



Cain and Abel
Genesis 4: 1-16

LESSON SUPPLY LIST

- Bible w/ Marked Scripture
- Pencils
- Crayons
- Copy of Cain Illustration
- Copy of Abel Illustration
- Copies of Coloring Sheet
- Copies of lesson overview for children to take home

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¹AND ADAM knew Eve as his wife, and she became pregnant and bore Cain; and she said, I have gotten and gained a man with the help of the Lord. ²And [next] she gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. ³And in the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground. ⁴And Abel brought of the firstborn of his flock and of the fat portions. And the Lord had respect and regard for Abel and for his offering, ^(A) ⁵But for ^(a)Cain and his offering He had no respect or regard. So Cain was exceedingly angry and indignant, and he looked sad and depressed. ⁶And the Lord said to Cain, Why are you angry? And why do you look sad and depressed and dejected? ⁷If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin crouches at your door; its desire is for you, but you must master it. ⁸And Cain said to his brother, ^(b)Let us go out to the field. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him. ^(B) ⁹And the Lord said to Cain, Where is Abel your brother? And he said, I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper? ¹⁰And [the Lord] said, What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to Me from the ground. ¹¹And now you are cursed by reason of the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's [shed] blood from your hand. ¹²When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength; you shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth [in perpetual exile, a degraded outcast]. ¹³Then Cain said to the Lord, My punishment is ^(c)greater than I can bear. ¹⁴Behold, You have driven me out this day from the face of the land, and from Your face I will be hidden; and I will be a fugitive and a vagabond and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me. ¹⁵And the Lord said to him, ^(d)Therefore, if anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the Lord set a ^(e)mark or sign upon Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him. ¹⁶So Cain went away from the presence of the Lord and dwelt in the land of Nod [wandering], east of Eden.

Objective of Lesson:

A blood sacrifice, offered by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, is required of God in order for sin to be forgiven and God's people to be accepted of Him.

Lesson Instructions:

1. Read the story of Cain and Abel from the scripture. The above listed verses are from the Amplified Bible.
2. It is very sad when we hear or read of a quarrel (fighting) between brothers and sisters. This story is about a family quarrel between Cain and his younger brother Abel; however in the first family quarrel mentioned in the Bible, it was Cain, the elder brother, who was at fault. His father, Adam, had taught the boys how God was to be worshipped. Although they had no Bible as we do, yet God had shown Adam that if He was to be worshipped properly, then a blood-sacrifice must be made because man had sinned. This was to point to the coming in due

- time of the Lord Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God, whose blood was to be shed for the sins of His people.
3. Cain thought he knew better. Instead of bringing a lamb or a kid to be slain and offered up, he brought vegetables and fruits, which God had not commanded. God took no notice of Cain's offering, yet Abel's offering of a lamb was received. God probably sent fire from heaven to consume the offering to show He was satisfied.
 4. Instead of repenting of his folly, Cain argued with God, and eventually out of jealousy and hatred, he slew Abel! For this, God punished Cain. Cain was never sorry for his sin, only for the punishment of it - so it was not real repentance.
 5. Why was God so angry with Cain's offering?
 6. Firstly, God was angry because Cain had disobeyed His command that blood must be shed. Disobedience to God is something God must deal with.
 7. Here is a story to show you what I mean: Many years ago a young boy was late for school. The rule was that no one was to come in by the main door, which was reserved for the staff and teachers, but everybody else always used the side doors. Thinking that no one was watching, this young boy slipped in the main door, which was quicker - only to be caught by the headmaster! The headmaster got out his cane (which was often used for punishment in those days). Before he caned him he said, "Do you know why I am going to punish you?" "Because I came in by the wrong door," said the boy. "No," said his headmaster, "It is because you have ignored the rules." The lad, who years later became a much-loved minister, said on that occasion he had his first lesson about the authority of God in His law.
 8. Secondly, Cain's offering was rejected because it did not point to the Lord Jesus Christ, whose blood alone can cleanse guilty sinners. Anything that dishonors the Lord Jesus Christ is offensive to God. Abel, truly knowing his need as a sinner, had faith that looked towards the Lord Jesus Christ for forgiveness. Only through the shedding of blood, Christ's blood, can we be accepted of God. The shedding of the blood of a lamb is a picture of the shedding of the blood of Christ, our substitute.
 9. Thirdly, God looks on the heart. God knew that Cain was not offering his sacrifice as a man who felt himself to be in need of forgiveness. Cain thought that he was doing God a favor, which is how many people in religion think. May God by His grace, make us worshippers like Abel and not leave us to be like Cain. (We do not offer animals anymore because Christ has fulfilled that type.)

This lesson plan was taken from an article in "The Friendly Companion" – A Publication published by The Gospel Standard - <http://www.gospelstandard.org.uk/>

Activity:

- Use the color illustration pages to show the difference between Abel's offering and Cain's offering
- Coloring page

Cain and Abel Take Home Overview Sheet

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¹AND ADAM knew Eve as his wife, and she became pregnant and bore Cain; and she said, I have gotten and gained a man with the help of the Lord. ²And [next] she gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. ³And in the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground. ⁴And Abel brought of the firstborn of his flock and of the fat portions. And the Lord had respect and regard for Abel and for his offering.^(A) ⁵But for^(A) Cain and his offering He had no respect or regard. So Cain was exceedingly angry and indignant, and he looked sad and depressed. ⁶And the Lord said to Cain, Why are you angry? And why do you look sad and depressed and dejected? ⁷If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin crouches at your door; its desire is for you, but you must master it. ⁸And Cain said to his brother,^(B) Let us go out to the field. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.^(B) ⁹And the Lord said to Cain, Where is Abel your brother? And he said, I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper? ¹⁰And [the Lord] said, What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to Me from the ground. ¹¹And now you are cursed by reason of the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's [shed] blood from your hand. ¹²When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength; you shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth [in perpetual exile, a degraded outcast]. ¹³Then Cain said to the Lord, My punishment is^(C) greater than I can bear. ¹⁴Behold, You have driven me out this day from the face of the land, and from Your face I will be hidden; and I will be a fugitive and a vagabond and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me. ¹⁵And the Lord said to him,^(D) Therefore, if anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the Lord set a^(E) mark or sign upon Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him. ¹⁶So Cain went away from the presence of the Lord and dwelt in the land of Nod [wandering], east of Eden.

Objective of Lesson:

A blood sacrifice is required of God in order for sin to be forgiven, and for God's people to be accepted of Him.

Overview of Lesson:

Why was Cain's sacrifice not accepted and Abel's was?

Firstly, because Cain had disobeyed God's command that blood must be shed. Disobedience to God is something God must deal with.

Secondly, Cain's offering was rejected because it did not point to the Lord Jesus Christ, whose blood alone can cleanse guilty sinners. Anything that dishonors the Lord Jesus Christ is offensive to God.

Thirdly, God looks on the heart. God knew that Cain was not offering his sacrifice as a man who felt himself to be in need of forgiveness.

Cain's Offering to the Lord



Abel's Offering to the Lord



Abel's Offering to the Lord

