



## SIN SPREAD TO PEOPLE: GENESIS 4-5

### UNIT 2: SESSION 2

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### KEY PASSAGE:

“Everyone makes wrong choices” Romans 3:2



### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What does it mean to sin? We sin when we disobey God.



### CHRIST CONNECTION:

- **Toddlers:** God promised to send Jesus.
- **Ages 3-5:** Everyone in Adam and Eve’s family sinned too. God promised to send His Son, Jesus, to save sinners.
- **Pre-Primary:** Adam and Eve’s sin spread to their family. But God did not forget His promise to send a Rescuer. At just the right time, God would send His Son to save sinners.
- **Primary:** Adam and Eve’s sin and its consequences spread to all of their descendants. But God did not forget His promise to send a Rescuer. At just the right time, God would send His Son to save sinners.

### LEADER BIBLE STUDY

In the story of Cain and Abel, we find a progressing pattern of jealousy, which leads to hatred, which leads to murder. The result is not one but two lost sons for Adam and Eve.

**Jealousy never produces anything godly in us.** And why is that? It’s primarily because jealousy is nothing more than proof that we have staked our identity on what we have done or can do, rather than on what God has done for us through Christ. When you are tempted to compare yourself to others, let that trigger a reminder of who you are in Christ.

Second Corinthians 5:17 tells us that “if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.” As a child of God, our identity is not dependent upon what we do, but instead upon what Christ has done to save us through His life, death, and resurrection. **Rather than living in the comparison between ourselves and others, let’s live in the confidence that we have been made new.** In Christ, we are fully loved and accepted. Fight the temptation to compare. Fight the urge to compete with others before God. And **trust in the finished work of Christ.** For you are not your own; you were bought with a price. And that price is one you could never repay.

# 1. WELCOME KIDS



**SAY:** Last week, we learned how sin entered the world through Adam and Eve. Today's Bible story is about how sin spread to Adam and Eve's children. We will hear how sin hurt Adam and Eve's sons, Cain and Abel.

## OPTIONAL GAMES

### OPTION 1: HIDE AND SEEK

Form two teams to stand in single-file lines. Give each player one cotton ball, and position a bowl across from each team. When you say "go," players should take turns tossing a cotton ball toward the bowl. The team that lands the most cotton balls in its bowl wins. Play a few rounds as time allows. Point out that the cotton balls look like sheep—white and fluffy.

**SAY:** In today's Bible story, we'll hear about two brothers who brought offerings to God. An offering is a gift given to God. One brother brought some of his produce, and the other brought sheep from his flock. God accepted one of the offerings but not the other. Let's find out why.

### OPTION 2: GOOD FRUIT VS BAD FRUIT

Prior to the session, prepare a caramel covered onion. Peel an onion and insert a craft stick into the top. Mix 3 to 4 ounces of caramels with 1/2 tablespoon of water in a microwave safe bowl. Heat the caramels about 2 minutes until they are melted. Stir well. Then dip the onion into the caramel and cover it completely. Refrigerate the onion until caramel is firm, about 1 hour. Display the caramel treat for the kids. Ask if any of them like caramel apples. Invite kids to shout out words that describe caramel apples (sweet, sticky, delicious, and so on). Then use a knife to carefully cut off a section, revealing the onion inside.

**SAY:** Would any of you eat a caramel onion? As we will see in today's Bible story, sometimes what looks good on the outside can be hard and bitter inside. This onion can actually teach us about our hearts. We'll see how.

# 2. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

## INTRODUCE THE SESSION

Today's Bible story shows how sin spread from Adam and Eve to their sons. Adam and Eve had two sons named Cain and Abel. Abel took care of sheep and Cain tended crops. Cain and Abel were brothers, but Cain held an angry grudge against Abel. In his anger and envy, Cain did something awful. **We'll learn more about what happens when we let our sinful thoughts and feelings take over our actions.** Feeling angry is not necessarily sinful. There are plenty of times in our lives when we will feel angry. But **when we let that anger turn into jealous thoughts and angry behavior, then that becomes sin.** What does it mean to sin? Does anyone remember the answer to our big picture question? [Allow responses.] Yes, that's right. To sin is to think, speak, or behave in any way that goes against God and His commands.





## TELL THE BIBLE STORY

Open your Bible to Genesis 4–5. Read the story.



**SAY:** Last time, we heard how sin entered the world when Adam and Eve sinned. **God had created people for His glory.** Then Adam and Eve started a family. Their first two sons were named Cain and Abel. Did one of them put an end to sin and death? No. In today's Bible story, we'll hear how **sin spread from Adam and Eve to Cain and Abel and to all people.**

Adam and Eve had two sons, Cain and Abel. Abel grew up and became a shepherd, and Cain worked the ground like a farmer to grow crops. One day, Cain gave God an offering of some of the produce he grew. Abel gave God some of the firstborn of his flock. God accepted Abel's offering, but He did not accept Cain's offering. Cain was furious. "Why are you so angry?" God asked. "If you do what is right, won't you be accepted?" God warned Cain that sin was crouching at the door. "Sin wants to control you," God said. "But you must control it." Then Cain invited Abel to go out into the field. While they were in the field, Cain killed his brother. Then God asked Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," said Cain. "Is it my job to look after him?" But God knew what had happened. He said to Cain, "What have you done?" God punished Cain. God told Cain that if he tried to work the ground, nothing would grow for him. God said Cain would spend the rest of his life wandering the earth. He would not have a home or anywhere to rest. "This punishment is too much!" Cain said. "You are sending me away from this land and away from You. If I have to wander the earth, whoever finds me will kill me!" So God put a mark on Cain to protect him so that whoever found him would not kill him. Then Cain left the land and went to live in Nod, a land to the east of Eden. He had a wife and a family, but they did not follow God. God gave Adam and Eve another son, Seth. Adam and Eve's family grew. Seth grew up and had a family too. Around this time, Adam's descendants in Seth's family began to call on the name of the Lord.



**SAY:** Adam and Eve's sin and its **consequences spread to all of their descendants. But God did not forget His promise to send a Rescuer.** At just the right time, God would send His Son to save sinners.

## REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Wow. Once sin entered the world, it spread! Sin didn't affect other people just a little bit; it affected them completely.

Cain and Abel were sinners too. Why didn't God accept Cain and his offering? **The problem wasn't in what Cain offered; something was wrong with Cain himself.** Look at Genesis 4:7. [Choose a volunteer to read aloud Gen. 4:7.] Now look at Hebrews 11:4. [Choose a volunteer to read aloud Heb. 11:4.] God accepted Abel's offering because he offered it in faith. God doesn't care only about what we do; He cares about our hearts.

Cain's heart was full of jealousy and anger. God warned Cain that sin wanted to control him. God told him to be careful and to resist the temptation to sin. But Cain acted out of jealousy and anger, and he killed his brother. Sin leads to death. So God judged Cain and made him wander the earth. Cain deserved to be punished, but God was kind to him anyway.

God also showed grace to Cain by giving him a mark of protection. When we look around us and see brokenness in the world—shame, conflict, poverty, and so on—we must understand that the problem is not just outside of ourselves. **These are consequences of the sin inside of us all. We can't just try to be good people and make the world better because we need to be rescued from ourselves.**



### MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

Many years ago, a missionary couple named Jim and Elisabeth Elliot went to the Amazon jungle to tell people who had never heard of Jesus about Him. Explain that ever since Adam and Eve, every person has been born a sinner. Missionaries dedicate their lives to going and sharing the good news of Jesus so people can be free from sin and live with God forever.

### REFLECTION AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each kid. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

Be sure to send the sheets home with the kids along with the activity pages so parents can continue to discuss the Bible story with their kids.

If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page. **Pray for your group.**

## NOTES:

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# 4. ACTIVITIES

## Sin Spread to People

### BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

- Adam and Eve had two sons: Cain and Abel.
- Both made offerings to God, but only Abel's pleased God.
- Cain became angry, and God said to him, "Where is your brother Abel?"
- Cain killed Abel.
- God sent Cain away but marked him so no one would kill him.

### CHRIST CONNECTION:

Adam and Eve's sin and its consequences spread to all of humankind. But God did not forget his people. He sent a Rescuer. At just the right time, God would send His Son to save sinners.

### KEY PASSAGE: Romans 3:23

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** How do we know that sin is to think, speak, or behave in any way that goes against God and His commands?



**What Does it Mean?** | What does it mean to sin? Use the code to answer the big picture question.

To sin is to , , or in any way that goes against God and His commands.

**Considering Consequences** | Think about the actions in the first two circles. Write a sentence or draw a picture and possible consequence for each. Then think of your own action and its consequences.

You have one hole in the frogpond overnight.

Your action:

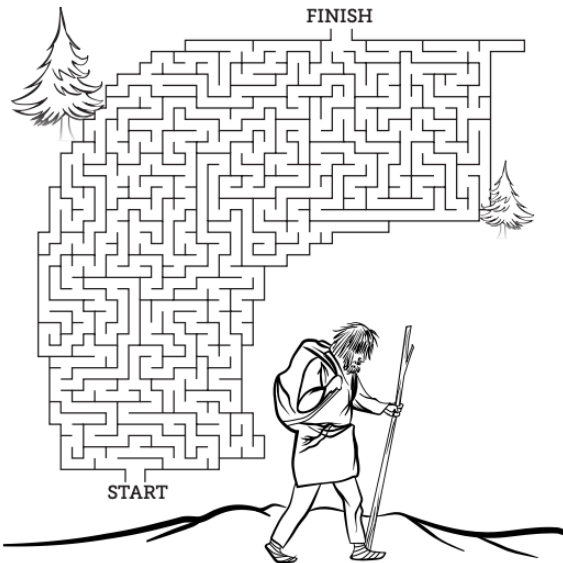
**You have one hole in the frogpond overnight.**

**Your action:**

**Your action:**

# CAIN & ABEL

Guide Cain to the land of Nod



# CAIN & ABEL

ANSWER KEY

S	O	N	F	T	U	R	G	E	V	A	X	M	E	U
Q	W	N	C	P	U	M	F	E	E	O	O	J	I	C
C	H	J	N	A	H	C	B	U	O	R	O	Y	G	U
U	E	I	B	R	W	F	M	L	I	E	S	M	H	R
<b>K</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Z</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>S</b>	
E	T	S	U	P	D	S	D	W	O	I	V	N	K	E
C	H	F	Z	N	D	J	H	T	R	O	E	D	K	M
T	W	O	A	S	T	T	E	E	R	V	O	E	M	M
M	N	T	N	A	M	G	H	A	P	U	N	N	U	V
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>C</b>
N	V	S	O	C	E	E	V	E	O	E	F	H	S	
J	V	E	D	T	A	I	R	O	E	F	U	R	I	G
Z	O	S	B	X	M	I	R	H	A	I	H	S	D	O
B	R	A	W	R	I	R	N	J	O	C	J	B	V	D
<b>P</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>T</b>

**Word Bank**

FARMER	CURSE	SHEPHERD
CAIN	PUNISHMENT	SON
ABEL	KILL	GOD
LIES	JEALOUSY	FIRST

## 4. ACTIVITIES



## Sin Spread to People

### BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Adam and Eve had two sons, Cain and Abel.
- Cain gave God some of the food he grew. Abel gave God some of his sheep.
- God was happy with Abel's gift, but He was not happy with Cain's.
- Cain was angry and made a wrong choice.
- God punished Cain.
- Adam and Eve had another son named Seth.

### CHRIST CONNECTION:

Everyone in Adam and Eve's family sinned too. God promised to send His Son, Jesus, to save sinners.

### KEY PASSAGE PHRASE:

Everyone makes wrong choices. Romans 3:23

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What does it mean to sin? We sin when we disobey God.



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NAME:



**What Does It Mean? |** What does it mean to sin? Use the code to answer the big picture question.

**To sin is to**

A =	N =
B =	P =
E =	S =
H =	T =
I =	V =
K =	

**or**

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**in any way that goes against God and His commands.**

**Considering Consequences |** Think about the actions in the first two circles. Write a sentence or draw a picture to show a possible consequence for each. Then think of your own action and its consequences.

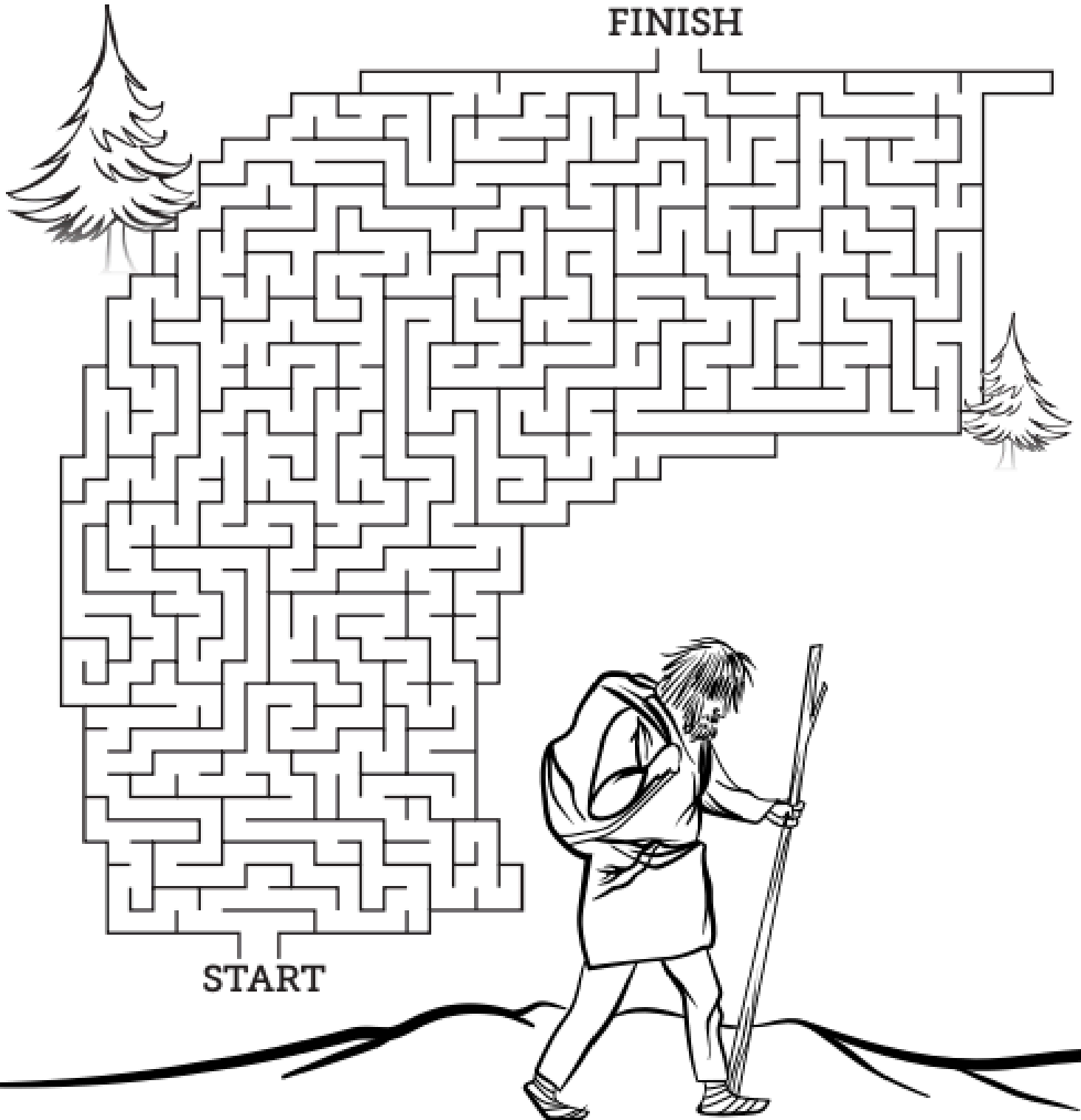
**Circle 1:** You leave your bike in the front yard overnight.

**Circle 2:** You decide to watch a TV show instead of finishing your science homework.

**Circle 3:** Your action:

# CAIN & ABEL

Guide Cain to the land of Nod



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# CAIN & ABEL



## ANSWER KEY

S	O	N	F	T	V	R	G	E	V	A	X	M	E	U
Q	W	N	C	P	U	M	F	E	E	Q	Q	J	I	C
C	H	J	N	A	H	C	B	V	Q	R	O	Y	G	U
U	E	I	B	R	W	F	M	L	I	E	S	M	H	R
K	I	L	L	A	Z	F	I	E	P	G	T	T	T	S
E	T	S	U	P	D	S	D	W	Q	I	Y	N	K	E
C	K	F	Z	N	D	J	H	T	R	Q	E	D	K	M
T	W	O	A	S	T	T	E	E	R	V	O	E	M	M
M	N	T	N	R	M	G	H	A	P	U	N	N	U	Y
A	B	E	L	O	M	S	J	S	L	H	O	T	W	C
N	V	S	Q	C	E	E	E	V	E	O	E	F	H	S
J	V	E	D	T	A	I	R	Q	E	F	U	R	I	G
Z	Q	S	B	X	M	I	R	H	A	I	H	S	D	O
B	R	A	W	R	I	R	N	J	O	C	J	B	Y	D
P	U	N	I	S	H	M	E	N	T	F	I	R	S	T

### Word Bank

FARMER

CURSE

SHEPHERD

CAIN

PUNISHMENT

SON

ABEL

KILL

GOD

LIES

JEALOUSY

FIRST

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### JOURNAL PAGE

1. What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
2. What does this story teach me about myself?
3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
5. How does this story help me to live on mission better?



Unit 2 • Session 2

## SIN SPREAD TO PEOPLE

Genesis 4-5

### WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SIN? TO SIN IS TO THINK, SAY, OR BEHAVE IN ANY WAY THAT GOES AGAINST GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.

Adam and Eve had two sons, Cain and Abel. One day, Cain gave God an offering of some of the produce he grew. Abel gave God some of the firstborn of his flock. God accepted Abel's offering, but He did not accept Cain's offering.

Cain was furious. Cain invited Abel to go out into the field. While they were in the field, Cain killed his brother.

Then God asked Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

"I don't know," said Cain. "Is it my job to look after him?"

But God knew what had happened. God punished Cain. God said Cain would spend the rest of his life wandering the earth. God put a mark on Cain to protect him so that whoever found him would not kill him. Then Cain left the land. He had a wife and a family, but they did not follow God.

God gave Adam and Eve another son, Seth. Seth grew up and had a family too. Around this time, Adam's descendants in Seth's family began to call on the name of the Lord.

**Christ Connection:** Adam and Eve's sin and its consequences spread to all of their descendants. But God did not forget His promise to send a Rescuer. At just the right time, God would send His Son to save sinners.

FOLD