



Main Idea: From the very beginning, God promised a Savior who would defeat sin and Satan. Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophecy given in Genesis 3:15.

Introduction

[TEACHER NOTE: Before diving into the specific lesson, take a moment to cast the vision for the whole series.]

This series is called "**The First Gospel: Jesus in Genesis.**" The gospel is the good news of Jesus. And most of us who are familiar with the gospel might typically think of the good news starting when Jesus was born as a baby and lived and died for our sins. But actually, the whole Bible points to Jesus, including the very first book. In Genesis, we find shadows, promises, and pictures that all hint at the coming Savior.

Over the next four weeks, we are going to uncover how Jesus is present and promised in the earliest stories of Scripture. Each lesson will take us deeper into the character of God and show how His plan to rescue us has been in motion from the very beginning.

Tonight, we start with the **very first promise**—a promise God made in the middle of the world's very first tragedy.

[TEACHER NOTE: Consider by sharing a story of when you broke something—or something was already broken—and you tried to fix it. Try to make this a humorous story to make fun of yourself a bit and get them interested in what you are going to say next.]

Raise your hand [or perhaps better, ask them to share out loud!] if you have ever tried to fix something that seemed permanently broken. Maybe you dropped your phone, cracked the screen, and no matter what, it never worked quite right again. Or maybe you had a favorite toy as a kid that broke, and even though you tried to glue it back together, it never worked like it used to.

Well, just as we understand the frustration that comes when we try to fix something that simply cannot be fixed, we should understand that the world is that way as well. In many ways, the world is broken. You do not have to look far to see it. People hurt each other. There is suffering, sickness, and death in this world. Any one of us can easily think of things in this world that should not be. That is an interesting concept though, isn't it? That we know there are things in this world that *should not* be. What it shows us is that deep down, we know things were not supposed to be this way.

But where did all this brokenness begin? And more importantly, is there any way to fix it? Tonight, we are going back to the very beginning—the first book of the Bible, Genesis—to see how everything fell apart and how God immediately set a plan in motion to fix it.

I. The World Was Not Made Broken (Genesis 1:26–31)

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness..." ... God saw all that he had made, and it was very good indeed. (Genesis 1:26-31, CSB)

First, we see that the world was not always “broken.” God created things “very good indeed.” That includes not only creation as a whole, but people as individuals. God created humans in His image. Humanity was created to reflect God’s character and rule His creation. Things were *very good*.

In fact, everything in the garden was “very good.” There was no sin, no pain, and no shame. God’s design was perfect. The reason that we see broken things in the world and think, “*that should not be*” is because there used to be a time—before things became broken—that things were all as *they should be*. So, what happened?

[TEACHER NOTE: Make this point clear: sin did not break something that was already messed up. God created life, families, work, and even rest as good gifts. That’s what makes the Fall so tragic. It broke the world.]

II. The Fall (Genesis 3:1–7)

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You can't eat from any tree in the garden'?" (Genesis 3:1, CSB)

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