

# Division, Division, Division, Division

Genesis 3:8–19

## VISUAL AIDS

There is no shortage of pictures to illustrate this lesson. Open any newspaper or magazine. (Again, *The Family of Man* has excellent photographs of the human condition.) You will want all kinds of photos showing man's misery—the bleaker, the better. You will need pictures depicting people's toil, grief, pain and death. You can show your class people worshipping idols, people fighting and killing each other, people starving, people cursing, people crying, etc. You will also want pictures of natural disasters and man's environmental blunders.

## MEMORY WORK

“Your sins have separated you from your God . . .” (Isaiah 59:2)

## CRAFT

Let us make a collage of misery. This can be a group project. On a large piece of poster board, paste both pictures and words of human suffering. A terrifying (but true) picture of man's misery should emerge. You can entitle your project: “The Result of Sin.”

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What brought about the separation between man and God?
2. Can we see that God and people are separated now? Give some examples.
3. What proof do we have in the Bible, in the Garden of Eden, that the relationship between God and people was broken immediately after they sinned?
4. What brought about separation between people?
5. Can we see that people are separated now? Give some examples.

6. What proof do we have in the Bible, in the Garden of Eden, that the relationship between people was also broken?
7. What brought about the separation between man and his world?
8. Can we see the war man has with the world? Give examples.
9. Is a man sometimes separated even from himself? Explain.

## **PRAYER**

O LORD, we are fallen people, living in a fallen world. There is suffering all around us. We thank You for Your LOVE, in spite of our sin, and ask for Your mercy upon many.

(Pray about the current problems in the world and the present sorrows of each child. Ask for God's help.)

## **PSALMS TO SING**

38A; 39B . . . and 2; 5AB; 6; 7AB; 9AB; 10AB; 13; 14ABC; 18AG; 25D; 27C; 30AB; 31BF; 55A; 107BC.

## **FIELD TRIP**

One doesn't have to go very far afield to see the suffering of man. Perhaps your class can be involved in some ministry to your community, such as singing psalms of hope to lonely people in an old-age home or sick people in a hospital, who often don't have little visitors. They could also bring these people small bouquets of flowers or baskets of fruit—and children's smiles!

*(This student lesson starts on page 94.)*

# Hope

Genesis 3:8–24

## VISUAL AIDS

In all my years of teaching, the visual aids for this lesson were the most fun. I brought animal skins to class—all kinds of them! From a friend I borrowed a big bear-skin rug, with a grizzly head and scary claws. That I placed in the centre of our circle. Then, from an old alligator bag, I brought out all sorts of leather and fur. There were enough hats and collars for each child to wear something. “What is the teacher going to wear?” asked one child. I wrapped a large, soft, deer skin around my shoulders like a cape. I saved the sheep skin to show the class at the end of the lesson. It wasn’t the softest or the prettiest, the thickest or the scariest, but it was given special attention as the skin that God probably used to clothe the first man and woman.

## MEMORY WORK

1. “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our LORD.” (Romans 6:23)
2. “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope . . .” (Romans 15:13)

## CRAFT

Cut out a large cardboard doll or two for each child. Bring a bag of scrap material—all different kinds and colours. Let the children cut and paste “clothes” of their own creation onto the dolls. You could also sew some real clothes, using a simple pattern for a child’s hat or mittens. Real fur is difficult to sew, but fake fur is a very easy fabric with which to work. Let each child think of some

little person, who would like a gift of a warm hat and matching mitts. Fringed polar-fleece scarves can be made without any stitching, just cutting.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Sin and pain and death fill the world. Where is our only hope?
2. How did God show that He still loved human beings?
3. God gave the man and woman a very great promise. What was it?
4. Do you think Adam and Eve believed God's promise? Why?
5. What is the great hope and promise that God has given to us?
6. How did God guard the tree of life? Will anyone ever eat the fruit of that tree? How?
7. An animal (probably a lamb) was slain on the day that the first man and woman ate the forbidden fruit. Why?

## PRAYER

LORD, we thank You that, although we are wretched sinners, You have given us hope in Your great LOVE. Thank You, LORD, for providing a covering for our sin. Thank You for the Lamb of God, who was slain before the foundation of the world, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## PSALMS TO SING

62A (1, 4,5); 119T . . . and 31D; 42ABC; 43; 52B (3);71A (1–3); 71C; 119GK (1); 119P; 130AB; 131 (3); 141B (9).

## FIELD TRIP

People still use animal skins for clothing. Visit a factory where sheep-skin garments are made or a store where fur coats are sold.

*(This student lesson starts on page 101.)*

# The Stand

Matthew 3:16–4:11

*You may wish to divide this lesson into four lessons.*

## **VISUAL AIDS**

You need photos to show the kind of place where each temptation occurred: an empty wasteland, the pinnacle of a temple, the top of a mountain, a place of death littered with bones and skulls.

## **MEMORY WORK**

1. “Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.” (Deuteronomy 8:2, 3)
2. “Do not put the LORD your God to the test.” (Deuteronomy 6:16)
3. “Worship the LORD your God and serve Him only.” (Deuteronomy 6:13)
4. “Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our LORD Jesus Christ.” (1 Corinthians 15:57)

## **CRAFT**

You can have the children draw the four places of Christ's worst temptations. You could divide a large sheet of paper into four sections or use separate sheets for each picture.

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. There is another Adam in the Bible, called the last Adam. Who was he?
2. When Jesus was baptized, a voice spoke from heaven. Whose voice was it? What did He say?

3. Where did the first temptation take place? What did Satan say? What did Jesus answer?
4. Where did the second temptation take place? What did Satan say? What did Jesus answer?
5. Where did the third temptation take place? What did Satan say? What did Jesus answer?
6. Where did the final temptation take place? What did people say? What did Jesus do? Why?
7. The first Adam fell into sin. Did the last Adam?

### **PRAYER**

LORD, we thank You for the great victory that we have through Jesus Christ. We thank You for Jesus, who stayed on the cross and died on the cross, that the serpent might be crushed and we might be saved. LORD, help us also to stand against the Evil One.

### **PSALMS TO SING**

98AB (1–4) . . . and 22ABCDEFGHI; 32C; 59B (7, 12, 13); 118C.

### **FIELD TRIP**

Is there a wilderness you can visit, where all you can hear is the moaning of the wind and the howling of the wolves? Can you look at the ground far below you from the top of a high tower? Can you view distant landscapes from a mountain height? If you have no access to such places, don't worry. What the children really need to know is that they can be tempted anywhere, in the most ordinary of places—at home, at school, at church.

*(This student lesson starts on page 108.)*

# Grace & Faith

John 3:1–18

## **VISUAL AIDS**

There are no visual aids for faith. We believe in a God whom we cannot see. There is no picture or image on earth that will help us believe in Him.

## **MEMORY WORK**

“For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

## **CRAFT**

The children could make something very important today, something that could save a person's life. Faith comes by hearing (or reading) the Word of God. The children could proclaim God's life-giving Word in a poster that they make. This could be a large group project or each child could make his own small poster. Print the words from John 3:16 and then decorate the poster however you want. If it's a group poster, you might want to put the hand-print of each person involved, to be seals of testimony of people who believe, or you might want to put stars on it because we “shine like stars in the universe as we hold out the word of Life” (Philippians 1:15, 16).

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. God said, “You shall surely die.” How can we escape death?
2. What is the work of God that we must do?
3. We are born dead in sin. How can we be born again?
4. What is the gospel message? Do you believe it?
5. We cannot save ourselves. How are we saved?

6. What is the victory that overcomes the world?
7. Do you believe in Jesus, the Son of God?

### **PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Your one and only Son to die for our sins, so that we might have life . . . forever. Thank You for the gift of faith. LORD, you know each person's heart; if there are any children here who do not believe, we ask that You would grant them faith also, that they too might have eternal life.

(Ask each child if there are any people whom he/she loves, who does not believe in Jesus. Then, pray! Pray for each person mentioned, that they would believe!)

### **PSALMS TO SING**

32C; 67A . . . and 4B; 9A (1, 5); 13; 16AB; 18A; 25AB; 27E; 31EF; 33C (9, 10); 38D; 62ABC; 63B; 67A; 71A (1–3); 86A; 143B; 145B; 145C (10–13).

### **FIELD TRIP**

The world is filled with dying people, who need the Word of Life. Take the poster you made and find a public bulletin board where you can display it, where people can read it.

*(This student lesson starts on page 124.)*

# Grace & Peace

**Romans 5:1**

## **VISUAL AIDS**

You may wish to introduce this lesson and stimulate interest in this topic by showing some pictures of people in this world searching and striving for peace. You can show pictures of gurus meditating, protestors marching, soldiers fighting, vacationers retreating—all in their quest for peace.

## **MEMORY WORK**

1. “Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:1)
2. “Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 1:7)

## **CRAFT**

The children could make peace banners with “peace” verses from the Bible. (Check the end of Lesson 26 for appropriate references.) Then they can have their own peace march right in your classroom: Onward Christian soldiers, marching for God’s peace, with the gospel of His grace; it will never cease!

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. There is only one mediator, who can restore the peace between man and God. Who is this mediator?
2. How does Jesus make peace between God and men?
3. What does the word “justification” mean?
4. What does God credit to us (or count for us) as righteousness?
5. What does God promise that He will do, if we confess our sins?

6. What did the first Adam bring?

7. What did the last Adam bring?

### **PRAYER**

LORD, thank You for Your grace and peace to us. What wonderful gifts they are!

### **PSALMS TO SING**

85B . . . and 4B; 29A (1, 6); 32AC; 35E; 38D (10, 11, 13); 128B.

### **FIELD TRIP**

Is there a war museum or a war memorial in your community? That would be a good place to visit with the purpose of teaching the children about the horror of war and the blessing of peace. The only true and lasting peace in this world is in Christ. Jesus said: “In Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).

*(This student lesson starts on page 128.)*

# A Child Is Born, A Son Is Given

Genesis 4:1-5

## **VISUAL AIDS**

Can you find pictures of boys playing, of brothers hugging, of friends laughing? Cain and Abel were the first two brothers in the world, the first two boys upon this earth. You might also find these pictures useful: a flock of sheep, some lambs, and a bountiful, beautiful, harvest arrangement of fruits and vegetables.

## **MEMORY WORK**

“Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29)

## **CRAFT**

Abel offered God a firstborn lamb from his flock of sheep. Each child can make a lamb. Cut sheep-shapes out of black cardboard and then cover the bodies (not the faces or legs) with white wool or cotton. Add eyes and maybe a real bell on a ribbon.

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. What was the name of the first child ever born in this world?
2. What was his brother's name?
3. They brought offerings to God. What did each one bring?
4. Was Cain's offering accepted by God? Why not?
5. Was Abel's offering accepted by God? Why?
6. Does God accept us? Why? Do we have an offering for sin?
7. Who is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world?

**PRAYER**

LORD, we thank You for showing us the way to be accepted in Your sight. We thank You for the sacrifice, which You provided, to pay for our sin. Thank You for sending Your Son to die for us, that we might have eternal life.

**PSALMS TO SING**

96A . . . and 4A (1–5); 20AB; 27BE; 50A; 51ABC; 54AB; 66B (11–14); 107C; 116C; 118C.

**FIELD TRIP**

Visit a sheep farm! If it is springtime, all the better. Then your children can see the firstborn lambs, leaping for joy and racing with life. They will see what a sacrifice it was for Abel, the shepherd, to offer God the finest lambs from his flock. Sin has a terrible price. Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. The Lamb of God, even Jesus our Lord, poured out his blood for us, to save us from sin and death.

*(This student lesson starts on page 134.)*

# Cain's Choice: Life Or Death

Genesis 4:1–16

## VISUAL AIDS

The face of a murderer—what does it look like? I lived in the U.S.A. for a few years and in the post offices there, the faces of wanted men are posted. For some reason I found these facial photos very interesting and I used to study them whenever I picked up our mail. There was something strange in the “look” on all the faces of these criminals, but what exactly it was, would be hard to describe. Perhaps for this class you could show the children photographs of faces—both happy faces and angry faces. Show them the famous and infamous faces of the world. Is there any difference? Is there such a thing as an evil look?

## MEMORY WORK

“If you do what is right, will you not be accepted?” (Genesis 4:7)

## CRAFT

God said to Cain, “Why is your face downcast?” Have the children make faces (or paper-plate masks!)—some that are angry and some that are happy, some that have eyes and mouths that are turned down and some that have eyes and mouths lifted up. Remind the children that, if we do what is right before God, we will be blessed by Him; inside ourselves we will be happy and on the outside it will show on our faces. But if we don’t do what is right we will be unsettled, angry and sad—and our faces will show it.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Cain had a choice. What was it? What did he choose?
2. What is a martyr? Who was the first martyr in the world?

3. Why did Cain murder his brother Abel?
4. How can Abel still speak, even though he is dead?
5. Cain was under a double curse. Explain.
6. God was merciful to Cain. How?
7. Cain lost many blessings. What were they?

### **PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your LOVE and mercy to all people. Please forgive our sins and accept us through the sacrifice of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

### **PSALMS TO SING**

52AB . . . and 1AB; 5AB; 7AB; 10AB; 11; 14ABC; 26B; 31G; 37B; 54AB; 94AB; 116C; 119KU; 140AB; 142.

### **FIELD TRIP**

Is there a memorial for martyrs in your community? If there is, you could take the children there for a visit.

*(This student lesson starts on page 139.)*

# Two Kinds of People, Two Races of Men

**Genesis 4:16–5:32**

## **VISUAL AIDS**

Cain built the first city, but now the cities of man cover the earth. Find photographs of the world's great cities—New York, London, Paris, Tokyo, Moscow, etc. Here you will find man's greatest achievements in technological progress and cultural advance. However, these places are not known for righteousness or faithfulness!

## **MEMORY WORK**

“As surely as I live,” declares the Sovereign LORD, “I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways—and live!” (Ezekiel 33:11)

## **CRAFT**

As a group project, you could make a large family tree, showing the different branches (both godly and ungodly) that proceeded from the first parents, Adam and Eve. You could also make individual and personal family trees for each child, showing their siblings, parents, grandparents, etc.—but make sure in the trunk of the tree are carved the names Adam and Eve, from whom comes every human being.

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. Cain was condemned to be a wanderer. What did he do instead?
2. What did Cain name his first son and the first city?
3. For what were the children of Cain renowned?

4. God gave to Adam and Eve another son, to take the place of Abel. What was his name?
5. What was the name of Seth's son and what did he do?
6. Adam and his sons after him lived long lives, but then they died . . . except for the seventh "son of god." What was his name and what happened to him?
7. What did this show/demonstrate to the people of God?

## **PRAYER**

LORD, we thank You for being patient with us and our sin. Heavenly Father, we ask that You would help us live like "children of God" in a wicked generation. We pray that we might be like Enoch, who "walked with God" and was commended for his faith. We pray that we might be used in the building of God's kingdom on earth, during the short time that we are here.

## **PSALMS TO SING**

90CD . . . and 12AB; 17C; 22E; 31D; 34BD; 48B; 71C; 73C; 78A; 100BC; 103C; 112A; 127A; 128AB; 146AB.

## **FIELD TRIP**

Every community has a cemetery, for the generations of man come and go. Take your children to visit a cemetery—the bigger, the better. Let them see how death spreads to all men in all generations. Let them see how man's days and years are numbered. God said, "Dust you are, and to dust you shall return." As you look over the tombstones, remind the children of Enoch, the seventh son from Adam, who did not die. God took him to heaven. That same hope of eternal life is ours in Jesus Christ our LORD, who is the Living One and the first-born from the dead. Enoch's hope was in God—and our hope must also be in God.

*(This student lesson starts on page 144.)*

# Only Evil, All the Time

Genesis 5:25–6:8

## VISUAL AIDS

You will need two pieces of fruit for this class, such as two apples. One should be an appetizing apple—firm and round and red. The other apple should be disgustingly rotten—mouldy and smelly and squishy. Let the children sense what the word “corrupt” means. Of what use is the rotten apple? It is just garbage to be thrown away. Think about that word “corrupt” and what the Bible says: “The earth was corrupt in God’s sight.” The world was rotten, rotten to the core—and the core was man’s heart, which was only evil, all the time. That was why God was going to destroy the world. It was no longer good for anything.

## MEMORY WORK

“Oh righteous God, who searches minds and hearts, bring to an end the violence of the wicked—and make the righteous secure.” (Psalm 6:9)

## CRAFT

Here is a group project, which can extend through the next few lessons: Put a large, brown, paper, ark (which has a ramp and an open door) onto the classroom wall. Have some of the children draw Noah and his wife, along with his three sons and their wives. These “people pictures” should be coloured and cut, then stuck onto the ark. Next, assign a pair of animals to each child to draw, colour and cut. When these pairs of creatures are ready, they can also be stuck onto the wall. The procession of animals has begun! As the lessons continue about Noah’s ark, assign new creatures. You can have hundreds of different kinds, that can extend in a long line around the four walls your classroom.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. In the beginning, when God created the earth, it was good. What did it become?
2. The LORD was grieved that He had made man. Why?
3. The godly line became corrupted and polluted. How?
4. Who found favour in the eyes of the LORD? Why?
5. Who lived longer than any other man? How long did he live? What year did he die? Who was his grandson?
6. What does the name Noah mean?
7. Enoch and Noah were “types of Christ.” What does this mean? How did they prefigure or foreshadow the Messiah?

## PRAYER

LORD, we thank You for Your mercy in preserving a faithful remnant in every age. Thank You that Your truth and praise and word endure forever. Merciful heavenly Father, we ask You to keep us from corruption and to create in us a pure heart.

## PSALMS TO SING

53 (1–3) . . . and 1AB; 5AB; 7AB; 12AB; 14ABC; 34BDE; 36AB; 37ABC; 52AB; 55ABC; 56; 75; 92ABC; 139C; 140AB.

## FIELD TRIP

Can you go some place, such as a stadium, where thousands upon thousands of people can be viewed? Imagine what it would be like to be the only person left, who loved God.

*(This student lesson starts on page 150.)*

# By Faith, An Ark!

Genesis 6:9–7:5

## VISUAL AIDS

For this lesson, a wooden hammer would be useful, to bang out Noah's warning: "Repent!" You could also bring photos of ships being built in shipyards.

## MEMORY WORK

1. "Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."  
(Hebrews 11:1)
2. "The righteous will live by his faith." (Habakkuk 2:4)

## CRAFT

Continue the animal art-work around your meeting-room. There were thousands of creatures that entered the ark: mammals, reptiles, birds, insects, etc. You shouldn't run out of assignments for the children to continue the procession of animals, two by two, into the ark. An alternate project would be to have the children make pairs of animals from plasticine. Set them up on a table, along with a toy ark. At your local library, in the children's section, find Barbara Reid's *Two By Two* (North Winds Press) and use this book for inspiration in plasticine creatures! Our church is located in the world's coldest capital: Ottawa, Canada. Sub-zero temperatures last for many weeks of the year. At the annual mid-winter outdoor carnival, "Winterlude," there are all kinds of ice and snow sculptures. One year there was Noah's ark! If you need an outdoor activity and the climate is right, that is another craft idea for this lesson. Another project would be making model arks out of wood or cardboard.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. God told Noah that He was going to destroy the world. What words of hope did God give to Noah?
2. How did Noah respond to God's Word?
3. What was Noah's work in this world? What made it difficult?
4. What great sign did the people of the world have, to show them that a flood was coming?
5. What else warned them about the flood?
6. When did Noah enter the ark? Why?
7. We also live in a wicked generation. What is the work that we must do?

## PRAYER

LORD, we thank You for Your mercy to the human race. Please, help us with our work—the work of believing Your Word and proclaiming Your Truth.

## PSALMS TO SING

37AF . . . and 1AB; 3 (5); 4AB; 5AB; 7A (5); 9A; 18C; 25AB; 31A; 71ABC; 109B (9); 119FW.

## FIELD TRIP

If you live near the ocean, make a trip to the harbour, where the large ships are anchored. Perhaps you can have a tour aboard one of them. Is there a shipyard, where large boats are built? That would be an interesting excursion. If you live inland, then you may have to settle for a trip to a sawmill, where the children can see the huge logs being hauled and stripped, sawed and stacked. Imagine the work that Noah and his sons had to do, without the help of machines!

*(This student lesson starts on page 155.)*

# The Flood

Genesis 7

## VISUAL AIDS

There are many photographs available in magazines (such as National Geographic) which show the devastations caused by tidal waves, floods, monsoons, hurricanes, storms, typhoons, etc. Altogether, these disasters would not equal the world-wide destruction caused by the flood in Noah's day.

## MEMORY WORK

"Fear God and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgement has come. Worship Him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water." (Revelation 14:7)

## CRAFT

Continue the procession of animals into the ark. Make sure that there are more than two sheep! Seven entered the ark!

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. When did Noah and his family move into the ark?
2. Who closed the door of the ark? Why?
3. How did Noah find all the animals for the ark?
4. Why did God save two of every creature, a male and its mate?
5. Why did God save more than one pair of sheep?
6. What were other people in the world doing, until the flood came and swept them away?
7. How long did it take God to create the world? How long did it take God to destroy the world?

8. How will the world be destroyed in the end on the final Day of Destruction?
9. How can we be saved?

## **PRAYER**

LORD, we thank You for providing a way of escape for us. We thank You for Your great plan and promise of salvation. We rejoice that “what God opens no one can shut, and what He shuts no one can open” (Revelation 3:7). We rejoice that our salvation is in the hands of God! We praise You and Thank You, O LORD.

## **PSALMS TO SING 2**

9A (1, 2,6); 93A . . . and 9A; 18BH; 32A; 33C; 36B; 46ABC; 47A; 69C (11, 12); 90ABCD; 93A; 124A; 130AB; 135A (2).

## **FIELD TRIP**

I still remember the day, although I was a very young age, when my father took me to see some flood damage after Hurricane Hazel. What a sight to see! Parts of the road were under water and fields were filled with stranded, flopping fish. Even a small flood is very impressive for a child. However, a flood may not be available for your children to witness, (for which you can be thankful.) Perhaps you can show them some floodgates. Imagine what would happen, if they were suddenly opened! Perhaps there is a large dam in your vicinity. Imagine what would happen if it cracked and burst! Remind the children that God ripped open the dams of the earth and the gates of the sky, so that all the world would be destroyed by water. It is a terrifying thought, but the fear of the LORD is a good thing. It is an incentive for obedience and reverence to God!

*(This student lesson starts on page 159.)*