

# SABBATH SCHOOL

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Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

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Level 2 • Unit 3 • Week 3

## SATAN'S BIG LIE

### OBJECTIVE:

To show that God has given His human creation freedom to choose the way they will go. Adam and Eve, the first humans, had that freedom. They had two choices. They could choose to follow God, who could give them happiness and life. Or, they could choose to follow Satan, the great liar, whose ways lead to unhappiness and death.

### ATTENTION GETTER:

Supplies Needed:

A container of candy (such as M&Ms)

A candy bar laid on a paper towel

In advance, unwrap the candy bar and do something to it that will make it unedible even while it will still look good. For instance, you could dip it in the toilet. Or you could carefully cut out the bottom and inside portion of the candy bar and fill it with dirt instead.

Say: You may have the candy from this dish, but you must not eat the candy bar. It isn't good.

Do: Let them have some candy from the dish.

Ask: Do you believe me?

Say: We will see!

### BIBLE LESSON:

Say: God said the same thing to Adam and Eve at the beginning of the world. They had good things to eat. All they had to do was reach up, pick it and eat. And they were friends with God and could walk and talk with Him. They were very happy.

Like this candy bar, there was one thing they were told not to eat. God said, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the "knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die!"

Ask: Do you know what "evil" is?

Answer: Evil is anything that is bad for you that will hurt you, or make you unhappy. Evil is disobedience to God.

Ask: Do you know what good is?

Answer: Good is anything that makes you truly happy. Good is obedience to God.

Ask: What would you choose, good or evil?

Answer: We do not know of ourselves what is good or evil.

Ask: How would you know what is good and what is evil?

Answer: We know because God tells us in His Word, The Bible. He told Adam and Eve by His own mouth. They could hear His voice.

Say: We would not know what is good for us or what is bad for us unless God told us. God is our creator, and He knows what will make us happy and what will not. God knew that eating the fruit of this tree would make Adam and Eve unhappy, and they would die.

Ask: Was this a bad rule? (No.)

Ask: Do you think this would be hard to obey?

Answer: No. But it was hard to want to obey.

Say: Adam and Eve up to this time obeyed God, and they were happy in their special garden. They were glad when God came to visit with them. One day this all changed.

What happened was that an unusual, talking serpent walked into the garden and started talking to Eve.

The serpent asked, "Can you eat of all the trees in the garden?" Eve answered, "Yes, all but the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden. God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'"

Now here is where the story gets bad. The serpent said, "You will not die!"

Ask: Who do you think was right, God or the serpent?

Say: The serpent was not telling the truth. It was a lie, as we shall see. The serpent, as we know, was Satan, the father of lies. He was the first being to tell a lie (John 8:44). Eve knew God was good and the maker of all things.

Ask: Do you know what the word “deceive” means and what it is to be deceived?

Say: When you are made to believe something that is untrue is true, it is called “deceiving.” One who deceives tells lies in a tricky way, and Satan was a tricky liar. He could make things seem like something that they are not, like a magician. Let’s see how he deceived Eve.

Satan then went on to tell another lie. He said, “God knows that in the day you eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, being able to decide what is good and what is evil.”

Satan wanted to make Eve want something that God said was not good for her. He wanted her to disobey God. He is very evil, and wanted her to die. By not following God’s instructions and eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Eve would die.

Ask: Did God know what was best? (Yes!)  
What was the name of this tree?

Answer: The tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Ask: Would this tree give Eve the knowledge of good and evil?

Answer: Yes, God does not lie.

Ask: Why would it be bad to know about evil?

Answer: Because only God can know what is good. We do not know, and might think that an evil thing is good. We would not know what is true and what is a lie.

Say: Lies can sound good, but they are not. Does that candy bar look good? It is not!

Ask: Will you be happy with the candy you have, or would you like the candy bar also?

Say: Eve saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and thought it would make her wise like God. She took of its fruit and ate. She did not die right away. She gave some of the fruit to Adam, and he ate it also.

Sometimes when we make a bad choice, we do not see the result right away. Sometimes, by our example, we get others to make bad choices also.

Ask: Adam and Eve then knew good and evil. Do you think this made them feel good?

Say: Knowing about evil did not make Adam and Eve happy. They had a new feeling—a feeling of guilt. They knew that they had disobeyed God. They were afraid of what He would do. So when they heard God coming into the garden, instead of running to greet Him with joy, they hid from God!

Ask: Can anyone hide from God? (No!) Should we do wrong things, even when no one is looking? (No! God knows.)

Say: God knew that they had eaten the bad fruit, but He asked if they had eaten it. Then just like some people do today, they made excuses and blamed others. Adam blamed Eve. Eve blamed the serpent. God knew they were all to blame, so He told them what their punishment would be:

- Adam would have to work hard to get food, as all must do today.
- Eve would have pain in having babies, as mothers do today.
- The serpent had to crawl on the ground, as serpents do today.

Because Adam and Eve sinned, they had to take the sure result of sinning. They had to die!

Ever since that time everyone, even if the person did not understand the difference between good and evil, has done some evil, and is sentenced to die (Romans 3:23; 6:23).

However, God is a loving, kind, fair God; and He made a way for those who have done an evil thing to once again be with Him in a special garden. He did that through His Son, Jesus Christ. We will learn more of this in another lesson.

Ask: How do you think you should live so you do not cause trouble for yourselves and others? Obey our fathers and mothers, and all that have rule over us, as long as they do not tell us anything that makes us disobey God.

Say: You were told not to eat this candy bar, just like Adam and Eve were told not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Ask: Do you want to eat it?

Do: Tell or show the children what makes the candy bar unedible.

Ask:

1. Did the candy bar look good? (Yes.)
2. Did the tree look good to Eve? (Yes.)
3. Was the candy bar good to eat? (No.)
4. Was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil good for Adam and Eve? (No.)
5. Did I lie? (No.)
6. Does God lie? (No.)
7. Could you tell that the candy bar wasn't good just by looking at it? (No.)
8. Can we always know what is good or evil by our own reason? (No.)
9. Can you see how we must obey instructions, we must obey God's Word? (Yes.)

Say: Jesus Christ can take away the result of doing evil, so we will not die forever. When Jesus forgives us for doing evil, He takes away the poison that would make us die forever, and we can live happier lives.

**LESSON APPLICATION:**

Supplies Needed:

Green, brown and red tissue paper cut into small squares

9 x 12 inch construction paper

Glue

Crayons or markers

Provide outline on construction paper in the shape of a tree. Use squares of brown and green tissue paper and glue onto the tree. The tissue paper can be wrapped around the eraser end of a pencil and glued down or just crumpled a bit and glued down. The red tissue paper can be glued down randomly among the green to represent the fruit.

**MUSIC:**

Sing the following words to the tune of the commercial for Campbell's soup. After singing these words, ask the children if they want to make up any more verses to the song.

Mm, Mm good. Mm, Mm good.  
That's what God's laws are.  
Mm, Mm good.

Ah, Ah bad. Ah, Ah bad.  
That's what Satan's lies are.  
Ah, Ah bad.

**MEMORY VERSE:**

Proverbs 14:12 "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."

# *family activity*

**THE POINT:**

To show that God has given His human creation freedom to choose the way they will go. Adam and Eve, the first humans, had that freedom. They had two choices. They could choose to follow God, who could give them happiness and life. Or, they could choose to follow Satan, the great liar, whose ways lead to unhappiness and death.

**FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:**

Read the story "Curiosity's Temptation," and ask and discuss the questions.

**MEMORY VERSE:**

Proverbs 14:12 "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."

## CURIOSITY'S TEMPTATION

Once upon a time there was a young mouse named Curiosity. He was curious about everything. He wanted to know what everything was, what it did, how it tasted and how it worked. He thought that would make him wise and better than others.

This worried his mother. She gave Curiosity many good things to eat and play with, but there was one thing she told him he must NEVER touch. It was a big wooden thing with wires on it. Sometimes there was cheese on it. Mother told him the story of Uncle Nat who tried to get the cheese, and the wires came down on him and killed him. *Can you think what this "thing" might be?*

Every day mother warned Curiosity about the mousetrap, and he was sure he would NEVER follow Uncle Nat's mistake.

Now Curiosity also had a very big appetite for cheese. He could not get enough of it. It was his favorite food! One day he was wandering around and thought, "I have not had cheese for a long time." "I am very hungry for cheese." Just then, he saw that mousetrap with an especially big piece of cheese.

He thought about mother's warning. He remembered Uncle Nat. He looked and looked. He thought and thought. The cheese was very, very tempting.

Then another thought came into his mind. It was like Satan telling him something. He thought Uncle Nat was not very smart to get caught. He could do better. It seemed right that he should have that cheese. He would be wiser than Uncle Nat and his mother, and get the cheese.

He figured and figured. Finally, he thought he could quickly push the cheese off and catch it. "Hmmm. Maybe I could use something to help." He saw a toothpick. "Yes," he said. He took the toothpick and went closer to the mousetrap. The cheese looked bigger and even more tempting. He could just taste it!

He pushed at the cheese with the toothpick, but it did not move. He got a little closer so he could push harder. He was sure he could do it. He was sure his mother would not know. He was sure he was wiser than Uncle Nat was. The cheese would make him feel sooo good! He held the toothpick tight in his mouth, and ran to the cheese...SNAP!!!!

When we decide for ourselves what is right or wrong we get into trouble.

- Ask:
1. *Did Curiosity decide for himself what was right and wrong? (Yes.)*
  2. *Did Adam and Eve decide for themselves what was right and wrong? (Yes.)*
  3. *Who is the only one who knows what is right and wrong? (God.)*
  4. *Who wants us to do wrong? (Satan and those he controls.)*
  5. *What happened to Curiosity? (He died.)*
  6. *What happened to Adam and Eve? (They died.)*
  7. *How can we keep from listening to Satan's lies? (By always obeying God.)*
  8. *Who helps us to do this? (Parents, ministers, teachers, etc., as they agree with God's laws.)*