



God Rejected Cain and His Offering, but Accepted Abel and His Offering

LESSON PREPARATION

This section is for you, the teacher.

The passages in the Scripture Reference column are for your own study in preparing for this lesson. Since they may contain concepts that run ahead of the lesson, they are not to be taught at this point.

Note: If you have not taught previously from this series of lessons, please read carefully the note to teachers in the front of this book.

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 4:3-16,25

LESSON GOALS:

- To show that the sin of Adam has been passed on to all men.
- To show that man can come to God only according to God's will and plan.
- To show that man must have faith in order to please God and be saved.
- To show that God started a new line with Seth to replace the line of Abel. God was keeping His promise to send a deliverer.

THIS LESSON SHOULD HELP THE STUDENTS:

- To realize that all are sinners.
- To see that they are helpless to save themselves.
- To see their need to come to God His way, by faith.
- To see that the penalty of sin is death.

PERSPECTIVE FOR THE TEACHER:

Our present society has plunged itself into a period of particular decline and degradation. Moral values used to be clearly defined, even among non-Christians. But now values have eroded into a blur of gray areas that seem to allow the sinner to roam freely even into areas of gross sin. The prevailing morality seems to be "If it feels good to me, I'll do it." But God has not changed. His values are still the same; sin still requires the death penalty. God is eternally holy.

The story of Cain and Abel is a classic for all times but especially for our times. Many in our society are rushing away from God. In the process, they are hurting, lying against, stealing from, and killing fellow men and women.

Yet when someone is the victim of a crime, or hears of a crime, often the first question asked is, "Why did God let that happen?" This may be the first question, but it is the wrong question.

It is a little like a mother telling her son not to hit his baby sister. The son turns right around and hits his sister anyway. Now, would you ask, "Why did the mother let the boy hit his sister?" No, the question is, "Why didn't the boy obey his mother?"

God had told Cain what was right and was even gracious to tell Cain why He did not accept him when Cain disobeyed. But Cain turned against all that God had told him to do and went out and killed his brother.

God hates sin. Man is given the choice to believe and obey God. Man is responsible for his choices. Sin is not God's fault. Sin cannot be paid for by man's earthly efforts. Teach these truths clearly. If you do not teach them, some of the children may never hear them. God will honor His Word in their hearts.

OVERVIEW

This lesson presents God's acceptance of Abel, who came to God by faith in the way that God prescribed, and God's rejection of Cain, who tried to approach God in his own way.

God's holiness is shown by His requiring the death penalty for sin.

God's grace and mercy are shown by His provision of a way for sinners to come to Him, and by His reasoning with angry Cain.

God judged Cain for killing his brother.

All Cain's descendants were worldly-minded.

God continued the line of the Deliverer by raising up Seth to replace Abel.



VISUALS:

- Chronological Picture No. 8, "Cain and Abel Bring Offerings to God"
- Chronological Picture No. 9, "Cain Kills Abel"
- Poster 1, "Learning About God" — Use this to emphasize the themes.
- Poster 5, "Deliverer"
- Poster 7, "Grace"
- Chronological Chart
- The branch used in Lessons 7 and 10
- A realistic stuffed toy lamb

SPECIAL PREPARATION:

- Make copies for your class of the **Lesson 13 Review Sheet** and **Skit 13** (at the end of this lesson). Provide pencils for the children.
- Prepare for any activity you select from the **Suggestions for Activities** (at the end of this lesson). As you select activities, remember to allow sufficient time to teach the outlined lesson material.
- Bring pictures of lambs and sheep to illustrate Lesson point B.

ON TEACHING THIS LESSON:

You are carefully laying a scriptural foundation on which the Gospel will later be presented. Each lesson builds on previous lessons, so be sure to cover each point carefully.

DON'T COMPLICATE THE MESSAGE!

As you teach, keep in mind that this is a directed study — not an exhaustive survey of the Bible. Keep your lesson on track and moving ahead by limiting and directing any discussion.

Carefully follow the outline. Emphasize the doctrinal themes.

LESSON FORMAT: The **center column** below contains the lesson material to be taught to the students. The **bold outline headings** are only for reference and need not be spoken, as they are incorporated into the outlined material that follows. The material in the **side columns** is for the teacher's own reference and is not intended to be included in the lesson.

TO BE TAUGHT TO THE STUDENTS

(Center Column Only)

LESSON OUTLINE:

REVIEW Lesson 12, using Lesson 13 Activity Sheet.

PERFORM Skit 13. Note: "Uncle Don's" part should be read by an adult.

A. Introduction

How serious is sin? ¹

What if someone refuses to believe God and chooses to disobey Him?

— Could you say, "Well, that's his own business, if he wants to do that"?

— Does a person's sin affect other people?

Can we work out some way to take care of our sins?

¹ Don't give time for discussion of these questions; just go on with the lesson. These are asked only for the purpose of causing the students to think about the subject of sin. □

Can people choose their own way to come to God?

Won't God accept any sincere effort we make?

Let's see what answers God gives us to these questions as we study the story of Adam and Eve's sons, Cain and Abel.

B. God told them what they must do when they came to worship Him.



Theme: Man is a sinner. He needs God and is helpless to save himself.

There was no way that Adam and Eve or Cain and Abel could come to God.

- They were all sinners, and God hates sin.
- They were separated from God.
- The punishment for sin is death.
- They could not give **anything** to God to pay for their sins.



Theme: God is greater than all and more important than all; He is the highest authority.



Theme: God is loving, merciful and gracious.



Theme: Man can come to God only according to God's will and plan.

But God planned a way so they could come to Him.

- It was not man's way.
- It was God who decided on this way.
- No one else could make a way for them.

God made a way for them because He **loved** them.



Theme: God communicates with man.

God must have told Adam and Eve what they must do if they wanted to come to Him.

Adam and Eve probably told Cain and Abel what God said they must do if they wished to come to God.

The Bible gives us good reason to believe that God told these things to Adam and Eve and that Abel and Cain knew too.



Theme: God is holy and righteous. He demands death as the payment for sin.

Here is what God must have told them:

When they came to Him, they had to bring a sheep as an offering to Him.

SHOW THE STUFFED TOY LAMB AND POINT TO THE PICTURES OF LAMBS AND SHEEP.

- They had to kill the animal in such a way that the animal's blood would flow out.

John
3:16

Leviticus
17:11
Hebrews
9:22b
Ezekiel
18:4
Romans
6:23a

² This is important for children to understand. Most children are very tender. They must realize that the reason for the lamb's death is man's sin. □

The blood of the animals could not pay for their sin; why then would God tell them to kill a sheep?

— Because God wanted them to remember that the punishment for sin is death.

— He wanted them to remember that they would die and go to everlasting punishment unless He saved them.

— If they agreed with God that they were sinners and that only He could save them from everlasting punishment, then they were to bring a sheep and kill it, as God had told them to do.

— Consider:

God was not being cruel to require the death of a lamb. ² **No, the reason the lamb had to die was because of man's sin. God loves man and wants man to know that the penalty for sin is death. The lamb was a sacrifice — one who died in the place of the sinner.**

SHOW POSTER, "GRACE."

The Bible clearly says that blood must be shed for sin.

God promised that if they came by faith, offering to Him the blood of animals, He would accept them and forgive their sins.

The blood sacrifice for sin was part of God's gracious plan to deliver man from sin and Satan and death.

Leviticus
17:11

Hebrews
9:22

C. Both Cain and Abel came to offer sacrifices to God.

 **Theme: Man can come to God only according to God's will and plan.**

 READ Genesis 4:3-5.


Both Cain and Abel knew that God existed, and both came to offer sacrifices to Him.


— Consider:


Just knowing that God exists and even offering to God what we think is very good will not make us acceptable to Him.

James
2:19

D. Abel's offering was accepted by God.

 **Theme: Man must have faith in order to please God.**

 **Theme: Man can come to God only according to God's will and plan.**

 READ Genesis 4:4.

Abel brought one of his sheep as an offering to God.

— It was the firstborn lamb of its mother.

— Abel killed the sheep so its blood ran out, and he offered the sheep, along with the fat, to God.

Why did Abel bring this offering to God?

— **1) Because he agreed with God that he was a sinner.** ³

³ These two concepts (in boldface) are very important. Be sure to stress them and to make sure that the children are hearing what you are saying. You may want to have them repeat these two lines with you. □

Hebrews
11:4

— **2) And he believed that only God could save him from everlasting punishment.**

Abel believed the promises God had given his parents while they were still in the garden of Eden.

— God had promised that He would send a great Deliverer.

SHOW POSTER, "DELIVERER"

— God promised that the Deliverer would destroy Satan and save man from Satan's power.

Was God pleased with Abel's offering? Did God accept Abel?

Yes, He did. God was very pleased with his offering, and He accepted Abel.

— Explain:

*It is important to understand that the blood of animals could never pay for sin. God did not accept Abel's lamb as the payment for his sin. But God forgave Abel's sin and accepted him because Abel trusted, not in himself, but in God who had promised to send the Deliverer.*⁴

Hebrews
10:4;
11:6

⁴ It is important in every story that your students be taught grace. They must come to realize that man cannot contribute anything to his salvation.

Make certain that they understand that the blood of animals could not and did not pay for sin. Sin must be paid for by human life being given. Animal blood, or life, is not equal to human life (Hebrews 10:4,5). Be sure to make it absolutely clear that God will not overlook sin. Sin must be paid for in full. The soul that sins, it shall die (Ezekiel 18:4), that is, be separated forever from God. □

E. Cain's offering was rejected by God.



Theme: Man must have faith in order to please God and be saved.



Theme: Man can come to God only according to God's will and plan.



READ Genesis 4:5.

As an offering to God, Cain brought the things which he had grown.

But God would not accept Cain or his offering.

Why not?

- Was it because the things Cain grew and brought to God were not good?
- Was it because God doesn't like things grown from the ground?
- No, these are not the reasons.
- Did God reject Cain's offering because Cain was a worse sinner than Abel?
- No, that wasn't the reason why God would not accept him.
- Both Cain and Abel were born sinners.

It is important that we are clear in our own minds **why** God rejected Cain and his offering but accepted Abel and his offering.⁵

— Explain:

In Hebrews 11, God says that without faith it is impossible to please Him. He also tells us that Abel was a man of faith; Cain was not.

Then, in the book of Romans, God tells us that faith is always based on the Word of God. Romans 10:17 says, "...faith

⁵ In addition to the reasons given in the lesson, here are some additional considerations for the teacher. (Since these run ahead chronologically in detail and theme, they are not intended to be included in the lesson.)

Since there were acknowledged clean and unclean animals even in Noah's day, it is likely that, according to God's directive, animals were already classed as clean and unclean in Cain and Abel's time.

Surely it was no coincidence that Abel chose a lamb, a clean animal, and the most perfect type of the spotless Son of God (Isaiah 53:7; John 1:29; I Peter 1:19,20). The Lord Jesus and His sacrifice as a spotless lamb originated in the mind of the eternal God before the foundation of the earth, not in the mind of Abel (Revelation 13:8).

Another indication that Abel was following God's command is emphasized through Abel's action in bringing to God the fat of the lamb. In Leviticus 3:16, God commands Israel, that is, the Hebrew people, to bring the fat to Him. To suggest that bringing the fat of animals to God originated with Abel is contrary to the whole emphasis of Scripture. God doesn't accept anything which originates with man. □

Hebrews
11:4, 6

Teacher's Notes

Scripture
References

6 It is important that we emphasize **faith** as the reason for Abel's offering and **unbelief** as the reason for Cain's actions. If we emphasize obedience instead of faith, the minds of the people will be turned to doing rather than believing. According to Hebrews 11, God accepted Abel and his offering because Abel believed God. Faith was the great difference between Cain and Abel.

The foundational truth of believing God should be clearly laid so that when we come to the Gospel, the students will know that it is only through faith that we are accepted by God. Nevertheless, the balance should also be kept between faith and works. Because Abel believed God, he offered a lamb. Because Noah believed God, he built an ark. Because Abraham believed God, he went to the place of God's choice.

Keep in mind Hebrews 11 and use it to interpret the actions of the Old Testament characters. You will not be teaching from it, but using it only sparingly, as in this lesson, to support what you are presenting from the Old Testament. □

7 Someone may ask, "What is God's way?" Of course, the answer is Jesus Christ; but some of your students may need more understanding before you can present the Gospel.

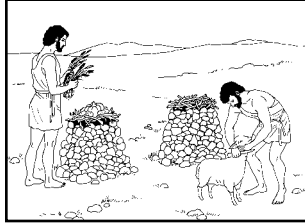
You might want to say, "God has certainly made a way, and that's what this Bible study is all about. He was going to send a deliverer, just as He promised. If you'd like, I'll be glad to talk more with you about this after class."

We need to be continually sensitive to the Holy Spirit. The student who asks may truly have a heart prepared to put His trust in Jesus Christ as his Savior. Or he may just be "thinking out loud" about what he has heard but have little understanding or conviction of sin.

God promises us wisdom if we ask Him (James 1:5), and we can trust Him to give what He has promised. □

cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." God will only accept a person who comes to Him the way God has given in His Word. Any other way is sin. Abel believed what God had said to do, so God accepted him.

Suggested Visual:



CHRONOLOGICAL PICTURE NO. 8,
"CAIN AND ABEL BRING OFFERINGS TO
GOD"

God rejected Cain and his offering because:

- Cain didn't come to God admitting he was a sinner.
- He came to God in his own way, according to his own ideas, and not in the way which God had commanded.
- Cain did not believe God.
- He did not trust in the way which God had told them to come.
- That is why God rejected him. ⁶
- Compare:

Do you remember how God rejected the clothes which Adam and Eve made for themselves? Why did God refuse to accept the clothing they made? Because God wanted to show them that they couldn't make themselves acceptable to God by anything they could do. It had to be done in God's way. The animals had to die, and their blood had to be shed so that Adam and Eve could have clothes that were acceptable to God.

In the same way, God would not accept Cain and Abel unless they trusted in Him and came to Him in the way He had said. God would only accept them if they brought a sheep and killed it, shedding its blood. Abel believed God and came God's way, so God accepted him. Cain came trusting in his own way, so God refused him.

God has not changed; He is still the same today. He does not command us now to sacrifice sheep, but He is still the only One who can make a way for us to come to Him. We must come God's way; otherwise, He will reject us as He rejected Cain. ⁷

- Illustrate:

DISPLAY BRANCH BROKEN OFF FROM TREE.

Take a look at this branch broken off from a tree. It died after a while because it was separated from the life it received from the tree. What if you tried to join this dead branch back onto the tree — would it come back to life again? No, you cannot join a dead branch back onto the tree so that it will live once again. It was separated from the tree, and you cannot put it back.

- Compare:

Psalms
66:18

Hebrews
11:4

Scripture
ReferencesIsaiah
59:2;
64:6Acts
17:26Romans
3:23;
5:12Proverbs
1:23

That is how it was with Adam, Eve, Cain, and Abel. Because Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they were separated from God. Therefore, Cain and Abel were born outside of the garden and were also separated from God. They could not bring themselves back into fellowship with God.

We, too, are all descendants of Adam. We were all born sinners, separated from God because of our father Adam. We cannot make ourselves God's friends. Only God could make a way for us to come back to Him.

F. God reasoned with angry Cain.

Theme: God communicates with man.



Theme: God is loving, merciful and gracious.



READ Genesis 4:6,7.

Even though Cain refused to believe God and deliberately went his own way, God reasoned with him.

Because of God's love and mercy, He talked to Cain and tried to get him to come to God in the right way.

God wanted Cain to know that he, too, would be accepted if he came as his brother came, believing God's Word, offering the blood, and trusting in God and His promise of the Deliverer.

G. Cain refused to listen to God, and he killed Abel.

Theme: Man is a sinner. He needs God and is helpless to save himself.

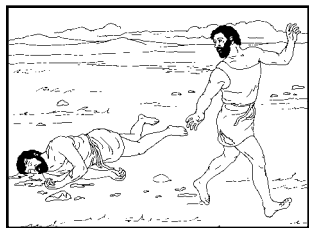


READ Genesis 4:8.

Cain was very angry.

He would not listen to God. He was listening to Satan, just as his mother and father had done in the garden.

Suggested Visual:



CHRONOLOGICAL PICTURE NO. 9,
"CAIN KILLS ABEL"

— Compare:

Many people today are just like Cain; they refuse to listen to God, and they end up hurting others.

⁸ Even though Satan is not mentioned in these verses, we know that he was involved. I John 3:12 says that Cain "was of that wicked one, and slew his brother." □

 **Theme: Satan fights against God and His will. He is a liar and a deceiver. He hates man.**

Who was leading Cain? To whom was Cain listening? Who do you think put it into Cain's mind to kill his brother?

Satan! ⁸

— Consider:


Originally, Satan murdered Cain's mother and father. He said to them, "You won't die. You will be all right. Don't listen to God. God is only trying to keep back some good fruit from you." But Satan knew that if Adam and Eve ate the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, they would die. He lied to them when he said, "You will not die." Satan wanted Adam and Eve to die, and he wanted Cain to kill Abel. Satan is a murderer.

Satan hates all people and will lie and deceive with the purpose of leading all of us to the place of everlasting punishment where he is going.

In John 8:44, the Bible calls Satan a "murderer."

Revelation
20:10, 15

H. God's judgment on Cain.


 **Theme: God is everywhere all the time; He knows everything.**

 **Theme: God communicates with man.**

 READ Genesis 4:9.

Although God asked this question, He already knew that Cain had killed Abel.

- God saw him do it.
- God is everywhere and knows everything.

 **Theme: God is greater than all and more important than all; He is the highest authority.**

 **Theme: God is holy and righteous. He demands death as the payment for sin.**

 READ Genesis 4:10-15.

God is the avenger of all sin.

- All sin against other people is also sin against God.
- God is the Creator of all people; therefore He punishes anyone who says or does anything harmful to another person.
- Compare:

God is the Creator of all people. He gave Adam life, and He gave life to each one of us. Even though we are all born into this world separated from God, we still belong to Him. God is concerned about what happens to us, even though we are sinners.

Proverbs
15:3

Ezekiel
18:4

Scripture
ReferencesRomans
6:23a

God will punish those who hurt others because everyone rightfully belongs to Him.

The punishment for sin is death — no other payment is acceptable.

All sin will finally be punished by God, for He is the rightful owner of every person.



READ Genesis 4:16.

Cain still would not listen to God.

— He went away from God, following Satan's ways.

Cain would not repent; He refused to change his attitude toward God and toward his sin. ⁹

I. Cain's descendants were materialistically minded.



Theme: Man is a sinner. He needs God and is helpless to save himself.

Cain's descendants followed his example.

— They lived without thinking about God.

Instead, they filled their lives with their work and their possessions — the things they wanted to have.

They built towns, raised cattle, and made tools and musical instruments.

There is nothing wrong with these things in themselves; what was wrong was that they filled their lives with these things and did not care about God.

They filled their minds and time doing the things they wanted to do.

They had no interest or time for God and the things He wanted them to know.

— They were under the control of Satan.

— Consider:

See what a terrible effect disobedience to God had already brought into the world! Because Adam and Eve sinned, all their descendants were born sinners, separated from God and without oneness of mind with God. Their first son, Cain, murdered their second son, Abel. Cain turned away from God and would not listen to His words. As a result, Cain's children and their children also went their own way instead of God's way. They lived according to their own sinful ways because they didn't know God nor did they seek Him and His truth. They were guided by Satan and his lies.

J. God gave Seth to replace Abel.



Theme: God is faithful; He always does what He says; He never changes.



READ Genesis 4:25.

POINT TO SETH ON THE CHRONOLOGICAL CHART.

⁹ We must be careful how we teach repentance. Many people teach that repentance means to leave, or promise to leave, all sin. But this is incorrect.

Repentance is a change of mind, a change of attitude toward God, oneself, and one's own sin. Repentance is the sinner acknowledging before God, "God, You are right. I am wrong. Everything you commanded is good and righteous and holy. I have failed. I have no hope in myself." That is true repentance.

Be sure to emphasize faith, rather than following or doing. If we stress obedience, we will have followers and doers rather than believers.

God doesn't ask a sinner to promise to leave his sin and "never do it again" before He will save him. God doesn't strike a bargain with the sinner. He does not say, "You do this, and I will do that." God does not require reformation before salvation. □

Genesis
4:17-24

God gave Adam and Eve another child in place of Abel who was killed by Cain.

In the garden, God had promised that He would send the Deliverer who would overcome Satan.

- This One would have come through the line of Abel who had trusted in God.
- But Satan guided Cain to kill Abel.

Satan tried in every way to hinder God's plan to send the Deliverer.

- Consider:

Did this mean the end of God's plan and promise to send the Deliverer? No! God always does what He promises. He doesn't give up or change because of the things Satan does.

In place of Abel, God gave Seth to Adam and Eve.



Theme: Man must have faith in order to please God and be saved.

Seth was also born separated from God, but he trusted in God just as Abel did.

God planned that the Deliverer would come into the world through the family line of Seth.

K. Conclusion

God cares about sinners.

God cares about you and me.

Nothing can stop His plans.

Abel believed God, and even though Abel was killed, God was keeping His promise to send the Deliverer for all who, like Abel, believed God.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did God accept Abel and his offering? *Abel believed God:*
 - a. *Abel agreed with God that he was a sinner and that only God could save him from punishment.*
 - b. *Abel believed God. He was trusting God to send the Deliverer, whom He had promised to Adam and Eve while they were still in the Garden of Eden.*
 - c. *Abel brought a sheep, killed it, and let its blood run out, just as God had told them to do.*
2. Why did God reject Cain and his offering? *Cain did not believe God:*
 - a. *Cain did not agree with God that he was a sinner and that only God could save him from punishment.*
 - b. *Cain did not believe God. He did not trust in God's promise to send the Deliverer who would destroy Satan and save man.*

- c. *Cain didn't bring the offering which God said they must bring.*
3. *Why did God reason with Cain? Because God loved Cain and wanted him to agree that he was a sinner and that he should bring the correct sacrifice.*
4. *Did Cain believe and agree with God? No.*
5. *What did Cain do? He was angry, and he killed Abel.*
6. *How did God know what Cain had done? God sees and knows everything.*
7. *Why will God punish people for saying and doing evil things to others? Because all people rightfully belong to God. When people hurt others, they are also sinning against God.*
8. *Did Cain finally change his mind? No! He went away from God.*
9. *What were the things for which Cain and his descendants lived? For money and the material things of life.*
10. *Why did God give Seth to Adam and Eve.?*
 - a. *God gave him to replace Abel.*
 - b. *God gave him so the Deliverer would be born through his family line.*

LESSON 13 — Suggestions for Activities

Be sure to allow time to teach the lesson first!

Listed below are carefully designed activities which will help reinforce and focus on the themes you have taught in the lesson. Choose from this list whatever best suits your students and prepare ahead accordingly. The children may participate in these activities during the time remaining after the lesson has been taught.

1. Memory Verse — Proverbs 14:12

Have the children write out the memory verse. Discuss what is wrong with doing things “whatever way we think is right.”

2. Coming to God

This activity is designed to review the offerings Cain and Abel brought to God.

Provide art supplies for the children to draw a poster or provide construction paper and have the children create cutouts of the altars, the offerings, and Cain and Abel.

Discuss:

Cain and Abel both came to offer sacrifices to God. What did Abel bring as an offering? Could the blood of an animal pay for his sin? Why did Abel bring this offering? (Because Abel agreed with God that he was a sinner, and he believed that only God could save him from everlasting punishment.)

What offering did Cain bring to God? Why didn't God accept Cain's offering? (Because Cain did not believe God.)

Reinforce that man must come to God according to God's way and not his own. Man must have faith in order to please God.

3. Contrasts

Before class, prepare 2 blank posters. Label one, Abel; and the other, Cain. Write each phrase shown on the diagram below on individual strips of paper. These will be attached during class.

Abel	Cain
Was a sinner Knew God existed Brought an offering Believed God Came trusting God's way Accepted by God	Was a sinner Knew God existed Brought an offering Did not believe God Came trusting his own way Rejected by God

During class hold up one word strip at a time and ask, “Who... (was a sinner)?” As the children

respond to each question, have them glue that word strip to the right poster.

Follow the order on the diagram in asking questions. As you are doing this activity or after the posters are complete, help the children see the similarities and contrasts between Cain and Abel. Point to the posters as you discuss:

In what ways were Cain and Abel alike? What is the last thing on our posters that is the same about them? (They both brought offerings to God.)

God had told them how to come to Him. What had God told them? (They were to bring a sheep and kill it so its blood would flow out.)

What offering did Abel bring? What does this show us about Abel? (He believed God.) What was the result of Abel believing God? (He was accepted by God.)

What offering did Cain bring? What does this show us about Cain? (He did not believe God.) What was the result of Cain's unbelief? (God rejected him.)

Let's highlight the words on our posters that show why God rejected Cain and his offering but accepted Abel and his offering. (Highlight the words, “Believed God” under Abel, and the words, “Did not believe God” under Cain.)

Reinforce that man must have faith in order to be accepted by God.

4. Cain's Descendants

Write “Cain's Descendants” on the blackboard. Have the children write phrases underneath, describing Cain's descendants. (No time for God. No interest in God. Self-seeking. Did not seek God. Etc.)

Reinforce that Cain's descendants followed his example. They also went their own way instead of God's way.

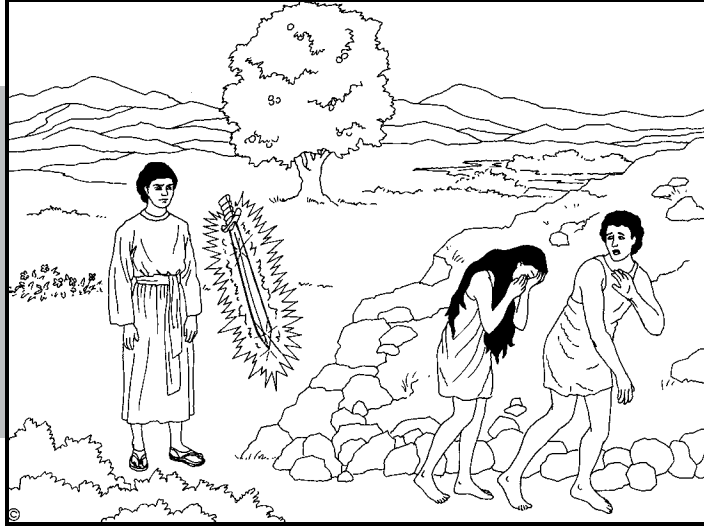
5. Footprints

Prepare paper “footprints” prior to class.

On each footprint have a student write one of Cain's choices or actions which led him away from God. (Refused to believe God. Trusted his own way. Brought the wrong offering to God. Became angry with God. Killed Abel. Lied to God. Refused to repent.) Have the students align the footprints on the floor (or on a poster) in proper order.

Reinforce that God made man with the ability to make choices. Point out that anywhere along the line, Cain could have repented and chosen to believe God. However, Cain chose not to believe God, and without faith, he could not be accepted by God.

GOD'S Provision and Judgment



Circle the correct answers to the YES and NO questions. Use the word bank to fill in the blanks.

WORD BANK: sword loved acceptable tree of life death

1. God refused the clothing of leaves that Adam and Eve made for themselves because God wanted them to know they couldn't do anything to make themselves _____ to God.
2. Is there anything we can do to make ourselves acceptable to God? YES NO
3. God killed animals to make clothing for guilty Adam and Eve because God wanted Adam and Eve to be reminded that the punishment for sin is _____.
4. God made clothes for Adam and Eve because, even though they had sinned, God wanted them to know that He _____ them and that He was the only One who could make them acceptable to Him.
5. God put Adam and Eve out of the garden of Eden so they wouldn't be able to eat of the _____ and live forever.
8. God made sure they could not return to the garden of Eden by placing cherubim and a flaming _____ at the entrance to the garden.
7. Can anyone trick or deceive God? YES NO

Can you write the word that describes God's perfect nature? This is the word that describes the fact that God never has and never will sin. Everything He does is perfect. He will not accept sin; the penalty for sin is death. God is perfect and sinless.

GOD is _____