

## **Lesson 2**

### **Good News**

#### **Lesson Overview**

BIBLE LESSON: Genesis 2:15-17 and Genesis 3:1-24

MEMORY VERSE: "I, even I, am the LORD, and there is no savior besides Me."  
Isaiah 43:11

CHALLENGE MEMORY VERSE: For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.  
Romans 3:23

CATECHISM:

Introduction to the Ten Commandments: I am the LORD thy God.

#### **LESSON OBJECTIVES**

The student will:

- know God loves us.
- understand we are all born sinners.
- believe when we tell God we are sorry for our sins, He forgives us through His Son, Jesus.

MATERIALS: Bible, Student lessons, Activity Pages, AFLC Luther's Small Catechism and Explanation

LESSON OVERVIEW: God loves us and, because He loves us, He gave us laws to live by. The Bible passage focuses on Adam and Eve, the first law given to them and their disobedience. Because of their disobedience we are all born Sinners. God still loved Adam and Eve and He loves us as well. God had a plan. He promised to send Jesus, His Son to die on the cross to take our punishment for our sins. God forgives us when we confess our sins.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS: 1) Do you know any of God's laws? God had laws from the time he created the world and Adam and Eve. What law did God give Adam and Eve? 2) If you break the rules in your family or at school are you punished? How did God deal with Adam and Eve? 3) Can we be forgiven if we do our best? 4) T: What was God's plan?

ACTIVITY 1: Matching activity centered on vocabulary words in the lesson; tempted, promise, blame, disobey, Gospel, instead, forgiveness, punished, sin, baptized, inherit, law.

ACTIVITY 2: Identifying statements as disobeying God's Law or Gospel, Good News. Statements are given and the student must put a DL for disobeying God's Law and GN for Good news in front of each statement.

## TEACHER PREPARATION

### Prepare to Teach

Read Psalm 119 in which David tells about his wonder at the beauty of the Law.  
Ask God to help you see wonderful things in His Law and to share them with your class.  
Read what the Catechism has to say about the Law and the Gospel.

### Prayer Preparation

- Pray and trust that the Holy Spirit will guide you as you prepare the lesson.
- Pray to be able to share Christ's love with each child in your class this year.
- Remember each child in prayer during the week as you prepare.

### Bible Background

Genesis 2:15-17 (Gen 3)

When God had finished the work of creation, He pronounced it "very good" (Gen 1:31). Then God planted a garden in the east, in Eden (2:8) and placed the man in the garden to care for it (2:15). The "placing" here (2:15) indicates that God gave the man a place of peace and rest in what was meant to be a permanent dwelling place. The man was to be a caretaker in the garden, and that "work" was meant to be a pleasure, not a punishment. Work became a hardship only after the fall into sin (3:17-19).

God told the man that "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 will surely die" (2:16,17). These words revealed to the man the limits of God's will and the result of disobedience. This statement was the first of God's laws to man. By transgressing this law man would forfeit God's favor and lose the image of God. Man would now begin to create, serve and worship gods of his own making (Rom 1:25).

All this came to pass when Eve was tempted by the devil to eat of the forbidden fruit, and then she gave it to Adam, who also ate it (Gen 3:6). Their disobedience to God's law separated them from God. Now no longer in fellowship with God, they were ashamed and tried to cover themselves and hide from Him (3:7,8). Their sin brought a curse on all creation, and labor now became a burden for man (3:17-19).

But even in the midst of the curse was a promise of redemption, a promise of grace greater than our sin. There would be conflict between the descendant of the woman and descendant of the devil but the seed of the woman would bruise the serpent's head (3:15). This verse is seen as the first mention of the Gospel and clearly points to Christ and his defeat of Satan on the cross.

As a further testimony of God's grace, He clothed Adam and Eve in animal skins (3:21). This verse is never mentioned as messianic or redemptive anywhere in the Bible, but the skins would remind them that only God can cover our sin and shame (3:7). These words remind us that God's "covering" our sin would require death and the shedding of blood. The seed of the woman would be the One to die and shed His blood on the cross to redeem us from sin, death and the devil.

Peter wants us to know that "you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ" (1 Peter 1:18,19). Therefore, "put on the Lord Jesus

Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts” (Rom 13:14). Because “all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ” (Gal 3:27).

## Learn the New Words

**Satan:** the chief evil spirit, the great enemy of God

**tempted:** leading someone to do wrong

**sin:** when we think, say or do something wrong (also discuss somewhere in TM “sinned” and “sinners” and talk about original sin—we all inherit sin and are born with sin)

**punished:** what happens to us when we disobey

**inherit:** to born like a parent or an older person in your family

**instead:** in the place of something or someone else

**blame:** guilt or responsibility

**gospel:** good news that Jesus died to save us from our sins

## BEGINNING YOUR CLASS HOUR

### Welcome and Opening Prayer

Greet the children warmly as they arrive. Pray God’s blessing on each student. Pray that everyone will understand the lesson.

Give the students an opportunity to share something about themselves.

### Review

Review God’s name that we learned last week. Ask what they remember from the lesson--real, alive, eternal, powerful, loving. Connect God the Father and God the Son as both “I AM.”

### Memory

Review the Memory verse with the students together. Remember the appendix of tools to help with Memory work.

## TEACHING TODAY’S BIBLE LESSON

### Introduce the Lesson

Engage the students to talk about rules in their family or in their school. There are no right or wrong answers in this question but this allows children to engage with you.

### Read the Lesson

Read yourself or have a student volunteer to read the first paragraph of the lesson. Our parents have rules for their children because they love them and want them to be safe and successful in life. God had laws from the time he created the world.

Help the children find Genesis 2:15-17. Have one of the children read these verses.

Make the connection that God really said this, this is His Word. God said they would die if they ate of this tree. Satan came to Eve and persuaded her through a lie to disobey God's law and Adam also disobeyed God's one law. Because they disobeyed they were punished, they would not live forever, they would die. Sin has consequences.

**If you break the rules in your family or at school, are you punished?** *Allow them to give examples.* Children will probably give examples, have to stay home from an event, have to clean their room, have to do more chores. **A follow-up question might be do your parents still love you even though they have to punish you?** God still loved Adam and Eve and gave them a promise, a way to be forgiven and obtain eternal life.

Read the next paragraph. I would explain the idea of inheriting sin from Adam like inheriting blue eyes or curly hair from parents, maybe this is too simple but it is not something we can choose, it just is, just as we inherited sin from Adam. That means we are all sinners, we sin daily and need forgiveness daily.

God is totally different from humans. **Ask How God is different?** *Students may not know God is holy. He is without sin.* He cannot sin and does not sin. God hates sin. Disobeying His laws is sin. God's Law shows us our sin and how much we need Jesus to be our Savior. Even if we try our hardest, we cannot be forgiven by trying to follow God's Law. **What if we do our very best?** *The answer is no.* But God had a plan so we could be forgiven. **Does anyone know what God's plan was? What did He promise Adam and Eve?** Draw attention to paragraph 2.

Read the next paragraph. This is God's plan. Emphasize that we ALL can be forgiven when we confess our sins to God. Wonderful good news we can be forgiven and know that we can have eternal life in heaven with God forever, **can you remember what we can't do by ourselves?** *We can't keep God's laws perfectly.* **What should we do when we do something wrong?** *We can confess our sin and ask God to forgive us. He will.*

Some children in your class may not have been baptized. If a child asks about baptism

refer them to an elder or pastor in the church and to talk to their parents about baptism. You could speak with the pastor about this child as well.

## Study the Catechism

Have the students look at the top of the first page of the lesson.

This year we will be studying the Ten Commandments. Make sure each student has a catechism, and help them locate page 33 of the catechism and the questions of the day,

*#11 What is the Law?*

The law is the divine word telling us what to do.

and on the next page:

*#12 What is the Gospel?*

The Gospel is the good news of the grace of God in Jesus Christ our Savior.

## Review Memory Work

"I, even I, am the LORD, and there is no savior besides Me." Isaiah 43:11

# APPLYING THE BIBLE LESSON

## Do the Activities Together

### What Does This Mean?

#### Activity 1

Matching words from the lesson with their meanings. Complete the activity by having the student write what they learned from the lesson.

**Activity 1**  
**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?**  
Draw a line matching each word with the correct phrase.

**ACTIVITY CENTER**

Words in the word cloud: tempted, promise, blame, disobey, instead, sin, punished, baptized, inherit, forgiveness, law, gospel.

1. good news
2. become a child of God by water and the Word of God
3. act of forgiving, letting go of anger
4. receive from a parent or ancestor
5. led to sin
6. in place of, as a substitute
7. to find fault with someone
8. to not do what we are told to do
9. rule to live by
10. a pledge that something will happen
11. made to suffer or pay for doing wrong
12. disobey God

Using one or more words above and some of your own words, write a sentence telling what you learned in the Bible lesson.

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## God's Law and Gospel?

### Activity 2

Identifying statements as disobeying God's Law or Gospel, Good News. Statements are given, and the student must put a DL for disobeying God's Law and GN for Good News in front of each statement.

**Activity 2**  
**GOD'S LAW AND GOSPEL**

**LAW**  
Something we must do

**GOSPEL**  
Good news of what God has done

Write DL in front of the statements that show disobeying God's Law.  
Write GN in front of the statements that are Good News or Gospel.

- DL 1. I do not always do what I know I should do.
- DL 2. I sometimes do what I know I should not do.
- GN 3. Jesus loves me.
- DL 4. I said things about my friend that were not true.
- GN 5. Jesus died on the cross for us.
- GN 6. Jesus took the blame for my sin.
- DL 7. I do not always obey my parents.
- DL 8. I took candy from a store, and I did not pay for it.
- GN 9. God hears our prayers.
- GN 10. When we are baptized, we receive God's gift of forgiveness of sins.
- DL 11. Adam and Eve ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
- GN 12. God gave the promise that Jesus the Savior would come.

# CLOSING YOUR CLASS HOUR

## Closing Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank you for all the laws that keep us safe. Thank you for your commandments in the Bible that show me my sin. Thank you for loving me and dying on the cross to take away my sins. Help me to remember you this week, In your holy Name, Amen.

## **Additional Teaching Options**

**Hymns and Songs:**

**Additional activities for a multi-age class:**