

FALL

“Cain and Abel vs Seth”

Series Objective: Students will learn:

- What is Sin?
- Cain and Abel vs. Seth
- Noah and the situation of the world
- Humans relied on self

Series Theme Verse: “My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge.” Psalm 62:7 (NIV)

Lesson Objective: Students will understand that like Seth, we have a spiritual family tree that encourages us in worship of God.

Lesson Passage: Genesis 4:1-17, 25-26

Materials Needed: Construction Paper for each student, crayons and pencils or pens, Series Theme Verse cut into pieces and hidden throughout the third floor.

Lesson Plan:

The Story:

Talking Points:

- Read the story of Cain and Abel from the Lesson Passages, then paraphrase the story on the level of the students.
- What are the names of the two brothers? (Cain and Abel)
- who were the parents of Cain and Abel? (Adam and Eve)
- What was Abel’s job? (He was a shepherd)
- What was Cain’s job? (He was a farmer)
- Which son made God happy by giving his best for God? (Abel)
- Which son did not give his best to God in sacrifice? (Cain)
- Why was Abel considered good? (He did what God said and gave God his best)
- Why was Cain not considered good? (He did not offer his best fruit)
- Who noticed Cain’s anger first? (God)
- What did God ask Cain? (vs. 6-7)
- Cain became angry with his brother. He wanted God to be happy with what he offered. Cain was so angry that he killed his brother Abel. When we allow

anger to go unchecked, it can lead to sin. Does that make anger a sin? (No, anger is a natural emotion, the results of our anger can sometimes be sin)

- After Cain killed Abel, what does God ask him? (Where is Abel?)
- What is Cain's reply? (Am I my brother's keeper?)
- What does Cain mean by his reply? (I don't know, am I his babysitter?)
- Did God know where Abel was? (Yes, God was giving Cain the opportunity to confess, just as God gave Adam and Eve the opportunity to confess in the Garden of Eden)
- Did God punish Cain? (Yes, he would not be able to grow good food anymore)
- What is Cain's response to God? (My punishment is too much. Cain thinks people will try to kill him if they find him.)
- Why does God put a mark on Cain? (To protect him)
- Where does Cain end up? (In the land of Nod)
- If Abel and Cain were the sons of Adam and Eve, where did Cain's wife come from? (Some believe that Adam and Eve had a large number of kids, the Bible only focuses on Cain and Abel, and others believe that Genesis 1-2 tells of God creating humanity which would mean more people than just Adam and Eve.)
- Why do you think Cain did not offer his best for God? (He cared more about himself than God, He was selfish)
- Do we ever think about only ourselves? (Yes, let students give examples in their daily lives where they forget to focus on God and instead focus on themselves)
- Why did Abel offer his best for God? (He loved God)
- Did Adam and Eve have any other children? (Yes, they had Seth)
- What did Eve say about Seth? (That Seth was given by God to replace Abel)
- What is special about the birth of Seth? (People again began to call on the name of the Lord, or said another way, people began to worship God again)
- Help students to see that even though evil happened in Cain murdering Abel, God was faithful and gave Seth to Adam and Eve. Seth became the child that the worshippers of God would come from and the head of that family tree.

The Story Retold:

- Give students a piece of construction paper.
- Have them draw a tree that fills the whole page.
- Have them write their name in the middle of the tree.
- Have them write, "My Spiritual Family Tree" at the top of the page.
- Explain to students that we all have a family tree like Seth did (Adam and Eve to Cain and Abel and Seth), but we also have a spiritual family tree made up of those people who have helped to lead us to Christ and continue to encourage us in our Christian lives. When Seth was born people began to worship God again.
- Have students write names in their spiritual family tree of those people in their lives who have encouraged them in their spiritual life of following Jesus.

- Let each student share their family tree and tell how a couple people in their tree encourage them to be better Christians.
- Give each student a card and have them write a Thank You note to someone in their Spiritual Family Tree for the impact they have had on their life.

The Story and Me:

- Have Series Theme Verse printed on a poster board cut into several pieces.
- Hide the different pieces on the third floor.
- Let the students find the pieces of the Series Theme Verse and piece together the puzzle.
- Once they put their pieces together, have them say the verse together.
- Remind students that the verse helps us understand that, our faith is built on God, but there are other people in our lives who have helped us grow in our Faith Journeys.