



**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Series:** Pass The Promise  
Summer Year 1, Lesson 7

# The First Sin and the First Promise

**Take Home Point:** \*Don't hide sin; confess it to Jesus.  
\*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

**Bible Event:** Genesis 3

**Key Verse:** Genesis 3:15b: "...He will crush your head, and you will bruise his heel."

**We will help kids know:**

- The Bible event of Adam and Eve and how they hid and blamed others when they sinned.
- God passed a promise to send Jesus, who would crush Satan's head and the power of sin.
- We sometimes hide our sin or blame others when we should confess to God.
- Jesus trades places, takes our punishment, and gives us his perfection.




**We will help kids feel:**

- Conviction when they hide their sin and blame others.
- Love for Jesus because he traded places with us.

**We will help kids do:**

- Play a game reminding them of trading places.
- Stop blaming others for their mistakes.
- Confess to God those wrongs they would like to keep hidden and be assured of his forgiveness.

# THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
<b>Small Group Warm-Up</b> 	3-4	Sometimes when we sin we make excuses or blame someone else. Play a game called "Trading Places Scramble."	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>die for each group</li> </ul>
<b>Large Group</b> 	4  8-10  11-13  14-15	<b>Overview</b>  <b>Puppet Presentation:</b> "Gordy and the No-Miss Football"  <b>Dramatic Storytelling:</b> "The First Sin and the First Promise"  <b>Puppet Presentation:</b> "Gordy and the No-Miss Football" Conclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a football marked with tape to form a cross</li> <li>Gordy</li> <li>bucket or tub labeled "The No-Miss Football Game"</li> <li>enough penny candy for everyone</li> <li>squirt gun filled with water</li> <li>sheet of "directions"</li> <li>nametag that reads, "Eve"</li> <li>nametag that reads, "Adam"</li> <li>rubber snake or "Snake" nametag</li> <li>"Tree of Life" nametag</li> <li>"Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil" nametag</li> <li>"Angel" nametag</li> <li>plastic fruit for Eve</li> <li>laser light sword</li> </ul>
<b>Small Group Application</b> 	4-7	Play "Pass the Promise Football" and talk about blaming others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 x 5-inch card (or half sheet of paper) for each child</li> <li>pens or pencils</li> <li>large paper sack</li> <li>small football with a cross on it</li> <li>small bag of individually wrapped candy. (Use Lifesavers or the same penny candy that was used in large group.)</li> </ul>

# Small Group Warm-Up: 15 minutes



**Purpose:** *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

For the following game, you will need one die. Form a group of six to twenty children. Join smaller groups together if needed.

## **“Trading Places Scramble”**

### Phase One:

Have the children sit in a circle facing towards the middle. Number the children one through six. Ask each child to remember his number.

Pick a child to be in the center of the circle and give the die to that child. When he rolls the die, he will call out the number he rolls. Children with that number should switch places with others who have the same number or the number that is three away from the number called. (For example, if the child in the center rolls a one, children assigned the number one or four will scramble to trade places. If the number two is rolled, the numbers two and five switch places.)

The children whose number is called and the child in the center are to scramble to find a different spot. The child who does not find a spot is “it” and goes to the center of the circle to roll the die for another round of the game.

### Phase Two:

After playing the game for a while as described previously, a twist is added. When a child is sent to the center of the circle because he failed to scramble to a new spot in time, he is asked to do the following.

**Make up an excuse or blame someone else for your not finding a new spot.**

The children can make very ridiculous excuses or silly reasons to blame someone. For example, “Sandy was looking at me funny.” Or, “Luke didn’t get out of my way.” Or, “My shoes are too slippery.”

### Conclusion:

Gather the kids together.

**Can you think of a time when someone did something wrong and he made an excuse or blamed someone else?**

To help the children share, give an example from your own life. Take a few responses. Then say:

**In large group we will see how the very first people who sinned made excuses and blamed others. Sometimes we do those things. We will**

see how God worked out a deal in which we can trade places and receive his forgiveness.

We will learn that we *\*don't hide sin but confess it to Jesus.*

## Large Group: 20-30 minutes



**Purpose:** *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

### Overview

**Puppet Presentation:** "Gordy and the No-Miss Football"

Mr. King shows Gordy through a game how sin is like missing the mark. He explains how Jesus not only made the goal for us but also took our consequence.

**Dramatic Storytelling:** "The First Sin and The First Promise"

This is a dramatic storytelling of Genesis 3, the temptation and fall of Adam and Eve.

**Puppet Presentation:** "Gordy and the No-Miss Football" Conclusion

## Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



**Purpose:** *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

*Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.*

### Observation Questions: What happened?

Review the following observation questions with your Bibles open to Genesis 3.

**What tree were Adam and Eve forbidden to eat fruit from?** (Verse 3, the tree in the middle of the garden. Genesis 2:9, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.)

**What would happen if they ate the fruit?** (Genesis 2:17 and Genesis 3:3. They would die.)

**What did Satan say would happen if they ate the fruit from this tree?** (Verse 5. "Your eyes will be opened. You'll be like God, knowing good and evil.")

**After Adam and Eve ate the fruit, what did they do?** (Verse 7. They both realized they were naked. They sewed fig leaves together and made clothes for themselves. They tried to hide themselves.)

**When God asked Adam and Eve what happened, who did Adam blame? Who did Eve blame?** (Verses 12 and 13. Adam blamed Eve, and Eve blamed the snake.)

### **Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?**

**What did God do to help fix the problem of their sin?** (Verse 15. He promised to send a Savior!)

### **Application Questions: What does this mean to me?**

*For this activity you will use a Pass the Promise Football. This football is marked with tape to form a cross. From week to week we will refer to this when we talk about how God promised to send a Savior, a Messiah, who would fix the friendship between God and people.*

#### Application Activity:

Pass out a 3- x 5-inch note card to each child. Talk about blaming.

**Think of a time you did something wrong and blamed someone else. Write a word on your card or draw a picture that reminds you of that time. Don't worry. No one else will look at your card.**

After the children have had some time to write, offer the following.

**I would like for those of you who want to share about a time when you blamed someone else for something you did wrong.**

**When we tell these stories, let's show respect for others and not make fun of anyone. When we listen carefully to others we can learn from each other. I'll begin by telling you my story. I remember once...**

Tell about your own experience.

**Who wants to tell us about a time when you blamed someone else when you were the one who did something wrong?**

Allow time for discussion, but don't force any child to share if he doesn't want to. Then talk about hiding:

**Think of something you did wrong and you hid because you did it. Turn your card over and write a word or draw a picture that reminds you of that time.**

After giving ample time for the children to write, allow for discussion from those who are willing to share.

**When we do wrong things against God, we feel guilt and we want to hide from him. This has probably happened to everyone.**

**Does God want us to blame others when we do something wrong? Of course not. Does God want us to hide from him when we do something wrong? Of course not.**

**When Adam and Eve sinned, this is exactly what they did. They hid from God and blamed each other. Did they go looking for God to tell him they were sorry or did God go looking for them?**

Have the kids guess one or the other.

**If you remember the Bible event, Adam and Eve were hiding. God came looking for them in the cool of the evening. When God found them, Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed the snake.**

**God wants to come to us, as well. He wants us to tell him about the wrong ways we have chosen. He wants us to be able to tell him we are sorry and we need his forgiveness. He wants us to call on Jesus, who has paid the price of our forgiveness by dying on the cross for our sin. That is God's promise.**

**Let's show how we will do this for God. Take your card and wad it up. Put it in this sack.**

Pull out of the sack a small mini football. Hold the Pass the Promise Football as you read Genesis 3:15. Explain it in the following way.

**God promised that Jesus would come as Savior as far back as Adam and Eve. He told them there would one day be a descendant of Eve who would crush Satan's head. (You might need to explain the word "descendant.") That descendant was Jesus.**

**In Genesis 3:15 God said, *"...He will crush your head, and you will bruise his heel."***

**How did Jesus crush Satan's head, or take away his power? *(By dying on the cross to make it possible for the forgiveness of our sins and rising from the dead so we too will live forever when we believe Jesus is our Savior.)***

**God also said Satan would bruise Jesus' heel. That means Jesus would be hurt in this battle against Satan. Was he hurt? How? (Yes, Jesus was hurt by having to die for our sins.)**

**God passed the promise of Jesus and the forgiveness of sins from Adam and Eve all the way to us.**

Put the football in the sack. Reach in the paper sack and pull out some candy. Give one to each child.

**This candy is a reminder to you of the taste of God's forgiveness. Jesus came as a lifesaver to take away your sin and help you be friends with God. *\*Don't hide sin; confess it to Jesus.***

Closing Prayer:

Let the children talk silently to the Lord about things they have done that need his forgiveness. The sweetness of the candy reminds them of the sweetness of forgiveness. You might lead a prayer similar to the following.

**Dear Lord, there are things we have done wrong that we might be ashamed about and hide because of. Something I feel ashamed about and want to hide from you is this.... I will say it in my mind because I know you can hear it there.**

**Lord, sometimes I choose to blame other people rather than take responsibility for my sin. But it is no one else's fault. It is my fault. Forgive me when I blame others or try to make excuses. Forgive me for Jesus' sake. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Have each of you prayed this in your heart? The Bible says God is faithful and reliable. If we confess our sins, he forgives them and cleanses us from everything we have done wrong (1 John 1:9). Your sins are forgiven so you can live forever with God.**

Continue with children's prayer requests.

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## Introduction to Large Group

This is the first lesson in the *“Pass the Promise Series.”* In the Old Testament, God passed the promise of sending a Savior along to his people. Just as this is a theme throughout the Old Testament, so it is throughout this series. This series will start with Adam and Eve and go through Joseph.

From week to week a football with a cross made from masking tape will be the visual reminder that God is passing the promise throughout the Old Testament. During the review lesson (Lesson 26), different Biblical characters will be passing the promise down to one another. The promise is ultimately fulfilled in Jesus.

A puppet sketch will introduce today's Bible event and the concept of sin as “missing the mark.” It illustrates that Jesus traded places with those who sin but trust in him as their Savior.

### **“Gordy and the No-Miss Football”**

#### Puppet Presentation

*Supplies: a bucket or tub containing a football, enough penny candy for everyone, a squirt gun filled with water, and “directions” for the game are needed. A label reading, “The No-Miss Football Game” should be on the side of the bucket or tub. The game sits on a table outside the puppet stage.*

**Mr. King:** *(Referring to the game.)* **What do we have here?**

Gordy: Hi, Mr. King! This is a game I found. I'd like to play it.

**Mr. King:** **What is this game?**

Gordy: It's called “The No-Miss Football Game.”

**Mr. King:** **How do you play it?**

Gordy: I'm not sure, but there are directions inside. It really looks like fun—especially for someone like me!

**Mr. King:** **Someone like you?**

Gordy: Yeah, someone who never misses. You wouldn't understand that, Mr. King.

**Mr. King:** **Oh, I see. Let me read the directions and see what is in this container. We have a football, a squirt gun, and a lot of candy. Here are the directions.**



Gordy: Cool! I want to play!

**Mr. King: Let me read the directions first.**

**Place the bucket on the floor and stand away from it. Give a person three tries to land the football in the bucket. If that person can do it, he will win all of the candy. If that person misses the mark and does not get the football in the bucket, he gets squirted with the squirt gun.**

Gordy: Cool! I still want to play!

**Mr. King: Gordy, if you miss, I'll have to squirt you with the squirt gun.**

Gordy: I don't care! I've been wet before. I just took a bath last week!

**Mr. King: Okay, let's try it.**

*(Hands the football to Gordy. Gordy "throws" the football at the bucket. Gordy throws three times and misses each time. After each miss, there is a response. The responses are as follows.)*

**Mr. King: (After first miss.) Gordy, you missed!**

Gordy: Mr. King, you handed me the football the wrong way. It's your fault.

**Mr. King: (After second miss.) Gordy, you missed again.**

Gordy: It's not my fault. There's too much wind in here.

**Mr. King: (After third miss.) Gordy, you missed the last one.**

*(Gordy hides behind the puppet stage.)*

**Mr. King: Gordy! You're hiding.**

Gordy: Of course, I'm hiding. It's not my fault I missed. Even if it was my fault, I don't want anyone to see me.

**Mr. King: Gordy, come on out. You know how the game works.**

Gordy: Okay.

**Mr. King: I have to squirt you with this squirt gun.**

Gordy: But, Mr. King, water hurts my skin! It will wash all the dirt I put on yesterday. Isn't there anyway to get out of this? I never thought I would miss.

**Mr. King:** According to the directions there is one way, but I don't know if we would find a volunteer.

Gordy: What is it?

**Mr. King:** It says in the rules that if another person can get the football in the bucket and not miss, he can win all the candy for you.

Gordy: Let me get this straight. This person hits it and I get the candy?

**Mr. King:** That's not all. If a person does this, he not only wins the candy for you but also must take the punishment for you and is squirted with the squirt gun.

Gordy: You mean, if this person hits the bucket and wins, I get the candy and he gets squirted?

**Mr. King:** It seems so.

Gordy: Wow! That really is no-miss football. I can't miss if only there would be a volunteer.

**Mr. King:** Let's see. Does anyone want to volunteer.

*(Hopefully, a child will volunteer. Make the shot so simple that the child cannot miss. If he does, get another volunteer. Upon making the shot, Mr. King gives the candy to the child who passes it on to Gordy. Then Mr. King squirts the child with the squirt gun.)*

Gordy: Wow! What a deal!

**Mr. King:** It sure is. Boys and girls, do you wish you had a good deal like this? Believe it or not, you do. In today's Bible event we will discover how Adam and Eve missed the mark and sinned. When they sinned they tried to hide from God and make excuses. They had consequences. They were not allowed to live in the garden anymore or to see God face to face. They were no longer holy so they had to leave.

**But God passed them a promise. He said that his Son, Jesus, would some day come into the world and defeat the devil and the power of sin. Jesus died on the cross for the punishment of our sin. Because of that, in God's eyes we can be holy again and we can live with God forever in heaven.**

*Option: Pass out one piece of candy to every child. The children can savor the flavor of God's love and forgiveness as they listen to the Bible event.*

# **“The First Sin and The First Promise”**

## **Genesis 3 in Dramatic Storytelling**

This is a storytelling event that involves kids from the audience as actors onstage. It would be helpful if these children practiced some gestures beforehand, though this is not necessary. Characters needed are Eve, Adam, two trees with one holding an apple, an angel (or two) and optional snake.

A wonderful special effect is using different microphone voices offstage to read the different character voices of: God, Adam, Eve, and the snake. The more dramatic the voices, the more gripping the Bible event will be. (If you use this technique, you will need to highlight the different voices so they won't miss their cues.)

*Supplies: a plastic apple, laser light sword and optional rubber snake, nametags or labels for each character*

**Mr. King:** Boys and girls, did you ever make a mistake and blame someone else? Nod your head if you have. Have you ever made a mistake and you felt so bad that you hid, hoping you wouldn't be found? Nod your head if you have.

**Did you know it is easy for all people when they do something wrong to try to blame someone else or hide? But the worst thing you can do is try to hide from God. He wants to help you do what is right by taking away your sin. Here is the Bible event that really happened to the first two people who ever lived, Adam and Eve.**

Bring forward characters (Adam, Eve, two trees: Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, snake and angel) from the audience and put corresponding nametags on each. Have kids stand to the side of the stage until their part. Prompt or direct kids to respond with the appropriate actions.

Option: Have a rubber snake available to act out the action between Eve and the snake. Use a diabolical and sneaky voice for the snake.

Paraphrase of Genesis 3:

**God planted a garden for Adam and Eve with many trees that had good fruit to eat. Two very special trees grew in the middle of the garden: the tree of life and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.** (Have the two trees come stand in the middle of the stage and give the tree of knowledge an apple.)

**Adam and Eve were very happy in their garden home. Every day they walked and talked with God.** (Prompt kids to do so.) **They enjoyed all the fruit of the many trees in the garden.** (Have kids pretend to eat fruit.)

But God told them, "There is fruit from one tree in the middle of the garden that you must not eat. It is the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. If you eat this fruit, you will die." (Have Adam and Eve point to this tree.)

**Mr. King:** In the garden was a snake. (Have snake come forward and act slithery and conniving.) The snake was the craftiest of all the animals. The snake wanted Eve to doubt what God had said. The snake said, "Did God really say that you must never eat of the fruit from any of these trees in the garden?"

Eve said, "We are allowed to eat fruit from any of the trees in the garden, except the tree in the middle of the garden. God told us we must never eat or touch the fruit from this tree. If we do, we will die."

The snake lied and said, "You certainly wouldn't die. God doesn't want you to eat it because he knows that when you do you will be like God. If you eat the fruit, you will know good and evil."

Eve looked at the fruit on the tree. It looked good to eat. She picked some of the fruit and ate it. (Have girl take the plastic apple and pretend to take a bite.)

**Mr. King:** Then Eve gave some of the fruit to her husband, Adam. He ate the fruit. (Have Eve give the fruit to Adam and he takes a bite.)

After eating the fruit, both realized their shame. They knew they had done wrong. Before eating the fruit, they had never known evil. Now they knew it. (Adam and Eve hold their hands over their faces in shame.)

Adam and Eve hid from God. When evening came, God was looking for them. He said, "Where are you, Adam?"

Adam answered, "I was afraid. I was hiding from you."

God asked, "Why were you hiding? Did you eat the fruit from the tree I told you not to eat from?"

Then Adam pointed to Eve. (Adam points at Eve.) He blamed her by saying, "That woman gave me the fruit and I ate it."

Then God asked Eve, "What have you done?"

Eve pointed to the snake (Eve points at the snake) and said, "The snake made me do it. He tricked me."

Sin had come into the world. Because of this, men and women would die. God did not want sin to separate the people from himself. He made a promise that some day a baby would be born to take away the sin of the world. He would be the Savior.

**God spoke to the snake Satan was speaking through. “There will be a battle between your descendents and the woman’s. But he will crush your head and you will bruise his heel.”**

That meant that someday Jesus would defeat Satan when he would give his life to pay for our sins. Jesus’ forgiveness crushes the head of Satan. Satan’s power bruised Jesus’ heel because Jesus had to give his life up to suffer for the sin of the world.

**After this God said, “Now man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not reach out and take the fruit from the tree of life. If he did so, he would live forever in this sinful world. So man must go outside the garden.”**

God placed angels and a flaming sword that turned in all directions outside the garden. (Have angel come stand in front of trees. Hand him/her the laser light sword to hold up.) **He put them there so Adam and Eve could not return to eat from the tree of life.**

## **“Gordy and the No-Miss Football”**

### **Puppet Presentation Conclusion**

**Mr. King:** So Gordy, you see that the angel at the gate of the garden kept Adam and Eve from coming back and eating the tree of life and living forever. God did not want them to live forever in the garden and have sin. Instead, one day they would die. But then God would take them to live with him forever in heaven. It will be even better than they had it in the Garden of Eden.

Gordy: Mr. King, if I would have been there, I never would have listened to that stupid old devil snake and eaten that fruit.

**Mr. King:** Are you sure, Gordy? Do you ever listen to him today?

Gordy: Aww... Mr. King, there aren't any talking snakes around here.

**Mr. King:** But the devil still tempts us. Every person has sinned and disobeyed God.

Gordy: I haven't. I never miss!

**Mr. King:** Is that true, boys and girls? *(They all will shout “no”.)* Gordy, every person misses the mark sometime.

Gordy: Maybe sometimes I do miss the mark. But when that happens, I don't think anyone knows. I usually hide it and keep it to myself so no one will find out.

**Mr. King:** Gordy, *\*don't hide your sin, confess it to Jesus.* Remember Jesus took all your sin on himself when he died on the cross and he doesn't want you to hide from him. Instead he wants you to love him and be friends.

Gordy: I think I can do that.

**Mr. King:** Why don't you pray about it.

Gordy: Okay. Dear God, thank you that we don't have to hide our sin, we can confess it. Jesus, please forgive me when I miss the mark of obeying you. I know you love me and I want to do the things that show I love you too. Help me do that...and especially not to hide from you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**Mr. King:** Great, Gordy! Anything else?

Gordy: Yes, can we go practice with that football? I can't believe I missed that throw!

**Mr. King:** **Sure, Gordy!** *(Exits with football.)*