



Week 1 Lesson Overview — God's word is true, even when a lie sounds sweet.

Bible Story: The First Lie (Genesis 3:1–24)

Key Discovery: God's word is always true. Adam and Eve believed a lie instead — and God still came looking for them and promised a Rescuer.

Takeaway: When a lie sounds sweet, I can trust what God said.

Memory Verse: "Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'" — John 14:6 (BSB)

If you're short on time, cut in this order: Word Search → Coloring Page → Introduction Game → Craft Activity → Object Lesson

Halloween and this curriculum: It borrows trick-or-treat words (candy, costumes, a knock at the door) to teach one thing: God's truth helps us spot a trick. Nothing in it is spooky, and it never asks your church to celebrate Halloween.

All month: the attention signal is a knock. You call 'Knock, knock!' and the kids answer 'Trick or TRUTH!' and freeze. From Week 3 on, let an older kid make the call. Say the memory verse together once a week, at the knock or at the door as kids leave.

Week 1 – Supply List

Introduction Game – Trick or Truth Sort:

- Copy paper (2 sheets)
- An orange marker and a green marker
- Tape

Object Lesson – Looks Like Water:

- Clear plastic cups (2)
- Water
- Salt (1 spoonful)
- A spoon
- A pencil

Bible Story:

- Printed Teaching Visual: The Serpent Whispering to Eve by the Tree (1)
- Bible

Craft Activity – Truth Treat Bag:

- Paper lunch bags (one per child, plus one for the sample)
- Copy paper (one sheet per child, torn into strips at home)
- One sheet of paper and a marker (the display sheet)
- Crayons or markers

Printables (optional handouts):

- Printed Week 1 coloring page (one per child)
- Printed Week 1 word search (one per child) and one teacher answer key
- Printed Parent Take-Home Page (core – one per child, sent home)
- Pencils and crayons

Coloring page and word search: early-finisher work. The Parent Take-Home Page goes home with every child today.

Bible – the Berean Standard Bible (BSB) text is included inline. Edit it to your church's preferred translation, or read from the Bible your classroom already uses. [About the BSB →](#)



Introduction Game (5 minutes) – Trick or Truth Sort

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Copy paper (2 sheets)
- An orange marker and a green marker
- Tape

Before Class: Write TRICK on one sheet in orange marker and TRUTH on another in green marker. Tape one sign to each of two opposite walls, low enough for everyone to see.

Older kids: write one sneaky twist for the class to sort (paper and pencil ready).

TEACHER: (*Point to the orange sign, then the green sign.*)

Orange wall: TRICK. Green wall: TRUTH.

I am going to say something. You decide. Then walk to the wall you pick.

(Keep it walking, not running.)

Then I ask — Trick... or truth? — and you shout Trick! or Truth!

Then we all come back to the middle. Nobody is ever out.

Here we go.

(Read one line at a time. Wait for everyone to choose before you reveal.)

(Numbers 2, 4, and 5 are the tricks; the rest are true.)

1. God made everything good.
2. God said you can't touch ANY tree.
3. God said: don't eat from that one tree.
4. You won't die — you'll be like God.
5. God was keeping something good away from you.
6. God told them exactly what would happen.
7. God came looking for them.
8. God keeps His promises.

(Walk everyone back to the middle after each one.)

Debrief: Some of those sounded almost right. Almost right is exactly how a trick works — and today we meet the first one ever.



Object Lesson (5 minutes) – Looks Like Water

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Clear plastic cups (2)
- Water
- Salt (1 spoonful)
- A spoon
- A pencil

Before Class: Fill both cups with water. Stir one spoonful of salt into one cup until it disappears, and mark that cup with a small pencil dot underneath. Keep both cups out of reach until the object lesson.

TEACHER: *(Gather everyone close in a standing horseshoe at the table.)*

Two cups. Two waters. Look close.

Which one is plain water?

(Hold both cups up at eye level.)

(Let kids point and guess. Give it a few seconds.)

(Walk the cups down the row.)

(Nobody tastes – hands stay off the cups.)

You can't tell. They look exactly the same.

Your eyes are not going to help you here.

Here is the only way to know.

I made them, so I know: THIS one is salt.

(Set the marked cup down.)

You could not see it. You had to be told by the one who made it.

That is what God's word is. God made everything. God knows what is true.

In our story today, somebody says words that look exactly like God's words. One of them



has salt in it.

Say it with me: God's word is true, even when a lie sounds sweet.

(Put the cups on a high shelf or pour them out.)



Bible Story (15 minutes) – The First Lie (Genesis 3:1–24)

TEACHER: (*Gather the class close.*) Trick or treat — you know how it works: knock, and you get a choice. This month we're playing a bigger game: trick or TRUTH.

Every week there's a trick to spot — a serpent's sweet lie, travelers with moldy bread, a prince with a handshake, and a man who tricked himself into thinking he could buy God's gift — and every week God's truth wins. On the last week, God hands us armor so no trick can knock us over.

Here's our signal all month: when I call "Knock, knock!" you shout "Trick or TRUTH!" and freeze. Let's try it — Knock, knock!

KIDS: Trick or TRUTH!

TEACHER: That is it. Every time you hear it, you freeze — eyes on me.

Today's trick is the first one there ever was. It happens on the third page of the Bible, and it starts with a question.

Bible Background: Genesis 3 sits at the very front of the Bible. God has made a world and called it good, and He has given the first two people one rule about one tree. Everything is right. Then a crafty serpent arrives with a question. Everything that goes wrong in the rest of the Bible starts here. So does God's rescue — in one promise, made the same day.

TEACHER: (*Open your Bible to Genesis 3.*)

Picture a garden with every good thing growing in it. Two people. One rule, about one tree.

Then something slides onto a low branch.

(*Hold up Teaching Visual: The Serpent Whispering to Eve by the Tree.*)

READ (BSB): Genesis 3:1 1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'"

TEACHER: Crafty. That is the word the Bible picks. Not loud. Not scary. Crafty.



A crafty voice does not knock the door down. It leans in and asks you something.

Now, the serpent — later in the Bible, the devil is called 'that ancient serpent,' so God's enemy was behind those words.

Leader prep — kids will ask: If a child asks "Was the snake the devil? Why did God let him in?", say: "Later in the Bible, the devil is called "that ancient serpent" — so yes, God's enemy was behind the snake's words. Why God allowed it, the Bible doesn't fully tell us. What it does show: Adam and Eve chose to disobey, and God's rescue plan was already ready — verse 15." If no one asks, move on.

Listen to what he does with God's rule. God said one tree. The serpent says any tree.

He does not shout a lie yet. He asks a question and lets it sit there. Did God REALLY say?

That is trick number one, and it still works today. Get somebody wondering whether God's word says what it says.

TEACHER: Watch how she answers him. She knows the rule. She almost gets it exactly right.

READ (BSB): Genesis 3:2–5 2 The woman answered the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden, 3 but about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You must not eat of it or touch it, or you will die.'" 4 "You will not surely die," the serpent told the woman. 5 "For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

TEACHER: Did you catch it? God said do not eat from that tree. She says do not eat it — or touch it.

One little extra word. It sounds harmless. I wonder if that one rule started to feel bigger than it was.

And now the serpent stops asking and starts lying. Flat out. You will not surely die.

Then he hands her the sweetest reason there is. Your eyes will open. You will be like God.

Every good trick sounds like a treat. This one sounded like the best treat in the world.

And listen to the shape of it. God knows, the serpent says. Your eyes will open. You will be like God.

That is the sweet part. Not the fruit. The idea that God is keeping something good back from



you.

She is standing under that tree with God's word in one ear and a sweet lie in the other. One of those voices made the world.

READ (BSB): Genesis 3:6 6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.

TEACHER: They didn't fall down dead that day — but something did die: their closeness with God. And from that day on, every body would one day die.

Look at what she trusted. She looked, and it looked good. It looked wise.

Looking was never going to tell her the truth. Only God's word could do that.

Adam was standing right there with her, and he ate too. Nobody argued. Nobody asked God.

Here is the thing about a sweet lie. It does not feel sweet afterward.

And the very next thing in the story is the saddest line yet: they realized they were naked, felt ashamed, and hid.

Hiding. From the God who made them and loved them.

The first trick worked, and this is what it paid out. Their eyes did open. What they saw was shame, and a place to hide.

READ (BSB): Genesis 3:8–9 8 Then the man and his wife heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the breeze of the day, and they hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the LORD God called out to the man, "Where are you?"

TEACHER: Here is the most surprising thing in the whole chapter. God comes.

He is not surprised. He is not shouting. He walks into the garden.

Where are you? He asks a question He already knows the answer to. He wants them to come out and say it.

They tell Him, and they pass the blame straight down the line. Adam points at Eve. Eve



points at the serpent.

Nobody in that garden can fix this. Not one of them.

So God starts talking — and He starts with the snake. Watch what He hands the serpent on the day the serpent wins.

READ (BSB): Genesis 3:15 15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed. He will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

TEACHER: Right there, on the worst day ever, God made a promise: one day, a Son born to a woman would crush the serpent's head. That Son is Jesus.

Read it once more. The serpent gets one strike at a heel. The Son crushes his head.

That is the whole Bible in one sentence, on page three. The liar gets a day. The Son gets forever.

Then God told them the truth about what sin had done: life would be hard now, and one day their bodies would die.

TEACHER: And then God did something with His own hands.

He made clothes out of animal skins for the two people who had just believed a lie about Him. He covered them Himself.

Think about that. They hid because they were ashamed. God did not tell them to fix it themselves. He made the covering, and He put it on them.

God sent them out of the garden, and an angel with a flaming sword guarded the way back.

So that is the worst day the world ever had. And on it, God came looking, God covered them, and God promised a Rescuer.

They walked out of the garden clothed by God, carrying a promise.

TEACHER: Our memory verse this month is one sentence from Jesus, and it lands right here.

Jesus doesn't just tell the truth about God — He IS the way to God. That's why He can say 'no one comes to the Father except through Me.'

The serpent offered a shortcut to being like God. Jesus is the road to the Father.



Summary: In the garden God made, a crafty serpent asked Adam and Eve whether God had really said what He said, then told them flatly they would not die. They believed the serpent instead of God's word and ate. God came looking anyway, covered them with clothes He made, and promised a Son who would crush the serpent's head.

Gospel Connection: The first trick in the world was a lie about God, and it worked. Every one of us has believed one since.

We have told them, too. The Bible calls that sin, and it is why we need a Rescuer instead of a rule.

God did not wait for Adam and Eve to fix it. He made the clothes Himself. He made the promise Himself.

That promise has a name. Jesus is the truth, and the serpent's head was crushed at a cross.

He died for the lies we have believed and the ones we have told. Then He rose again.

Trust Him, and no trick owns you. You belong to God's truth forever.

Say it with me: God's word is true, even when a lie sounds sweet.





Truth Talk (5-10 minutes)

TEACHER: *(Circle up as close as your room allows – chairs are fine.)* Truth Circle time. You just listened to the very first trick in the world, and you spotted it.

1. What did the serpent say that God never said? *(Leader note: kids may say you won't die, or that the snake said any tree. If they're stuck, ask what the snake changed about the rule.)*

2. Adam and Eve could see the tree, and it looked good to them. So why wasn't looking enough? *(Leader note: push toward meaning – a lie can look exactly like the truth; only the One who made it knows.)*

3. When is it hardest for you to believe that what God said is true? *(Leader note: kids may say when they are scared, or when everyone else is doing something. Keep answers about the lie, never about a person.)*

Here is the part I do not want you to miss. On the worst day the world ever had, God came looking, and God made a promise.

Hands together. Repeat after me.

God,

Thank You for telling us the truth.

Help me trust Your word this week.

Thank You for sending Jesus, the Rescuer.

Amen.

You are not loved because you always spot the trick. You are loved because Jesus already beat the liar.



God's word is true, even when a lie sounds sweet.
(Genesis 3:1–24)



Word Search Puzzle

ADAM – CLOTHED – CRUSH – EVE – FRUIT – GARDEN – LIE

PROMISE – RESCUER – SERPENT – TREE – TRUTH – WORD

D	D	D	H	G	H	G	S	Y	N	T
S	M	D	T	A	D	A	M	C	B	X
K	H	R	C	R	C	R	D	L	X	E
M	X	E	C	P	E	D	N	O	C	Q
S	F	S	E	R	P	E	N	T	P	R
A	I	C	V	O	U	N	S	H	E	C
K	B	U	E	M	R	S	X	E	O	T
P	T	E	C	I	S	V	H	D	I	F
T	K	R	W	S	M	T	R	U	T	H
G	Q	L	I	E	B	O	R	O	Z	Q
G	T	E	R	A	W	F	S	Y	B	R

Keep Searching: This week, ask your child: What did the serpent say that wasn't true — and what did God say that was?



Word Search Answers



Craft Activity (10-15 minutes) – Truth Treat Bag

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Paper lunch bags (one per child, plus one for the sample)
- Copy paper (one sheet per child, torn into strips at home)
- One sheet of paper and a marker (the display sheet)
- Crayons or markers

Before Class: At home, tear copy paper into thirds (three strips per child) and make one finished sample. Display sheet lines: God made it all good. God said: not that one tree. God promised a Rescuer. Pre-write a few strips for non-writers.



TEACHER: *(Hold up the finished sample bag with three folded strips inside.)*

You are making a paper bag that carries three true words home with you. It is your Truth Treat Bag.

Start with your bag flat in front of you. Write TRUTH across the front in big capital letters.

(Pass out the bags, the strips, and the crayons.)

Now decorate around your word. Deep purple, pumpkin orange, lime green, black lines, yellow stars — your choice.

Put your name somewhere on the bag so it comes home as yours.

(Give kids three or four minutes to write and decorate.)

Now pick up your three paper strips and look at the display sheet.

Copy the first line onto your first strip. Then fold the strip in half and drop it in your bag.

(Point to each line on the display sheet as they copy.)

Copy the second line onto your next strip. Fold it. Into the bag.

Now the third line. Fold. Into the bag.



Three true words from God, folded up and going home with you.

Say it with me: God's word is true, even when a lie sounds sweet.

In the garden a lie sounded sweet. What God said was true the whole time.

Take your bag home. At dinner, pull one strip out and read it to your family.





Parent Take-Home Page — Week 1

Bible Story: The First Lie (Genesis 3)

This month we borrow trick-or-treat words to teach one thing: God's truth helps us spot a lie. Today's story was the first lie in the garden — the serpent, the fruit, and God's promise of a Rescuer.

A serpent twisted what God had said, and Adam and Eve believed him instead of God — but God came looking for them, made them clothes, and promised a Rescuer that same day. When a lie sounds sweet, your child can trust what God said. If a Truth Treat Bag (a decorated paper lunch bag with three folded truth strips inside) came home this week, read the three strips together at dinner.

Ask at dinner: What did the serpent say that wasn't true — and what did God say that was?

Memory Verse: "Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'" — John 14:6 (BSB)

Jesus doesn't just tell the truth about God — He IS the way to God. That's why He can say 'no one comes to the Father except through Me.'



John 14:6 BSB

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'"



The Next Four Sundays Are Ready.

This free lesson is Week 1 of Trick or Truth. The full series teaches, in order, from the serpent's lie in the garden to the armor of God:

WEEK 2	The Gibeonites' Trick
WEEK 3	Absalom Steals the Kingdom
WEEK 4	Simon Tries to Buy God's Gift
WEEK 5	The Armor of God

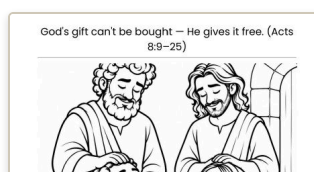
Teach it five Sundays in a row, in October or any time of year.



Week 2 · teaching picture



Week 3 · word search



Week 4 · coloring page



Week 5 · craft

In the full download:

- ✓ All 5 lessons as print-ready PDFs
- ✓ Print it all at once: one file with all five lessons, and one with every student page
- ✓ A teaching picture, coloring page, word search and craft every week
- ✓ A parent take-home page every week, and a John 14:6 memory verse poster
- ✓ Print as many copies as your ministry needs. Files never expire.

One room with a wide age range? Start with the Kids edition.



See the full series.

\$65 for the Kids edition (ages 6-12).



Bonus teacher resources.

Video Bible stories, songs and free extras for all five weeks.

Younger children (ages 3-5) too? There's a Preschool edition with the same five stories.

Teaching every week? The All-Access Pass: one payment, lifetime access to every series we make, including every new one. sundayschool.store/all-access

✉ **Questions?** Email support@sundayschool.store.

A real person reads every one.

Thank you for serving God's children.

Tony Kummer

Founder & Editor, The Sunday School Store

