

VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH –YOUTH WORK

Sunday morning teaching plan



Date 25th August 2024

TITLE:	Adam and Eve— The Fall Genesis 3
THEME:	Humans make poor choices and there are consequences. Separation from God
AIM:	We have all sinned and need Jesus to rescue us from sin

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Last session we saw God's perfect plan was a beautiful world populated by people to care for it who love God and worship Him. That is our purpose. This week we discover how humans decided to take another path and go their own way. It is all about choices, difficult choices. All humans have made poor choices (except Jesus) and have failed to follow God's way. The story of the Fall in Gen 3 explains how this began and what the consequences are for humanity. Fortunately, God did not end the story there but began a rescue plan that climaxed with Jesus' death and resurrection and concludes with His return.

WARM UP

1. Play "choices game" i.e crisps or chocolate, City or United etc. A list available in resources section. End with hard choices. Was it hard to make the choice? Why? What made you choose one?
2. Watch video clip of the Matrix ... the scene where Neo has to make a life changing choice. Available on the desktop of youth laptop. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQ1_lbFFbzA
3. Traffic light diagram. How to make good choices. (see resources activity as well)

MAIN TEACHING

READ Gen 3. There may be some questions from the text that arise. I cannot predict them all. Here are some that might arise.

- **Talking snake!** This is an image of Satan. Taking the form of a snake. Snakes lie in wait waiting to pounce etc.
- **2 trees** = choices to make. Tree of life = following God/life. Tree of knowledge = going our own way, rejecting God. Cannot have both!
- **The consequences of the choice.** Paradise is lost... the rest we spoke of last week is gone, pain hard work and death are introduced to the world.
- **Nakedness** = innocence. Covering up after sin = guilt and shame.
- **Exile from the garden.** Now separated from God as a result of choice.

1. Has anyone ever regretted a decision they made? Did you decide to do something without thinking of the consequences? (leader be prepared to step in and share a story)
2. Why can making decision be so difficult?
3. Did Adam and Eve make a mistake in this story? Why do you think so? What did they do wrong?
4. What can we learn about humans from this story? What does it tell us about our decisions?

Key teaching: We all make poor choices, especially with God (Romans 3:23). There is a lot of peer pressure and pressure from family, society to behave in a certain way. However, it is rarely God's way.

5. What does it tell us about God?

Key teaching: God is Holy and just. They may consider Him harsh but that too is a result of our sin, not wanting to be caught out. Seeing things as unfair from our own perspective.

6. What do you think "knowledge of good and evil" means? How do you distinguish between those two things in your own life? (If the video clip was used: do we think everything becomes clear for Neo in that one decision? Or, does he learn more as Morpheus teaches him more about the Matrix?)

Key teaching: We won't always get it right and we don't know everything, even when we are a Christian
We must learn from the Bible, seek God's help to make the right choices

7. **READ v14-15** Can you see where God begins His plan to rescue humans? Who is the one who will crush the serpent? How does He do this?

Key teaching: God promises a descendant of Eve will destroy Satan. That descendant is Jesus.

Because of God's love and mercy, He does not leave us once we have sinned. The bible reveals His plan to rescue us, starting with promising it in Genesis 3. The rest of the Bible is a working out of God's plan

TAKEAWAY

We all have sinned (made poor choices with God) and become separated from him, like Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. BUT God promised to rescue us from Satan. Jesus has done that on the cross. We need to put our faith in Him. **Remember to use prayer time at end to emphasise the need for repentance**

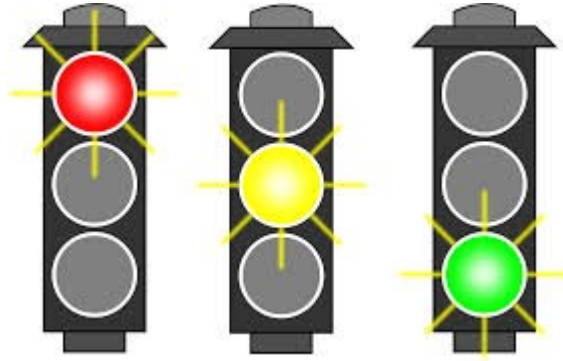
POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES/ RESOURCES

Choices game: (Feel free to add your own. Make sure to include some hard choices)

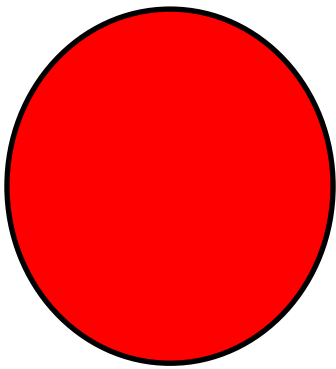
Crisps or chocolate, Get up early or stay up late, Weetabix or toast, Adidas or Nike, City or United, reading a book or watching TV, Sport or music,

Obedience to mum and dad or doing what friends want, homework or Xbox, Vegetables or chips, Church on Sunday or a lie in, following Jesus or following your own way.

Traffic light activity to do at the end as a quiet meditation (If done as a starter, have ideas changed?)

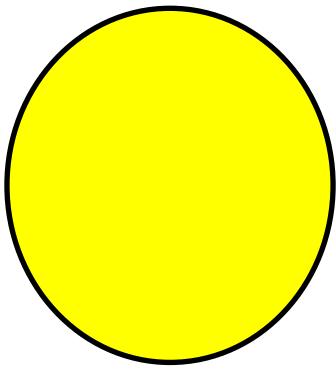


Making positive choices



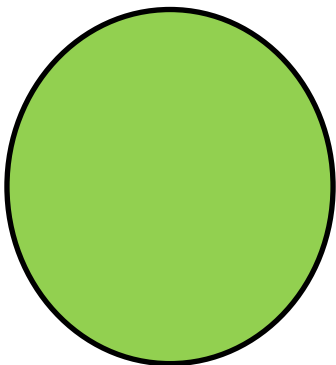
What should stop you making a bad choice?

How do I know what is bad?



What should I do if I am unclear about a decision I need to make?

Who can I speak to, to get WISE help?



How can I make certain my choices are good?

How can Jesus help me make good choices?