The Creation: Christ is the Tree of Life
*Gen 2: 16-17, Gen 3:1 & Rev 22:2*

**LESSON SUPPLY LIST**

- Bible w/ Marked Scripture
- Pencils
- Crayons
- Safety Scissors
- Live Branch with Leaves
- Tree Illustration Page
- Small Envelope
- Tape
- Copies of Coloring Page
- Copies of Word Puzzle
- Copies of Take Home Sheet
The Creation: Christ is the Tree of Life

Gen 2:16-17

Genesis 1:16-17
16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:
17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Gen 3:1-7
1 Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?
2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:
3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.
4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall surely be as gods, knowing good and evil.
5 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.
6 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

Rev 22:2
22 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and of the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.
Objective of Lesson:
When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden, we were all cut off from God. God is goodness and life. Adam represented us all, and when he died and was cut off from God, we were all cut off from God. If we are to live again, God must put us in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, to be our representative, our Tree of Life. Just like all those represented by Adam, all those represented by Jesus Christ, will have eternal life. To be in Jesus Christ is to be IN the Tree of Life!

Lesson Instructions:
1. The Bible tells us God is good and that only God is good. No other thing is good. Even the stars are not pure in God’s sight. (Job 25:5) To be a part of God is to be a part of goodness and life.
2. In the first chapter of Genesis the Bible tells us God created this world and everything in it. After the world was finished God then created man and woman. The first two people were Adam and Eve. Adam was the first man to be created. Eve was the woman God made, to be a companion to Adam.
3. God put Adam and Eve in a place called the Garden of Eden. In that Garden was everything Adam and Eve needed to live. In this Garden, Adam and Eve could live and walk and talk with God. They did not have any clothes, because they did not need them. They did not need a covering for their bodies, because they were good. They did not need to be afraid of God.
4. God told Adam and Eve they could eat of any tree in the entire garden. Every single thing was provided for them to use - ALL the trees, plants and herbs, except for one. There was one tree that was special. The Bible calls that tree, The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. God said this ONE tree you cannot eat of its fruit, AND in the day you eat it, you will die.
5. Do you know what it means to die? Some of you may have seen death. Maybe you had a dog to die, or a pet to die. When you die, you are no longer alive. You no longer move; you no longer breathe; you are no longer living. To die means you are cut off from life.
6. One day Eve was in the garden. Satan took the form of a serpent, came to Eve and talked to her. He asked her, “Is it true God told you that you could eat of any tree in the whole garden?” Eve answered and said, “Yes, God told us we could eat of any tree in the garden, except for the one tree in the midst of the garden. That one tree we cannot touch or eat, or God said we would die.” The serpent told Eve, “Oh no; you won’t really die. God knows that if you eat THAT fruit, then you will be like Him. You will be able to decide for yourselves what is good and what is bad (evil).”
7. Eve was deceived by what the serpent said. She took the fruit of that tree and she looked at it and decided it was good to eat. She ate the fruit of that Forbidden Tree. She then took the fruit to Adam and told him what the serpent had told her. Adam, knowing it was against God’s law, ate the fruit of that tree also.
8. As soon as Adam and Eve sinned against God and ate the fruit, they became very scared. They realized they did not have any clothes on, and they became very afraid for God to see them. They also became blind to what was good. Since God is goodness, that meant they could no longer see God. They felt horrible about who they were.
9. Even though they could no longer see God, they knew God could see them. Adam and Eve tried to hide from God among the trees in the garden, because they did not have any clothes on. They felt ashamed of their nakedness, and tried to cover themselves with leaves. They thought if they could cover their nakedness it would make them feel better and look better to God. They also hoped by covering their nakedness God would accept them. Just as God had told them, when they sinned and disobeyed God’s law, they were cut off from God. When they sinned and ate the fruit of the forbidden tree, they were cut off to all of God’s goodness and life and blessings. Their clothing made of leaves did not work – it was not enough.
10. Since Adam and Eve sinned and broke God's law, ALL men and women, boys and girls who came from them, have been cut off. They have been separated from goodness and life, which is God. We are now separated from God. Remember God is goodness and life.

11. I want you each to cut off a leaf from this branch. We are going to pretend this branch is a real living tree. We know it's not, because we can't really bring a whole tree in here. We are going to use this as what we call an "illustration".

12. Each of you cut off a leaf. What happens when we cut a leaf from this branch? Can that leaf live? The tree is what gave it life. As soon as you cut off the leaf it begins to die. The tree was the only thing giving life to that leaf.

13. Now I want you to take your leaf and put it back on the tree so it can have life again. You can't do that, can you? You can glue it back on, but that would not work. You could tie it back on, but that would not work either. It has to be IN the tree. See, all these other leaves were not cut off; they are IN the tree. They are attached and getting all the tree's life-giving nutrients. God is the only one that can now give life to a leaf that has been cut off. God has to put that leaf IN the tree.

14. It is the same with God and his children. He is the tree and we are the leaves. We were cut off from God in the garden, because we sinned against God. To be cut from life and goodness (which is God), is to die. When we sinned and our spirit died, our bodies began to die too.

15. Only God can restore dead leaves to the tree of life. That is EXACTLY what God does for His children who have sinned and been cut off from Him. God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, down to this earth to pay for our sins, and to restore life unto us. God takes his children and puts them IN the tree of life, which is an illustration of Christ. To be put IN Christ Jesus is to be restored to goodness and life, which is God.

16. (Put the dying and dead leaves out on the table. As you say this, reach out and draw one of the leaves to yourself.) Jesus Christ, the Son of God, comes to His dead and lifeless children (hold up the leaf) and He puts His hand on you and draws you to Himself. Jesus Christ is the Tree of Life (Pick up the leaf and put it in the envelope through cut out slit in your tree illustration - illustrating the leaf being IN the tree). He restores life to you by putting you in Himself. To be IN Jesus Christ is to be IN the Tree of Life. (Revelation 22:2)

17. We cannot restore ourselves to God. We are cut off just like this leaf to this branch. Adam and Eve tried to restore themselves to God by covering themselves with leaves - so it would look like they were alive. Only God can restore life. God must put you IN His Son, Jesus Christ, and to trust Him alone is Life! Jesus Christ IS the Tree of Life!

Activity:

- Cutting off of leaves illustration (Cut the dotted line with scissors. Tape a small envelope to the back of the illustration covering the slit).
- Tree of Life Coloring Page
- Tree of Life Word Puzzle
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2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:
3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.
4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:
5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.
6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.
7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

Objective of Lesson:
When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden, we were all cut off from God, who is goodness and life. Adam represented us all, and when He died and was cut off from God, we were all cut off from God. If we are to live again, God must put us in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, to be our representative, our Tree of Life. Just like all those represented by Adam, all those represented by Jesus Christ, will have eternal life. To be in Jesus Christ is to be IN the Tree of Life!

Overview of Lesson:
What happens if I cut off a leaf from this branch? Can that leaf live? The tree is what gave it life. As soon as you cut off the leaf, it begins to die. The tree was the only thing giving life to that leaf. The only one that can restore that leaf to the tree is God Himself.

It is the same with God and his children. He is the tree and we are the leaves. In the garden we sinned against God and we were cut off from life and goodness (which is God). We died. To be a part of God is to have life. Just like a leaf cut from a tree, we cannot restore ourselves to God. You can glue on the leaf or tie it on. Adam and Eve tried to restore themselves to God by covering themselves with leaves, so it would look like they were alive. Only God can restore life. God must put you IN his Son, Jesus Christ, and to trust Him alone is Life! Jesus Christ is the Tree of Life!
Christ is the Tree of Life
To be IN Christ is to have Life!
Christ is the Tree of Life
To be IN Christ is to have Life!
Across
2. What Adam and Eve did against God in the Garden
3. The ________ of Eden. The place where Adam and Eve walked and talked with God
4. The Son of God
6. Something you use to explain and picture something else.
8. The consequence of sin is to ____
9. The name of the first woman God created to be a companion to Adam

Down
1. The word of God which tells us who Jesus Christ is and what He did to save his people from their sins
3. The book of the Bible that tells about the creation of the world and man.
5. What you have if you are in Christ
7. What Adam and Eve tried to cover themselves in
Across
2. What Adam and Eve did against God in the Garden (SIN)
3. The ________ of Eden. The place where Adam and Eve walked and talked with God (GARDEN)
4. The Son of God (JESUS)
6. Something you use to explain and picture something else. (ILLUSTRATION)
8. The consequence of sin is to ____ (DIE)
9. The name of the first woman God created to be a companion to Adam (EVE)

Down
1. The word of God which tells us who Jesus Christ is and what He did to save his people from their sins (BIBLE)
3. The book of the Bible that tells about the creation of the world and man. (GENESIS)
5. What you have if you are in Christ (LIFE)
7. What Adam and Eve tried to cover themselves in (LEAVES)