

THE ISLAND

LEADER	DATE (am) 01 February 2009
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

- **SERIES / LESSON:** God wants me to obey / Sin in Eden
- **SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Genesis 3
- **CONCEPT:** God wants me to obey

GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To help kids realise how sin entered a perfect world.
- To challenge kids to read God's Word to discover how to obey Him.
- To lead kids into a prayer time and help them understand that God listens.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ DVD player / laptop / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Song DVD
- ✓ Treasure chest with decorated model hand cut-out (from last week's activity).
*You should have displayed kids' hand crafts on a board before this session. See photo below.
- ✓ *Optional:* Die from a board game
- ✓ Creation poem prompt cards (two lines of the poem (one day) written on separate cards for kids to read from)
- ✓ Mat (e.g. play mat, exercise mat)
- ✓ Bounty bar and Lilt drink
- ✓ Apple or peach
- ✓ Prayer Net
- ✓ Prayer cards and pen
- ✓ Name tag box
- ✓ Children's evangelical literature

<p>A. Worship through Music (with puppets) 10 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing. 2. Sing 2 songs together (<i>Royalty / Super Strong God</i>). 3. Open in prayer. 4. Ask kids to lift a mat each and sit down. 	<p>You'll need ... DVD player / projector Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Super Strong God)</p>
<p>B. Message 15 minutes</p> <p>1. Recap Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out the decorated model hand cut-out you placed there last week. Alternatively, direct kids to the bulletin board where you displayed their decorated hands (see photo below). Ask for someone to explain the significance of the hands and what they should remind you of. Ask a few follow-up questions to recap last week's story of the sixth day of God's creation – God made all the other animals that live on the earth, and the first man and woman.</p> <p><i>*Idea: You could use a die from a board game, numbered one to six on each of the sides, to recap the days of creation. Throw the die, or have a child throw the die, and wherever it lands, have someone tell you what happened on that day.</i></p> <p>In the beginning there was nothing, except God; On the first day, God created the light and the darkness, or day and night; On the second day, God created the sky; On day three, God separated the dry land from the sea, and then He made lots of trees and plants and flowers; On day four, God made great lights in the sky for the day and the night – the sun, the moon and the stars; On day five, God made all the creatures of the sea and all the birds of the air; On day six, God made all the other animals that live on the earth, and the first man and woman; And on the seventh day, God rested.</p> <p>Finish by eliciting the concept: God made everything.</p> <p>If you have time, you could also recap last week's Bible passage, or refer to it if you displayed it in your room: <i>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. John 1:1-3</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>Next week is our Family Service when The Island takes part in the main church service. Practise the following poem to deliver next week. Choose seven kids, one to read each day of Creation.</p> <p>Day one brought heaven, earth and light. It must have been so very bright! Day two God made the clear blue sky – A place for many birds to fly. Day three brought land apart from seas, With all the plants, grass and trees. Day four shone forth moon, stars and sun.</p>	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p><i>Treasure chest (with the model hand craft you placed inside last week)</i></p> <p><i>(Optional: die from a board game)</i></p> <p><i>Creation poem prompt cards</i></p>

The work of God was not yet done.
 Day five we see the fish and birds.
 God did all of this with just His words.
 Day six God formed all animals and man
 To finish His creation plan.
 Day seven was especially blessed,
 A day for worship and for rest.

Adapted from: http://www.dltk-bible.com/creation_poem.htm

2. Set the scene

Lie down on a mat and close your eyes.

Ah! Paradise! Boys and girls, today on The Island I'm not in my wee house, and I'm not in the church ... I'm lying on the beautiful sandy beach. I can feel the sun beaming down on me and I'm nice and warm. I can feel the sea gently touching my toes as the little waves come up onto the sand. I can hear the palm trees moving in the soft breeze. Ah! Paradise! No cars, no traffic jams, no TV, no telephone ringing, only the sounds of nature, the birds, and Rocky and Ringo having fun swinging through the trees. So peaceful, so perfect, paradise. I'm eating a *Bounty* bar because it says it's 'the taste of paradise', and I'm drinking *Lilt* because it says it's 'a totally tropical taste'. *Take a bite and a drink of each.* Mmmm, paradise!

Sit up and tell the story (if you haven't fallen asleep!)

3. Tell the story

The Garden of Eden was a paradise. It probably didn't look like our Island because it wasn't near the sea, but, all the same, it was paradise. You see, God had created everything in it, and God's creation was perfect. Adam and Eve were living there with all the animals they had named. The lion could live in the same garden as the little lamb. The bear could live in the same garden where the fish were swimming in the river. Everything was at peace with each other. There was no pain, no fighting, no crying, no fear and no death. It was such a perfect paradise that God even walked in the garden, talking with Adam and Eve!

It was another perfect day in Eden. Eve was by herself, when, out of the corner of her eye, she noticed a snake coming towards her. Now, she wasn't frightened because remember at that time there was no fear, so Eve stayed to talk to the snake. God had made the snakes very clever animals, but Eve didn't realise that this was no ordinary snake. In fact, this was Satan, the devil, God's enemy. Satan had become a snake so that he could slither into God's beautiful paradise and cause havoc. Let's hear what he did.

Satan, the snake, said to Eve, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" Eve still didn't know that this snake was really Satan, the devil. She said, "Oh no, no. God told us that we may eat fruit from any of the trees in the garden, but He did say that we must not eat from the tree that is in the middle of the garden – the tree of knowledge of good and evil – or we will die."

"Take a look at the beautiful, luscious fruit on that tree, Eve," said the snake. *Show kids a nice big apple, or peach to illustrate the temptation.* "You won't die if you eat it. God knows that if you eat fruit from that tree you'll become just like him, and you'll be able to decide

Mat

*Bounty bar
Lilt drink*

Apple or peach

for yourself what's right and what's wrong."

Eve looked at the snake. Then she looked at the gorgeous fruit hanging from that tree in the middle of the garden. Then she looked all around her. She lived in paradise, in a perfect garden made for her by the Lord God. She was never hungry, she had everything she needed because God took care of her. She wasn't lonely, she loved her husband, Adam, and she was happy. Eve looked back at the snake. There was just that one rule that God had given her to keep. It was the only thing she wasn't allowed to do. Eve looked back at the tall, leafy tree with the ripe fruit. The more she looked at it, the more she heard the snake's words in her ears, the more she wanted to taste the fruit. To become wise, to know everything like God ... yes, that's what she wanted.

Eve ran to the tree of knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. She picked off a piece of fruit. Oh! It looked so good! And when she bit into it ... it was sweet, juicy, delicious! Eve called for Adam to come and taste it too. Yummy! The snake, Satan, had an evil smile on his face.

As Adam and Eve ate the fruit, a change came over them. They weren't happy. This was a completely new feeling to them. They felt guilty. They knew that they had done something wrong. *Gasp!* Oh no! Adam and Eve could hear the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden later in the day. They looked at each other in fear and guilt, and they ran to the trees to hide from God. But God knew where they were. He knew everything that had happened even though they were hiding it from Him. God asked Adam, "Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?" Adam said, "It was Eve. She gave me some fruit from that tree and I ate it. It was her fault, not mine." So God spoke to Eve. "What have you done?" He said. Eve told God, "The snake tricked me into eating that fruit."

God was sad and disappointed. He had made these two people, Adam and Eve, to be His friends. He wanted them to love Him and obey Him; that's why He had made them. But they had done exactly what He had told them not to do. They had disobeyed Him ... and even though God loved them very much, He knew that He must punish them.

God sent Adam and Eve out of the beautiful paradise Garden of Eden, and they would never be allowed to go back. Adam would have to learn how to work the ground – to plant trees and crops so that they could eat. But it would be very hard work because the ground was hard and there would be many weeds. Eve would have terrible pain when she was having her babies. And when Adam and Eve grew old, they would both die. And the snake! Well, God cursed the snake and told him that he would crawl around on his belly and eat dust all the days of his life. But God warned the snake that one day He would be defeated.

4. Explain

Boys and girls, have you ever done something you were told not to do? That's what it means to disobey. Have you ever done something wrong and then tried to blame it on somebody else? I have. That's exactly what Adam and Eve did. They disobeyed God and they

<p>wouldn't take the blame for what they had done wrong. That was when 'sin' came into the world. Remember we talked about how the Garden of Eden was a paradise, with no pain, no fighting, no fear and no death? When Adam and Eve sinned, when they disobeyed God, the world changed forever. Life became difficult for Adam and Eve. They had to work hard, they got hurt, sometimes they were afraid and eventually they would die ... and that's how the world still is for us. Life is not easy. It's no paradise. And we all do things we shouldn't do. The great thing is that this story has a happy ending!</p> <p>Years and years later, Adam and Eve had a great, great, great, great, etc. grandchild. A boy who was born to Mary and Joseph. He was God's Son, Jesus. And when Jesus grew up, He died on a cross to be punished for me and for you. Even though it's our sin, even though He is perfect, Jesus went to take our punishment! He did that so we could be saved and spend the rest of our lives in heaven with Him after we die. What a wonderful present God gives us! But if we want that gift of everlasting life, we have to talk to God. We have to say sorry for our sin. We have to believe and thank Jesus for dying for our sin, and for coming back to life again. And we have to promise that we will live every day doing what He teaches us in His Word, the Bible. If you want to do that, you can close your eyes right now and pray with me:</p> <p>Dear God, thank You for loving me so much that You sent Your Son, Jesus, to take my punishment instead of me. I'm sorry for the mistakes I make and the bad things I say and think and do. I will never have enough to pay You back, but I want to give You my heart and have You live with me every day so that, when I die, I can be with You forever in Heaven. Thank You, Jesus. Amen.</p> <p>If you prayed that prayer for the first time and you really meant it ... if you asked Jesus to live in your heart and you have never done that before ... will you come and tell me? The Bible tells us that when we make the choice to follow Jesus, the first thing we have to do is tell someone! So, please tell me, or one of the leaders, before you go home today.</p>	
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<p>C. Prayer Net</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask a child to explain what it means when we <i>pray</i> – We talk to God and He listens. 2. Explain that prayer / talking to God is very important because that's how we get to know Him. 3. Choose a child to retrieve the prayer net. Lift out the prayer cards you put there last week. Ask the kids for updates on those situations. 4. Explain that when we have something to be thankful for, or something we worry about, like our world, we need to tell God about those things. 5. Tell kids that we are going to make a note of some special prayers today and put them in the prayer net. Next week they will tell us what happened in those situations. 6. Encourage kids to say sorry for any wrong they have done and to thank God for making a way for us to be free of our sin. 	<p>10 minutes</p> <p>You'll need ... <i>Net (with last week's prayer cards)</i> <i>Small cards / postcards</i> <i>A pen</i></p>
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<p>7. Ask a few kids if they have a prayer to put into the net. As they tell you, write their name and the topic of their prayer on a small card. Ask the child to say a prayer aloud (help them to do so) before they place their card into the prayer net.</p> <p>8. Finish by leading a prayer for the whole group.</p>	
<p>D. Conclusion (with puppets) 5 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask kids to put their mats away. 2. Put the apple or peach (whatever you were using to illustrate Eve's temptation) into the treasure chest to be revisited next week. 3. Sing a closing song. (<i>Super Strong God</i>) 4. Challenge kids to remember what it means to obey, and to read their Bibles for five minutes every day to find out how we can obey God's rules for living. 5. Remind kids to come back this evening. Ask kids to put their name tags into the box before they leave. <p>*Remind kids who responded to the salvation prayer to stay behind for a few minutes to talk to you.</p>	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p><i>DVD player / projector</i> <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Super Strong God)</i></p> <p><i>Name tag box</i></p> <p><i>Children's evangelical literature</i></p>



THE ISLAND cont'd

LEADER	DATE (pm) 01 February 2009
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To reinforce today's Bible concept by learning a related Scripture verse.
- To consolidate today's Bible story and concept by playing a series of games based on the notions of temptation and obedience.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ Song DVD / laptop / DVD player / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Memory verse task:
 - Two bags (or boxes, tins or jars – whatever you have available) of word cards (same cards in each container). Cards should be written as follows:

*For the / wages / of sin / is death, / but the / gift of /
God is / eternal life / in Christ Jesus / our Lord. /
Romans 6:23*

(You could draw or decorate certain word cards with pictures to highlight their meaning.)

Optional: army-style beret or peaked hat
- ✓ Activity:
 - Small prizes
 - Apple
 - Music (CD, sound system, etc.)
 - List of scenarios (included in materials)
- ✓ Small prizes (selection of bookmarks, stickers, pencils, etc.)
- ✓ Name tag box

<p>E. Worship through Music (with puppets) 10 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing. 2. Sing 2 songs together. (<i>Royalty / Super Strong God</i>) 3. Open in prayer. 	<p>You'll need ... DVD player / projector Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Super Strong God)</p>
<p>F. Memory Verse (with puppets) 10 minutes <i>"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask a few questions to recap this morning's story: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who were the first man and woman God created? <i>Adam and Eve</i> - Where did Adam and Eve live? <i>In the Garden of Eden</i> - Could Adam and Eve do what they wanted in Eden, or did they have any rules? <i>God said they could eat fruit from any tree in the garden except for the tree of the knowledge of good and evil – for if they ate from it, then they would die.</i> - Who told Eve that she could eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil? <i>Satan, who appeared to Eve as a snake</i> - Adam and Eve ate some fruit from the tree of knowledge of good and evil – the tree God had told them not to touch. What did God do? <i>Eve, and all women, would have terrible pain when she was having her babies; Adam, and all men, would have to work very hard to grow food in the ground; both Adam and Eve, and all men and women, would get older and older until eventually they would die; and the snake would have to crawl on its belly and become an enemy of people.</i> 2. <i>Explain:</i> Boys and girls, Adam and Eve had everything they needed in the Garden of Eden. They had a good life there because God looked after them. He only gave them one rule to follow ... but they broke the rule. They listened to the snake instead of following God's rule, and they spoiled everything. 3. Break the kids into two groups. Try to divide them evenly regarding the mix of abilities in each group. Send the two teams to opposite sides of the room and ask them to sit down. 4. <i>Explain:</i> I'm going to give each group a bag (you could use a jar or tin, whatever you have). In each bag there are some word cards. In your teams, you have to empty the word cards out of the bags and try to put the words in the correct order on the floor. When you think everything is in the right order, put up your hands and I will come to check your work. 5. Give the bags of word cards to the two teams. Monitor them as they carry out the task. Encourage everyone to be as involved as possible – younger, weaker kids can make sure the cards are placed neatly while older, stronger kids can think about and advise on the word order. When hands go up, check the kids' work. If there are mistakes, give them hints as to how to correct. 6. Once both teams have the correct order in their word cards, have each team recite the verse by reading the cards on the floor. Perhaps you could encourage a little competition to see which team can read it, e.g. the clearest and loudest. 7. Have kids repeat the verse a few times altogether. Use the word cards to elicit and explain definitions: wages, sin, eternal life. 	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p><i>2 bags of cards with a section of the memory verse written on each card</i></p>

<p>8. <i>Explain:</i> Adam and Eve had disobeyed God, and God had to punish them. Just think, when you do something wrong, your parents or teachers punish you so that you learn the right way to behave. God still loved Adam and Eve – they were His creation – and He continued to take care of them even after they were punished. But their disobedience, their sin, changed everything for all the people of the world. You see, now we are all born with sin, and really, we should be punished for those bad thoughts and words and actions. But God, because He loves us, sent Jesus, His only Son, to be punished instead of us. Can you see? That's why I am so thankful to God – I don't have to be punished and go to Hell when I die because Jesus took the punishment for me! What a lovely present God gives us! God gives us a choice ... we can keep living without Jesus in our lives and our 'wages' or punishment is death and Hell, or we can trust Jesus with our hearts and live for Him every day – and we can be sure of God's wonderful gift of eternal life in Heaven. I know which choice I think is better. Have you made that choice? ... Let's pray: Dear God, thank You for loving me so much that You sent Your Son, Jesus, to take my punishment instead of me. I'm sorry for the mistakes I make and the bad things I say and think and do. I will never have enough to pay You back, but I want to give You my heart and have You live with me every day so that, when I die, I can be with You forever in Heaven. Thank You Jesus. Amen.</p> <p>9. If you prayed that prayer for the first time and you really meant it ... if you asked Jesus to live in your heart and you have never done that before ... will you come and tell me? The Bible tells us that when we make the choice to follow Jesus, the first thing we have to do is tell someone! So, please tell me, or one of the leaders, before you go home today.</p> <p>10. Finish with a group repetition of the verse.</p> <p>Idea: After the session, you could write the memory verse onto a sheet of card to make a poster for your room. This will add to your decoration as well as reminding kids of the Bible concept. Then you can also refer to it in later sessions of this series.</p>	
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G. Activity	15 minutes	You'll need ...
<p>A. The Captain Says (based on Simon says) ~ 5 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask kids to stand in a space on the floor facing you. 2. <i>Explain:</i> Today, we are in the Island Army. I am your Captain and you must obey me! That means you must do everything I say! Listen carefully: if I say, 'The Captain says do this (make a body action),' then you must copy me! If I say, 'Do this (make another body action),' then you must not copy me! Understood? Okay, soldiers, we are ready to march! 3. Shout out a number of commands, army-style, and have your helpers watch for any kids who make a mistake. Those kids should sit down when they are out of the game. Keep going until you have one or two winners. Award them a small prize for obeying the Island Captain! 		<p><i>(if you really want to add authenticity to the game, wear an army-style beret or peaked hat)</i></p> <p><i>Small prizes</i></p>

<p>B. Slithery Snakes ~ 5 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take the kids to a sports hall or large room with no furniture in the way. 2. Ask kids to lie on their bellies in a space on the floor. 3. <i>Explain:</i> You are all slithery snakes. When I say 'Go!,' you are going to slither along the floor, hissing. When you hear me shout a number, you must join another snake by holding onto their ankles and slithering. For example, if I shout 'Two!,' then one of you should find another person's ankles to hold. If I shout 'Five!,' then you need five people together, holding each other's ankles and slithering. Okay? Get slithering! 4. Allow kids to slither for half a minute or so. Start with the number two to let kids get used to the idea. You could then make snakes of four, eight, sixteen, etc. simply by joining two long snakes together ... or you could just shout out random numbers, like three, seven, five, two, six, etc. Depending on the size of your group, you could have the whole group of kids make a giant snake. When the time is up, ask them to slither back to your room. <p>C. Pass the Apple ~ 5 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Have the kids sit in a circle. 6. <i>Explain:</i> I'm going to give someone an apple – an apple something like the one Adam and Eve might have eaten from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. When you hear the music, you should pass the apple to the next person in the circle. Keep passing it until the music stops. If you are left holding the apple, I will ask you a question. Ready? Start passing the apple! <i>Play the music – have an adult helper control this for you.</i> 7. Make sure kids don't throw the apple to each other but pass it between them. When the music stops, speak to the child holding the apple. Give them a scenario from your list and ask them what they would do in such a situation. Encourage discussion about temptation and obedience from the rest of the kids, each time consolidating the concept that we must resist temptation and obey – our parents, our teachers, our Pastor, our leaders, our government, our local authorities, and God. 	<p><i>Apple</i> <i>Music (CD, sound system, etc.)</i></p> <p><i>List of scenarios</i></p>
<p>H. Conclusion (with puppets) 5 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask one boy and one girl if they can recite the memory verse. The puppets / another leader will judge if they deserve a prize. Award the prizes. 2. Sing a song in closing. (Royalty) 3. Close in prayer. Challenge kids to remember what it means to obey, and to read their Bibles for five minutes every day to find out how we can obey God's rules for living. 4. Remind kids to come back next week! Make sure kids leave their name tags in the box before they leave. <p>*Have some kids' evangelical literature available for any kids who responded earlier.</p>	<p>You'll need ... <i>Small prizes – bookmarks, stickers, etc.</i></p> <p><i>DVD player / projector</i> <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Super Strong God)</i></p> <p><i>Name tag box</i></p> <p><i>Evangelical literature</i></p>