

Mosaic Teaching Guide

Teaching Series: *Sunday School Stories*

Teaching One: *Adam and Eve*

Question: When you go to the zoo, which creature must you see?

Introduction: Sunday School Stories

The one thing I have come to appreciate about the biblical narrative over the years is its honesty about what it means to be human.

Prelude: The Creation Liturgy

Once upon a time, a very long time ago, God created.

And God saw it all, and God saw that *it was good*.

Scene One: Adam in the Garden (2.4-9, 15-17)

And so God makes the human creature, the *adam*. And the story tells us that God forms the man from the dust like a potter forms a pot from clay with his hands.

And so God does the unthinkable. God breathes into the *adam* the breath of life, and the man is animated with divine breath comes to life.

God's *adam* would be given everything the human creature needs to thrive. The man is given a vocation and limits and gracious surroundings in which to breathe the divine breath.

God will offer gracious limits but let the creature decide whether or not to live within those limits.

Scene Two: Woman is Created (2.18-25)

And the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner."

"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh."

Garden life is complete.

That dangerous and alluring tree still stands in the garden; its fruit so luscious; the aroma so inviting. It just looks so good.

Scene Three: The Serpent (3.1-7)

“Did God ssssay, you should not eat from any tree in the garden?”
“We may eat of the fruit of the tress in the garden; but God said, “You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it or you shall die.”

“God is treated as a third person. God is not a party to the discussion but is the object of the discussion. This is not speech to God or with God, but about God. . . . The serpent is the first in the Bible to seem knowing and critical about God and to practice theology in the place of obedience” (Walter Brueggeman).

Scene Four: “Where are You?” (3.8-21)

“Where are you?” is the divine plea.

“I was afraid”, is the human creatures response.

Postlude: East of Eden

And in the final scene the man and the woman are expelled from the garden. Garden life is no more.

There is Good News in this Story

Next Week: *Noah’s Ark*