



DAY 2 THE RELATIONSHIP BROKEN

Growing up five miles from nowhere on acres of flat Missouri farmland, we had an evening privilege I didn't appreciate until adulthood: a panoramic nighttime view of space frosted with thick layers of twinkling stars. Even in the tiny town where I live now (population 1,051), it's hard to get a good look at the night sky. Streetlights and the glow from the mini-mart mask all but the brightest stars. Light pollution is an astronomer's enemy, obstructing a clear view of space. Today's Bible story is about a universe-polluting event that obstructed people's perfect relationship with God.

Though the Bible doesn't tell us how long, for a time in the beginning, life was perfect. Everything functioned exactly as God had designed it. Adam and Eve marveled at God's creation and reveled in each other's company. Their intimate relationship with God was unimpaired.

Satan found an opportunity to ruin that relationship. He caused Eve to doubt that God wanted what was best for her. He enticed her to believe that experimenting with the forbidden fruit was more desirable than abiding by God's wisely set rules. (Genesis 3:6)

Although she was battling the Master Deceiver, Eve had the choice to resist him—and failed to do so. And Adam? There's no record of his thought processes, but the result was the same. Sin. Shame. Excuses. Consequences. See if you can spot all those things as you read Genesis 3:7-19.

Aren't you glad the end of today's story isn't the end of the whole story? Backtrack to Genesis 3:15. Bible scholars agree it's the first glimmer of a twinkle of a hint that Jesus was coming and He would crush sin forever! As you share today's Bible story with kids, don't minimize the damage sin can do, but don't miss the opportunity to share that God has always been, and will always be, in complete control!

ABOVE AND BEYOND

VBS isn't just for kids—it's for you, too! Consider these questions as you prepare to teach:

- Think of the impact sin has had on world history and your personal history (see Genesis 6:5). How should that affect your desire to see others reconciled to God?
- Is there a particular sin that you've been treating too lightly because you know you have been forgiven for it? What needs to change?