

Reading: Genesis Chapter 4

Last lesson we learnt about Adam and Eve. What happened to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden? And what happened to the beautiful earth on which they lived?

Today we are going to learn a story about two of the children of Adam and Eve, their names were Cain and Abel.

Life was hard for Adam and Eve outside the Garden of Eden, as God had said it would be. Eve gave birth to a son, whom she called Cain. Soon afterwards, she had another baby whom she named Abel. As they grew up they would have to help their father Adam to work the ground and grow food, and to look after the animals.

When they grew up Cain liked growing things best, so he became a "tiller of the ground", he worked in the fields, raising crops. Abel liked living things best, so he kept the sheep and cattle.

The meaning of the word "worship". Every Sunday our parents and Sunday School teachers go to the meeting. They pray to God, and sing hymns and read the Bible, and they thank God too for all the good things he gives them, that is "worship". And so Adam and Eve (and Cain and Abel) had a place where they could go to say "Thank you" to God for food and sunshine, and all the good things they enjoyed. When they went to worship, God had asked them to do a certain thing. God told Adam and Eve they must take a present of a lamb or a baby goat to the place where they worshipped, and there they must kill the animal and burn it on a fire.

Now Abel was willing and anxious to please God and so he selected the very best of the animals, and this pleased God. Cain too proud to ask his brother for an animal, quite sure his own lovely colourful fruit of the ground was equally pleasing. This did not please God, because he didn't do what God had asked of him.

Cain was angry with his brother, but God was patient with him and pointed out that he still had time to bring the right thing, and God would be equally pleased with him.

So because Cain was jealous of his brother, who had pleased God, killed him and because he disobeyed God, he was sent from the family to live in the land of Nod.

So to please God we must always obey Him and do what he asks of us. And if we disobey God or get jealous of one another, this makes God very angry with us.

So we should always love one another.

Point to remember: Jealousy and bad temper are wrong, and we should love one another.