

STORY 2: BETRAYAL

So Adam and Eve were in the garden enjoying their fellowship with each other and with God. In the garden there were two very special trees: one was called the Tree of Life and the other was called the Tree of Knowledge, because anyone who ate from it learned the true meaning of good and evil. And God told them, "My only command is: Don't eat from that tree. Don't eat from the Tree of Knowledge." And so Adam and Eve knew not to eat from the Tree of Knowledge that was in the center of the garden.

One day, evil got into the garden in the form of a snake. This snake came up to Eve and said: "So did God really say that you can't eat from any of the trees in the garden?" And Eve said: "Oh no. We can eat from the trees in the garden. It's just the one in the middle of the garden that we can't eat or touch. If we do, God says we will die." And the snake said: "Hmmm, that's not *REALLY* true. God doesn't want you to eat that fruit because if you do, then you'll become like him! You'll become wise just like God, and He doesn't want that."

Eve looked at the fruit, and thought, "Well, it does look good." And not only did it look good to eat, but it would make her like God, so she made up her mind: she would eat the fruit. And then she gave it to Adam who was there with her and he ate it, too.

And immediately, things changed and they realized what they had never noticed before--they were naked! So they quickly sewed some leaves together for makeshift clothes.

That night, they heard God walking in the garden, and they knew they were in trouble, so they tried to hide in the trees. God asked: "Where are you, Adam?" And Adam said: "I heard you coming and I hid because I knew that I was naked." Then God said: "Who told you you were naked? Did you eat from the tree I told you not to eat from?" And then Adam said: "The woman that YOU gave me, SHE gave me the fruit."

And so God turned to the woman, and said: "Did you eat from the tree?" And the woman said: "It was the snake! He tricked me into eating the fruit."

Because they had disobeyed God, there had to be consequences. So God turned to them and said: "For the snake, I'm going to make you slither around on your belly. And one day, a descendant of this woman will rise up and you might hurt him a little, but he will crush you. For the woman," He continued, "childbearing will now be long and painful and it won't be easy to go through." And then he looked at the man and said: "Now you're gonna have to work for your food. You're gonna have to plant seeds and work hard to earn your living."

And then God threw them out of the garden so that they couldn't eat from the Tree of Life and live forever any more. And at the entrance to the garden, God placed an angel and a flaming sword moving in all directions so that no man could ever enter the garden again.

STORY 2: BETRAYAL

- **review:** re-tell the story
- **dialogue:** discuss the story
 - What do you like or not like about the story?
 - What can we learn about God from this story?
 - What do we know about the snake?
 - How about humans? What can we see in them from the story?
 - How did Adam and Eve's relationship with God change after their disobedience? Did their relationship with one another change?
- **application:** live the story
 - How are we similar to or different from Adam and Eve?
 - What were the results of their disobedience? How have you experienced those same results and consequences today?
- **notes:**