



1st & 2nd

Unit 2: A Broken World

Story 3.A - Cain & Abel (Genesis 4)

Story Focus: Cain sinned against God.

(Next Week: Cain sinned against man.)

INTRODUCTIONS - Introduce yourself and consider having students do the same if you have children new to the group. Fill out the top of the Roster and take attendance.

MEMORY VERSE - Practice the verse together using one of the activities on the Memory Game List.

Unit 2 Memory Verse: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." ~1 John 1:9

BIBLE TIME - Have kids open their bookmarked Bibles (**Genesis 4**).

Read Genesis 4:2b-5

What did Abel do for a living? (shepherd)

What did Cain do for a living? (farmer)

They both made offerings to the Lord. How were the two offerings different? (Cain brought things he had grown, while Abel brought the fattest parts of the first animals born to their mothers)

What was God pleased with? What wasn't he pleased with? (He was pleased with Cain's offering and not with Abel's)

While the Bible doesn't tell us why God wasn't pleased with Cain's offering, we can make a guess that it was because Cain's offering wasn't the best of what he had or that his heart wasn't in the right place. What evidence do we have for these two guesses? (Cain brought some things from the field, while Abel brought the best of his flock to give to the Lord. Cain reacted in anger not contrition when the Lord didn't accept his sacrifice.)

Give an example of when you've done something just because you were told to instead of with a grateful heart. (allow discussion)

Why should we be grateful to God and want to give back to him? (allow discussion but be sure to include that we just learned how God created the entire universe. Our very existence is because of him.)

Why was it wrong for Cain to bring an offering that wasn't the best of what he had? (Bringing God what is left over or what you don't want is not really a sacrifice. It doesn't mean as much because it was what you already didn't want. Think of the difference between giving your friend your very favorite toy vs. giving them one that you never use anymore. Which means more? Which is more generous and shows more love to the other person?)

Read Genesis 4:6-7

When God told Cain that his sacrifice was not accepted, what was Cain's reaction? (Cain was angry and sad.)

Have you ever been upset when you were corrected or told that you were wrong by your parents or a teacher? (Allow discussion, but be sure to include the fact that we all feel this way at times.)

What does God tell Cain that he should do? (The Lord tells Cain that if he does what is right he will be accepted.)

How does God describe sin? (He said 'it is waiting at the door to to grab you and it desires to control you)

Preview Next Week: Next week you will study what happened after Cain was corrected by God and how the sin that began with Adam and Eve continued to corrupt others many years later.

ACTIVITY: CAIN'S CHOICES - Have the kids stand at one end of the room under the sign that says 'Right Relationship with God'. Explain to the group that you will be reviewing the entire story, so they may need to think back to the video for the later parts. Tell them that you will read out choices that Cain made and choices that he could have made. If they hear one of the choices that he did make, they will take a step away from the sign that says, 'Right relationship with God' and toward the sign that says, 'Broken relationship with God.' If they hear a choice he didn't make, they will stand still. As you go through the choices be sure to point out that the choices Cain made only moved him further from a right relationship with God, not closer to Him. The point of this illustration is to show how a contrite heart and repentance are the right response when we sin. *It's okay if they don't know the later choices that we'll study next week, you can give them the answers.

Choices:

Cain brings a sacrifice to God that is not pleasing.

Cain gets angry.

Cain says, "I'm sorry, God"

Cain listens to God's warning about sin.

Cain does not listen to God's warning about sin and is jealous of his brother.

Cain brings Abel to a field and kills him.

Cain tells God what happened when He asks where Abel is.

Cain lies to God about Abel.

Cain admits that he was wrong.

Cain asks for God's forgiveness.

Cain is sent from home. He is scared of being away from God, so he repents.

Cain wanders for the rest of his life.

PRAYER

Ask the group if they have any prayer requests before leading the kids in prayer.

COMMUNITY & SNACK TIME

Hand out snacks, and water. This is an intentional time to create a sense of community within the group. Sit at the table with the kids, ask the question of the day, and encourage conversation as they eat. If you have extra time, consider playing one of the community building games from the list.

Question of the Day: How many siblings do you have?

The background is a vibrant, stylized illustration. The top half features a bright orange sky with a large yellow sun in the upper right corner. The bottom half is a dark teal night sky with a yellow crescent moon in the lower right. Scattered throughout the night sky are several yellow stars of different sizes and small white dots. On the left side, there are green and teal foliage elements, including leaves and branches, extending upwards. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

Right
relationship
with

Good



Broken relationship with God