

(Genesis 3)

Man and woman – God's special creation – also have free will. They choose to disobey and break their relationship with God. Relationships and life on earth will never be the same again – not with nature, not with each other and not with God.

Scene 1:

The snake as the tempter

Cleverest of all animals
God had made

Did God really say ... ?



Eve: "We may eat from any tree, but not the one
in the middle of the garden ..."

Snake: "You will not die ... your eyes will be
opened and you will be like God, knowing good
and evil."

Scene 2:

Adam and Eve give in to temptation



Eve saw how
beautiful the
fruit was, and
she desired the
knowledge it
promised.

Took and ate fruit; gave it to Adam and he ate

Eyes were opened: nakedness, shame

Made fig leaves for themselves as coverings

Scene 3:

Conversation with God

God strolling in the garden; "Where are you?"

Adam: afraid – naked –
hid from God

"Who told you that you
were naked? Did you
eat from the tree I told
you not to?"



Blame

Scene 4:

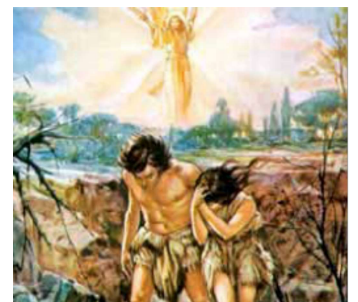
Consequences of Adam and Eve's disobedience

Everything broken and distorted ... relationships
between God/people, between people, between
people/animals; Earth was hard work to tame.
People would die.

God saw their shame and made clothes from
animal skins

Banished from garden
and sent to cultivate
earth

Guard at entrance to
prevent anyone access
to Tree of Life



Weekly Meditation and Reflection

1. If you're a woman ... walk back through this story as Eve. If you're a man ... walk back through this story as Adam. At each scene, ask yourself these questions:
 - a. When the snake came and told you that you wouldn't die if you ate from the forbidden tree, how did you feel? What would make you choose to eat from the tree despite what God had told you? Think back to a time when you've done something that you knew was wrong. What were your reasons for doing it?
 - b. Have you ever regretted something that you've done? How do you think Adam and Eve felt when they ate the fruit and realised what they had done?
 - c. How do you think Adam and Eve felt when they heard God walking through the garden?
 - d. How do you think Adam felt when God asked if he had eaten the fruit? How did Eve feel when Adam accused her? Think back to a time when someone confronted you about something you had done wrong. How did it feel?
 - e. Adam and Eve were naked and ashamed. The fig leaves didn't seem to be adequate covering, because God made clothes for them out of animal skins. How do you think Adam and Eve felt when God placed those clothes on them? Think back to a time when you've experienced forgiveness and love from God. How did it feel? Spend some time thanking God for that!

2. This story can seem discouraging until you move on to the rest of the story throughout Scripture. Read some or all of these Bible passages. What message of hope do these passages bring you?
 - a. Proverbs 28:13
 - b. Romans 5:12-21
 - c. 1 Corinthians 15:45-57
 - d. James 1:12-18
 - e. Revelation 22:1-14

As you go through these activities, you may find that things come up and you want to talk and pray with someone. We encourage you to find someone with whom you feel comfortable, and pray together!