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Sin

The Bible teaches us that in the beginning of time God created man and woman in a perfect state, a paradise on earth called Eden.¹ The first several chapters of Genesis tell how God put that first couple in the garden to enjoy its delights and walk in close fellowship with Him. In that happy place there was no sickness, no pain, no sorrow, and most notably, no death. The problems of the world as we know them today did not exist. In the garden was a tree called *"the tree of life."*² As long as Adam and Eve ate from it they would never die.³

In order to give man a choice in living with God, another tree was placed in the garden that was not to be touched. It was called *"the tree of the knowledge of good and evil."*⁴ God told Adam and Eve, *"From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die."*⁵

Most people know what happened. Eve ate fruit from the forbidden tree and then shared it with her husband and he ate.⁶ This first disobedience was called "sin."⁷ As a result, Adam and Eve and all who came after them lost their paradise home.⁸ They were banned from access to the tree of life. Death became a reality.

Adam and Eve had their problem with sin, but they were not the only ones as this lesson will show. Answer each question carefully, getting the answers right from your own Bible.

1. What, according to the Bible, is sin?

1 John 3:4

James 4:17

1 Genesis 2:8

2 Genesis 2:9

3 Genesis 3:22-23

4 Genesis 2:9

5 Genesis 2:16-17

6 Genesis 3:6

7 1 Timothy 2:14; James 4:17

8 Genesis 3:23-24

2. Who has sinned?

Isaiah 53:6⁹

Romans 3:23

Romans 5:12

3. What are some of the sins named in the Bible?

Romans 1:28-32

Galatians 5:19-21

4. What are some sins people do today? (Give your own ideas)

5. We saw the penalty for sin in the Garden. What is the penalty for sin today, according to the Bible?

Romans 6:23

Revelation 21:8

6. Have you ever sinned?

7. Can sin be pardoned?

Isaiah 1:18¹⁰

Matthew 1:21

⁹"All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way..."

¹⁰ "Come now, and let us reason together," says the Lord. "Though your sins are as scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they will be like wool."