

Proverbs 1:7-10



Romans 1:21-22

Psalms 51:3-5

Psalms 119:11

14. Sin Entered the World Through Adam

Eve took a bite and handed the forbidden fruit to Adam. The serpent watched as Adam took the already half-eaten fruit. Adam, by God's command, was ruler over all the earth. He was the first man and so stood for all who would come after. If Adam rebelled against God and ate the fruit, his disobedience would change the world forever. The peace, perfection, and happiness of the garden would be destroyed. His disobedience to God and the trouble that resulted would pass on to every generation to follow for they would be sinful from birth.

Adam joined his wife and bit into the fruit. For a moment they enjoyed their sin. Then, as Satan promised, Adam and Eve, who had known only good, understood evil for the first time. For the first time they noticed they were naked and felt ashamed. And for the first time they wanted to hide from God. They sewed fig leaves together to make simple clothes and hid from God.

Did you ever notice that when you do something wrong you want to hide it? That's what Adam and Eve passed on to us. We think that sinning will make us happy, but in the end we feel only guilty and ashamed. Adam and Eve wanted to be like God, but sadly, like Satan before them, they became evil, enemies of God.

Sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.

ROMANS 5:12

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

ROMANS 3:23

Ever since the day Adam ate the forbidden fruit, his sin has been passed down to every human. The Bible tells us that even newborn babies have Adam's sin passed down to them. Just like you inherited your parents' eye color, or nose, or height, you also inherited Adam's desire to go his own way instead of God's way. Adam's sin keeps getting passed down from parents to their children.

Have you noticed that no one had to teach you how to disobey or try to get your own way? Have you ever watched how little children plug their ears when they refuse to listen to their parents or get angry when they don't get what they want? They fight over toys and get mad when they don't get the one they want. Even when their parents try to protect them from being hurt—from running into the street or touching a hot stove—little children scream and yell in protest.

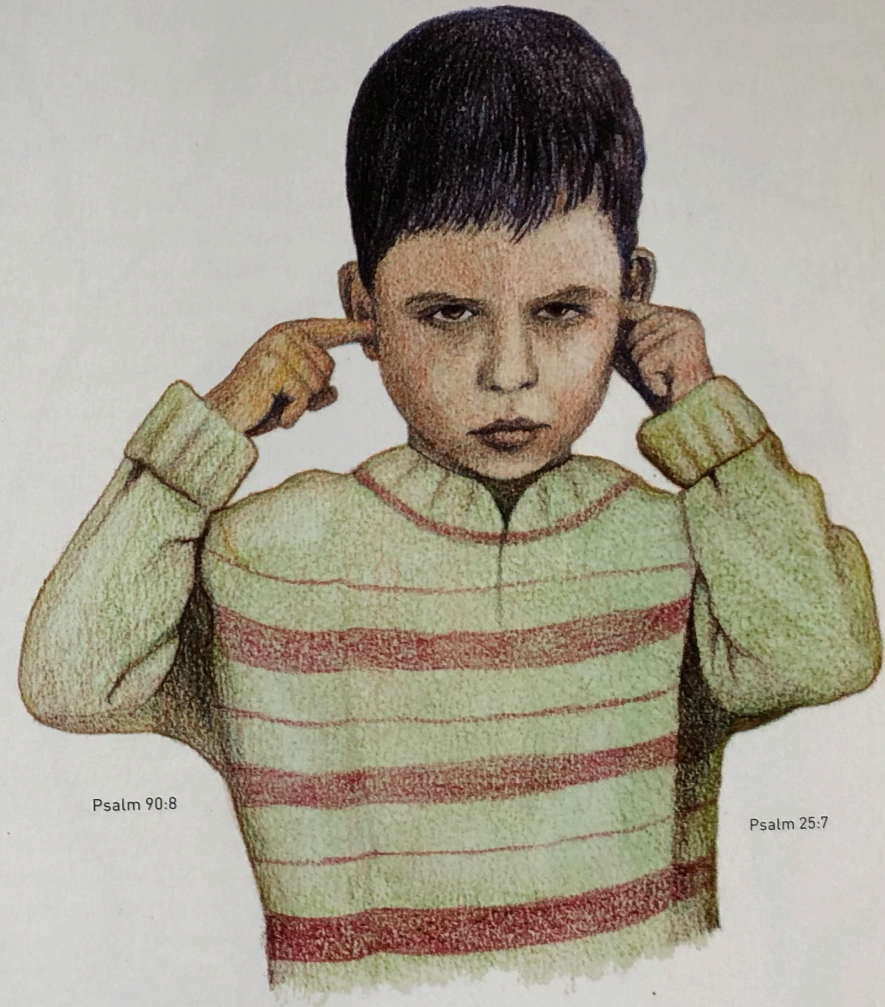
No one has to teach us how to tell a lie or lose control when we are angry. That is because sin comes naturally to sinners. The Bible makes it clear that ever since Adam sinned, sin became a part of who we are.

Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

PSALM 51:5 NIV

Indeed, there is no one on earth who is righteous, no one who does what is right and never sins.

ECCLESIASTES 7:20 NIV



Psalm 90:8

Psalm 25:7