

PART I

ADAM AND EVE

ORIGINAL SIN

THE PROMISE

THE PEOPLE WAIT FOR THE SAVIOR

THE SAVIOR COMES

JESUS' DEATH

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM



ADAM AND EVE

The first people God made were the man, Adam, and the woman, Eve. Adam and Eve were members of God's family. They were His children. They lived in the Garden of Eden.

God gave them human life. They could know and love God because He made them with a mind and a free will. They could make choices.

God gave them a share in His own life too. This share in God's life is called grace. With the life of grace, Adam and Eve could always be completely happy. They could live with God forever in heaven. God gave them other special gifts. They could see God and speak to Him. For a while Adam and Eve knew and loved God. They did His will.

We call Adam and Eve our first parents. Because they are our parents, we receive these gifts from God.

Like Adam and Eve, we have a mind and a free will. We can make choices.

We also receive a share in God's life. This share in God's life is called grace.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Who were the first people God made?
2. Where did Adam and Eve live?
3. Could Adam and Eve make choices?
4. What is the share in God's life called?
5. Whom do we call our first parents?
6. Do we receive special gifts from God?
7. Name some of these gifts.
8. What is the most precious gift we receive from God?

ACTIVITY PAGES

A. Match the correct answer in column B with column A.

Column A

- ___1. God's life in me
- ___2. The sin Adam and Eve committed
- ___3. The first people God made: our first parents
- ___4. Where Adam and Eve lived

Column B

- a. Adam and Eve
- b. grace
- c. Garden of Eden
- d. original sin

B. Fill in the blanks.

1. Adam and Eve could know and _____ God because He made them with a _____ and a free _____.



THE SAVIOR COMES

Although the people had to wait a long time, God kept His promise of sending a Savior. He sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. Jesus came to save us by doing what His Father wanted. He came to give us back the gift of God's life, grace, that was lost by Adam and Eve.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

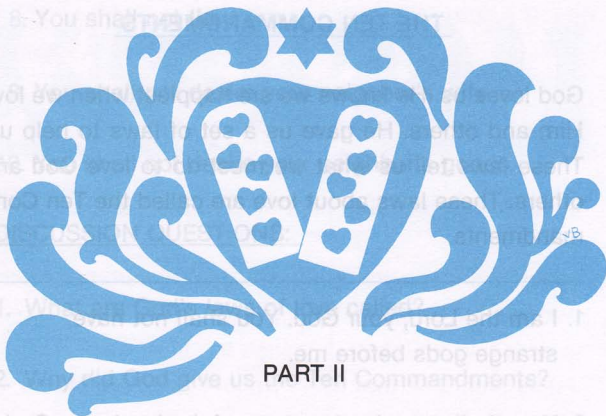
1. Whom did God send to be our Savior?

2. Why did God send His Son, Jesus?

ACTIVITY: God sent a Savior to give us back God's life or grace. Find the name of the Savior in the puzzle.

Write in space below.

F	M	S	U	J
O	C	T	L	A
J	E	S	U	S
G	R	I	P	D
E	R	J	E	C
Y	S	A	W	X



PART II

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

THE TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS

CHOICES

SIN

MISTAKES AND ACCIDENTS

GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

CHOICES

Sometimes it is hard to love. We say mean things. We do mean things. Sometimes we do and say these things on purpose. When we say and do these things, we make the wrong choices.

God loves us so much that He gives us the freedom to make good or bad choices.

When Jesus was on earth, He taught us how to make good choices. He also taught us that when we make good choices, we show our love for God and others.

Learning to make good choices takes time and practice. Your family helps you learn how to make good choices. While you are learning to make choices, your family makes many choices for you. They tell you the things you need to learn and grow.

Your family will not always choose for you. As you get older, you will make more choices. You will learn how to use the wonderful gift that God has given only to people. You are free to choose.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why did God give us the freedom to make good or bad choices?
2. Did Jesus teach us how to make good choices?
3. When we make good choices, for whom do we show our love?
4. Why does your family do most of the choosing for you?
5. What things do you choose for yourself?
6. What people help you get better at choosing?

ACTIVITY: LET'S PRACTICE MAKING CHOICES! Put a G in front of the good choices. Put a B in front of the bad choices.

1. Eating lunch at school with a student with whom no one else will eat.

When we sin, we should never give up on ourselves. Jesus never gives up on us and we should never give up on ourselves.

GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Although Jesus, God the Son, never sinned, He did not turn away from sinners. Jesus as God never stops loving us even when we sin. He is glad to forgive us if we ask for His love and forgiveness.

If the people were sorry for their sins, Jesus forgave them. After Jesus forgave them, they tried hard to follow the way of Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. When we sin, should we give up on ourselves?
2. Does Jesus stop loving us when we sin?
3. Does Jesus ever give up on us?



PART III

SIN

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

FORM FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

One special way to receive God's forgiveness is the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Reconciliation means to be united with someone again or to come back to someone. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we are united with God again or come back to Him. Our sins are forgiven and God's grace in us is strengthened in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

We receive this sacrament by going to a priest and telling him the things we have done wrong. We tell him we are sorry and ask for forgiveness.

The priest acts for Jesus. When we tell our sins to the priest, we are telling them to Jesus.

The priest listens to what we tell him, gives us advice and tells us to do penance. Penance is prayers we say, or something we do to make up for the hurt we have caused.

Then he forgives our sins with a special prayer called absolution. The priest forgives us not for himself but for the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, and the people in God's family, the Church.

The sign of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is the sins said to the priest and his prayer of absolution.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What is a special way to receive God's forgiveness?
2. What does Reconciliation mean?