



5 Adam and Eve

“Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion...over all the earth...’”

Genesis 1:26

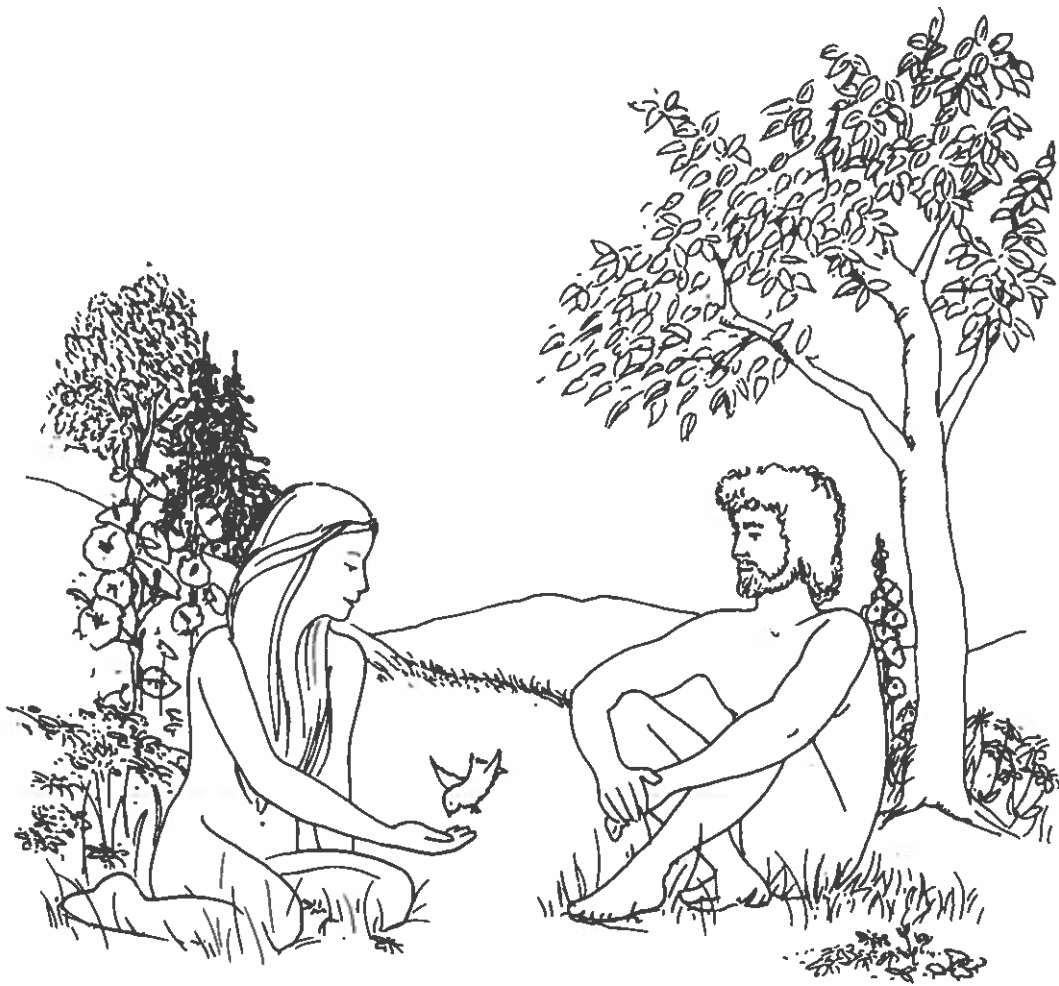
Long, long ago, God made the world. Then He made the first man and the first woman. They were called **Adam** and **Eve**.

God gave them a beautiful place in which to live. It was called the Garden of Eden. There were trees in the garden with good things on them to eat. Adam and Eve had everything they wanted. They were never sick or hurt, and they never had to die. All the animals were their friends, too.

God also gave Adam and Eve another very special gift. He gave them the gift of sharing His very own life. With God’s life in their souls, Adam and Eve could know, love, and serve God. And they could live with Him forever.

God gives this gift to us, too. The life of God in our souls is called **grace**. Grace makes us able to go to Heaven. It makes us children of God.

Adam and Eve were our first parents because all the people of the world came from them.



Words to Know:

Adam Eve grace

Q. 14 *Who were the first man and woman?*
Adam and Eve were the first man and woman (CCC 375).

Q. 15 *What was the special gift God gave Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden?*
The special gift that God gave Adam and Eve was grace, God's life in their souls (CCC 54, 356, 375).

6 A Sad Story

“...sin came into the world through
one man and death through sin...”
Romans 5:12

One day, God gave Adam and Eve a test. He told them never to eat the fruit from one of the trees in the garden. God wanted Adam and Eve to **obey** His command, and for a while they did.

But one day, the devil pretended he was a snake and came into the garden. He told Eve to go ahead and try some of the forbidden fruit from the tree. He said it would make her just as smart as God.

Eve knew that she should obey God, but she listened to the devil instead. She ate the fruit. Then she gave some to Adam and he ate it too. This was the very first **sin**. Sin is saying no to God. That is what Adam and Eve did.

So Adam and Eve had to leave the lovely garden. Now they had to work hard for their food. And now

they had to die someday. Worst of all, Adam and Eve lost the gift of grace. Without God's life in their souls, Adam and Eve could not go to Heaven. The gates of Heaven were closed. Adam and Eve were very sad and very sorry.

Adam and Eve lost God's gift of grace for all of us too. Now everyone is born with the sin of Adam and Eve on his soul. It is called **Original Sin**.



God felt sorry for Adam and Eve because He still loved them. He felt sorry for all the people who would come after them too. So He made them a **promise**. A promise is when you say you are going to do something and really mean it. God promised to send a **Savior**. The Savior would win back God's grace for us and open the gates of Heaven again.

Words to Know:

obey sin Original Sin promise Savior

Q. 16 *What is sin?*

Sin is saying no to God. It is a failure to love God. It is any evil thing that we choose to do, think, or say (CCC 1849, 1850).

Q. 17 *Who committed the first sin on earth?*

Adam and Eve, our first parents, committed the first sin on earth (CCC 399, 416).

Q. 18 *What happened to Adam and Eve because of this sin?*

Because of this sin, Adam and Eve lost grace, Heaven, and life in the Garden of Eden (Gen 3:23–24; CCC 390).

Q. 19 *What has happened to us because of Adam and Eve's sin?*

Because of Adam and Eve's sin, we are born with Original Sin and without grace. We inherit their punishment (CCC 418).