



# THE GREATEST PROBLEM 2

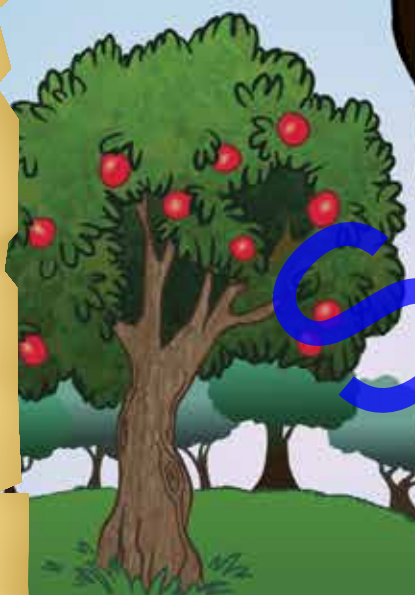
Do you ever make bad choices?

One day I was playing in our living room. Mom was working on a project outside. She told me I could stay inside and play but not to touch any of the things on the shelf. While I was playing with my dolls, I saw one of Mom's vases on the shelf. It was so beautiful I just had to hold it. I stood up on the couch to get it down, but it was heavier than I thought. When I pulled it off the shelf, it slipped out of my hands and crashed on the ground in a hundred pieces. I was afraid and embarrassed. In a panic, I pushed all the broken pieces under the couch and hoped nobody would notice.

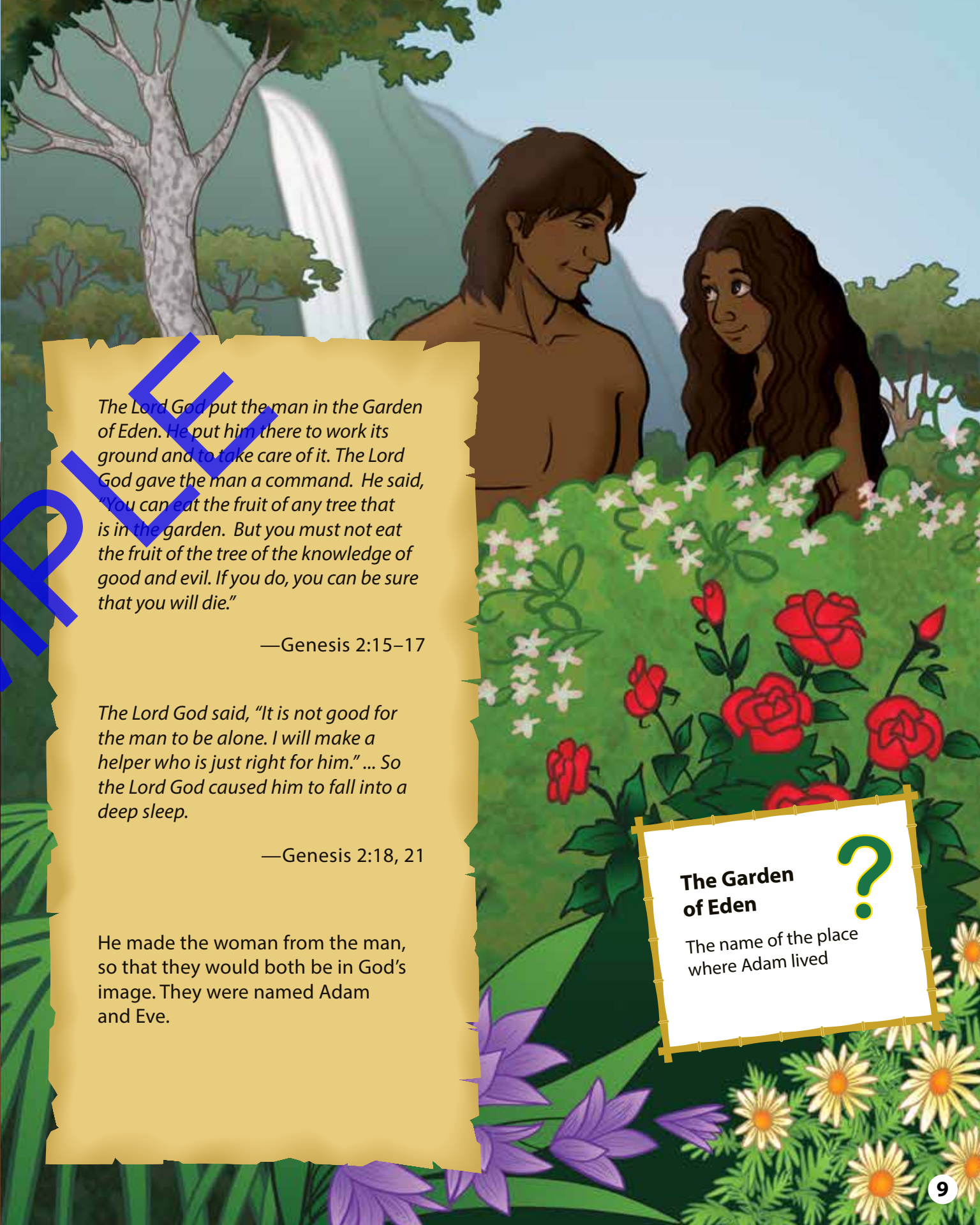
It was the wrong thing to do. I disobeyed and then I tried to hide what I did from my mom. I made the wrong choice. When Mom found out, I got in trouble. Have you ever made a wrong choice and gotten in trouble for it?

In this story the first people, Adam and Eve, faced a choice too. Would they listen to God and obey Him?

You can find this story in Genesis 2:15–3:24.



SAMPLE



*The Lord God put the man in the Garden of Eden. He put him there to work its ground and to take care of it. The Lord God gave the man a command. He said, "You can eat the fruit of any tree that is in the garden. But you must not eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you do, you can be sure that you will die."*

—Genesis 2:15–17

*The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him." ... So the Lord God caused him to fall into a deep sleep.*

—Genesis 2:18, 21

He made the woman from the man, so that they would both be in God's image. They were named Adam and Eve.

**The Garden of Eden** ?

The name of the place where Adam lived



Satan, God's enemy disguised as a serpent, wanted to deceive Adam and Eve.

*The serpent said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat the fruit of any tree that is in the garden'?"*

*The woman said to the serpent, "We can eat the fruit of the trees that are in the garden. But God did say, 'You must not eat the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden. Do not even touch it. If you do, you will die.'"*

*"You can be sure that you won't die," the serpent said to the woman. "God knows that when you eat the fruit of that tree, you will know things you have never known before. You will be able to tell the difference between good and evil. You will be like God."*

—Genesis 3:1–5



### Satan

Satan is evil, and he hates God. He wants to prevent people from trusting and obeying God. Satan destroys people's lives. He is not only God's enemy, but our enemy too.



Eve wanted to know everything God knows. She and Adam both ate the fruit. Suddenly they were ashamed and hid from God. God found them and asked:

*"Have you eaten the fruit of the tree I commanded you not to eat?"*

*The man said, "It was the woman you put here with me. She gave me some fruit from the tree. And I ate it."*

*Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What have you done?"*

*The woman said, "The serpent tricked me. That's why I ate the fruit."*

—Genesis 3:11–13

God cursed the serpent and punished the woman and the man. The woman would have pain when giving birth, and it would be difficult for the man to work the land for food. They would eventually die and return to the dust they were made from.

*The Lord God said, "The man has become like one of us. He can now tell the difference between good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and pick fruit from the tree of life and eat it. If he does, he will live forever." So the Lord God drove the man out of the Garden of Eden.*

—Genesis 3:22–23



## ? QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

- Adam and Eve obeyed God. True or false?
- What happened to them?
- Describe a time when you ignored the right thing to do.



There is nothing we can do ourselves to repair our sin problem. We can never be good enough by ourselves. But God has made a way for us to be with Him again.

Adam and Eve showed us that, from the very beginning, people have disobeyed God. Thankfully the story doesn't end here with Adam and Eve. God had a plan to save us and let us be with Him forever. The Bible tells us that although we sin and ignore God, He still loves us and gives us a solution for our sin problem. It tells us how we can trust, obey, and live forever with God. There is nothing more important than this.

## 👉 FIND WHAT'S WRONG

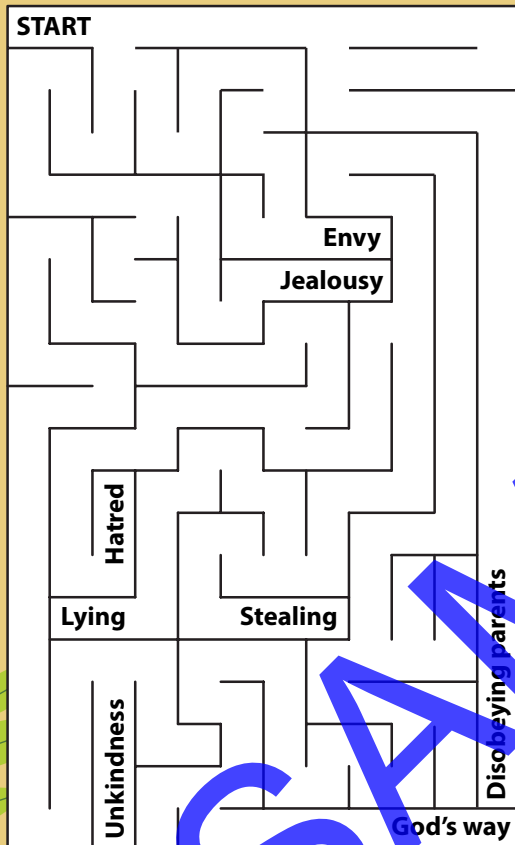
Look at the picture and circle all the things wrong with it. List some of the ways that you see sin messing up the world around you.





## MAZE

Find a way through this maze to “God’s way.” Beware, because sin is at every dead-end.



## COLLECT

Make a list of some of the wrong things people do that don't please God. Write them on a piece of paper. Fold up the paper and put it in your special place where you kept the beautiful thing from nature last week.

## REMEMBER

- Everybody sins.
- Sin stops us from knowing God and following Him.
- God loves us even though we sin.
- We can't solve our sin problem without God.

God's plan to solve our sin problem was to send His Son, Jesus, to earth. In the next lesson, you can read about how this happened.



## TALK TO GOD

**DEAR GOD,**

Thank You that You love us. I am sorry for all the things I have said and done and thought that are against Your ways. Thank You for being perfect, and thank You that You still love us even when we don't live Your way. In Jesus' Name, amen.



## MEMORY VERSE

*When you sin, the pay you get is death. But God gives you the gift of eternal life because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done.* —Romans 6:23

Learn the verse by saying just the first word, then the first and second words, then the first, second, and third ... and so on until you get right to the end. Say it aloud.