan came along later and helped the injured traveler (Luke 10: 30-37).

Raise your hand if you think the father and his prodigal son were real, historical people. How about the injured traveler and the Samaritan?

The truth is that both of these famous stories told by Jesus in the Bible are parables, or stories that conveyed deep and important truths, even if the characters in the stories didn’t actually exist. Do we see many people denying the truth of repentance, forgiveness, kindness and compassion found in these stories? Of course not, even if the stories didn’t literally happen. If we look at the story of Adam and Eve through the same lens, we won’t lose any of the truths Scripture wants us to know.

For example, does anyone know what the name Adam means? What the name Eve means? (Allow for some answers and discussion.)

The name Adam actually means “ground, or dirt,” and the name Eve actually means “to breathe, or to live.” These names seem important and are quite possibly a deliberate naming that broadly represents all of life and humanity.

Are Adam & Eve real people who were formed out of the dirt and a rib? Maybe, but there are more important truths in this story. Whether or not they literally existed with a talking snake in a garden is not the point of the story.

Remember, no one was around to take pictures or tweet about the creation of the world. The creation of man was much the same way. We have no photos or tweets to document that historical event, but it was still a story that needed to be told.

application:

So let’s try asking these questions instead when looking at the story of Adam & Eve

(you can either split your group into smaller discussion groups or stay as one larger group):

- What is the meaning of this story?
- What are some undeniable truths about this story?
- What does this story tell us about who we are?
- What does this story tell us about who God is?

response:

End your time together in prayer. You can decide if you want to have prayer requests, prayer partners or just a general prayer thanking God for the ways in which we can know truths about him and about us.