

# 03 PERFECTION DESTROYED

**KEY TEXT:** GENESIS 3:1-13,21-24

## CENTRAL truth

At first, everything was perfect. Man and woman lived in perfect harmony with God, creation, one another, and themselves. But that was all about to be destroyed through sin. It began with the temptation for man and woman to doubt God's words and God's goodness. The serpent led them to believe that sin would offer them life, but only God offers life. **Humanity's sin corrupted God's good creation—but God promised rescue.**

## key question

**Consider what you have learned about God's character from Genesis 1–2. How do you know that He is a good and generous God?**

In Genesis 1–2, God offered abundance and goodness! He gave generously, anticipating needs and providing for them in beautiful ways. But Satan tempted man and woman to believe otherwise. In the midst of confusion and temptation, man and woman needed to cling to what is true about God. God is unchanging, and His character can offer us a foundation during disorienting times.

## keep in mind

- Adam and Eve's scenario can seem unrelatable. Students may feel frustrated with Adam and Eve for breaking God's one rule. But sin presents itself similarly in our lives. Sin makes us big promises, but it will never deliver. We fall for it over and over again because we doubt God's words and God's goodness! The bottom line for all of us is this: we are all in desperate need of rescue by "the second Adam," Jesus.
- Students may have questions that go beyond the scope of the text. These chapters may not contain all that we want to know about the origins of the world and of sin, but they are what God in His goodness has provided. Offer any biblically-based answers you can for their questions, but also don't be afraid to say, "I'm so glad you're thinking so deeply! Scripture doesn't really offer that information. However, today's teaching is a good reminder that God is good and His word can be trusted. Maybe this is an area where we need to remember that in faith."

## application

**How can we encourage one another to trust God's words and goodness when we're tempted to have doubts?**

## the win

**FOR THE STUDENT:** Students can be equipped to understand that sin attacks our view of God's character. They can begin to develop the instinct of remembering what He is like so they can trust Him during temptation.

**FOR THE LEADER:** Leaders can help shepherd students by teaching them about God's goodness and reminding them of God's goodness.

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