

The Story of Our Life with God

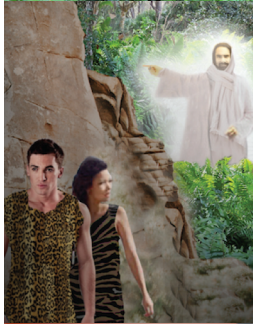
Begin by saying, "I would like to tell you The Story of Our Life with God." Show and discuss the Garden of Eden page first. Show only one page at a time. Unfold by following the arrows.



God created man and woman in His image. The first man was named Adam and the first woman was named Eve. God loved them, and placed them in the Garden of Eden. It was a perfect paradise of purity, peace, kindness, goodness, and joy. Mankind was pure and sinless. There was no selfishness, disease, death, or unhappiness.

Gen. 3:8a *The man and his wife (Adam and Eve) heard the sound of the LORD God as He was walking in the garden in the cool of the day.*

Eph. 1:4 *For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.*

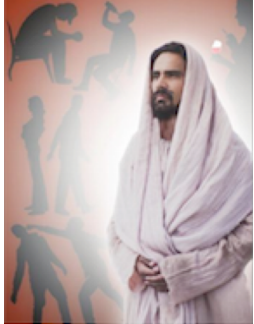


Adam and Eve rebelled against their righteous God. Satan, appearing as a serpent, enticed them by appealing to their desire for wisdom. Rather than trusting the God who had created and loved them, they chose to believe Satan's lies. They broke God's righteous commandment. God loved them, but he also requires justice. Justice demands that sin be punished. The rebellion against God was sin. So, God drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden. Separated from the presence of God, they were dominated by sin and lived in a fallen world of frustration, struggle, and death. Like Adam and Eve, all people continue in sin and rebellion against God.

Gen. 3:23a *So the LORD God banished him [Adam] from the Garden of Eden.*

Rom. 3:23 *For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. .*

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



God's love for mankind never faltered. He wanted to make a way to remove the sin of each person. His desire was to have eternal fellowship in heaven with each person. But our sin separated us from God.

Jn. 3:16-18 *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.*

2 Pet. 3:9 *The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*

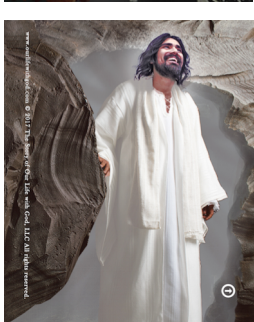


God the Father provided a way to remove our sin. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to become a human. Jesus never sinned. He performed many miracles. But the authorities of Rome and Israel arrested him as a criminal and killed him by nailing him to a cross. But this, too, was part of God's plan. Jesus Christ died in our place. He took the penalty that we deserved upon himself, even though he didn't deserve it. His death on the cross paid the penalty for our sin. Salvation comes to everyone who trusts in His sacrificial death and His resurrection.

Rom. 5:8 *God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

Jn. 1:12 *Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.*

1 Pet. 3:18 *For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.*



Christ's body was placed in a guarded tomb. On the third day, God brought him back to life. He came out from the grave alive so that we also might have eternal life and live in fellowship with Him forever.

1 Cor. 15:3b-4 *(The simple gospel message is) that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.*

Romans 6:4b *Just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.*



Sinful man is in darkness. He cannot reach God except through faith in Christ. We must believe that He died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sin. Christ reaches out his hand to us. He wants us to take His hand through faith. Trusting in Christ and in His death and resurrection is the only way to obtain eternal life. It is the only way to restore our relationship with God. We cannot earn the gift of life by good behavior. It is a free gift for anyone who believes. Christ is the only way to God. In John 14:6, Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Eph. 2:8-9 *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.*

Each of us must make a choice. We can choose to trust Christ or reject Christ. If we trust that Christ died for us, paying the penalty for our sin and that He was made alive again, God will save us. We will have fellowship with God and will live with Him forever in heaven. If we do not trust Christ, He will reject us and our response from God will only be one of justice and judgment.

Have you ever come to the point in your life in which you trusted in Christ as your personal savior? If the answer is yes, ask the person to tell you about it. Then, lead him/her in the prayer below. If the answer is no, ask the person: Do you believe that Christ died as a payment for sin? Do you trust that Christ died for us and that he was made alive again? Would you like to place your faith in Christ's death as payment for sin and in His resurrection right now? If the answer is no, conclude the gospel presentation. If the answer is yes, read the scriptures below. Then ask: Do you believe that Christ died to pay the penalty for sin and that God raised Him from the dead? If the answer is yes, then say: If you trust in Christ alone believing that He died to pay the penalty for your sin and that he was resurrected, you are saved. Read the prayer below aloud. Then ask: Does this prayer express the desires of your heart? If yes, You must realize that this prayer does not save you. You are saved because you trust that Christ died to pay for your sins and that he arose again. Ask him/her to repeat the prayer to God as you pray it aloud.

Rom. 10:9 *That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*

Rom. 3:22-24 *This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ.*

(pause at each /)

"Our Father in heaven, thank you for your great love for me. / Thank you for sending your dearly loved Son to die to pay for sin. / I sincerely believe that your Son, Jesus Christ, died on a cross to pay for my sin. / I believe that you raised Christ from the dead / and that I will live with Him forever in heaven. / I thank you with all my heart for your gift of new life in Christ and for eternal life with Him. / I pray in Jesus Christ's name. / Amen."

Because you have just sincerely trusted Christ and received the gift of salvation through faith in Him, your sins are forgiven and you have a new life in Christ. The Holy Spirit has come into your life and now lives within you. Because of the power of the Holy Spirit, you are able to live in loving fellowship and obedience to Christ. This new life has just begun, but it will continue through eternity. You are able to grow to be more like Christ as you yield to the power of the Holy Spirit who lives within you. As your LOVE grows the Holy Spirit will give you increasing power in showing KINDNESS to others, in PRAYER, in WORSHIP, in understanding the BIBLE, in your feeling of PEACE, and in many other qualities.

Eph. 3:16 *I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his SPIRIT IN YOUR INNER BEING.*

Col. 3:12-14 *Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, KINDNESS, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on LOVE, WHICH BINDS THEM ALL TOGETHER IN PERFECT UNITY.*

Gal. 5:22-25 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, PEACE, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

