ALL CHRISTIANS' FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

Interactive Sunday School Outline

TOPIC: God the Seeker **TEXT:** Genesis 3:1-9

Instructions - Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone could participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone to have an equal opportunity to participate.

Introduction:

Why be involved in a mission? Our mission in the world is rooted in the character of God. What we do flows from our understanding of who God is. If this is true, then the key question becomes, 'Who is this God'? At this point in the Bible, the story of creation has been recounted twice in Genesis 1 and 2. Adam and Eve are living in complete harmony in their relationship with God and with each other in an environment that God himself has declared "very good" (Genesis 1:31). Luke's Gospel focuses on God's pursuit of things lost. In Luke 1 Jesus tells us of the pursuit of the lost coin, the lost sheep and the lost son, all as analogies of the loving God looking for us.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. When you think of God, what comes to mind? What adjectives or images would you use to describe God's character?
- 2. What does the serpent do to undermine the harmony of Adam and Eve's relationship with God (vs. 1-5)?
- 3. Imagine yourself as Eve. What factors would you have been weighing as you decided whether to eat the fruit or not?
- 4. When you contemplate your own relationship with God, what aspects of God's character are the most personal or intimate to you?
- 5. What do you think influenced Adam's decision to eat the fruit?
- 6. Do you think it was wrong for them to know good and evil (vs. 5)? Explain.
- 7. How does Adam and Eve's action affect their relationship with each other (compare Genesis 2:25 with 3:7)?
- 8. How does Adam and Eve's action affect their relationship with God (vs. 8)?

- 9. Consider God's actions in verses 8-10. What do these verses reveal about him?
- 10. In a world of people who are rebelling against God, is it possible that we imitate God's action toward Adam and Eve?
- 11. What difference does it make in your life to know that God came looking for you—even when you were still a lost sinner?
- 12. Adam and Eve walked away from God because they listened to lies (or at least half-truths). What lies do you see people believing today which separate them from each other and from God?
- 13. Adam and Eve made the choice to sin, yet God, the sinned-again one in this case, still came looking for them. What is our responsibility for taking the initiative in going out after others, even those who have intentionally wronged us or sinned against God?
- 14. Imagine that you are talking with a friend who insists, "God could never forgive me after all that I've done." How would you use this passage to introduce that person to God's grace?
- 15. Reflect on a time either past or present when something in your life made you want to hide from God. Hear God's voice saying, "Where are you?" Discuss your experience.
- 16. Luke's Gospel focuses on God's pursuit of things lost. In Luke chapter 1 Jesus tells us of the pursuit of the lost coin, the lost sheep and the lost son, all as analogies of the loving God looking for us.