

FAMILY FAITH

Chapter 6: The Fall and the Promise of the Savior

God promised to send a Savior.

Chapter Summary

The Fall of Adam and Eve is pivotal in God's plan of love. Adam and Eve, who lived in original holiness and original justice in the Garden of Eden, were tempted by the serpent, who deceived them. Using their free will, they made a choice to disobey and turn against God. The consequences of this Original Sin were that they were separated from God and were no longer in friendship with Him. Therefore, they lived in disharmony with each other and with all of creation. All of mankind will inherit the consequences and become subject to sin, sickness, suffering, and death. Only through Jesus Christ will man be able to restore and deepen his friendship with God and receive the graces needed to overcome sin and attain eternal life in Heaven.

More for Parents

Sometimes children get overwhelmed with their mistakes to the point where heaping on punishments is no longer effective. As parents, you just have to hug them, forgive them, assure them of your love, and help them through with tenderness rather than exercising strict justice. Adam and Eve put themselves in a situation where they were overwhelmed with the consequences of their sin. They rejected God and all His gifts. God would have had every right to abandon them, but He did not. He promised them a remedy to their sin and hope for their recovery.

Virtue in the Family

God gives us grace and virtues so we can be holy. We need to work at growing in virtue. To be successful, we must make every choice intentionally and see it as an opportunity to grow in virtue.

Living Intentionally

- Prayer activity
 - Take a few minutes to reflect on the sins you have committed today.
 - How did you fail to live with grace and virtue?
 - How did you sin in your relationships with God and other people?
 - What choices should you have made differently?
 - At the end of the quiet time, have everyone pray together, "Lord, have mercy. Increase in us the virtues of faith, hope, and charity."
- Adam and Eve did not take responsibility for their actions. Have each family member practice taking responsibility for his actions rather than assigning blame. Instead of saying, "I took her toy because she took mine," encourage your children to say, "I'm sorry I took her toy. I was wrong. Please forgive me."
- Encourage your children to forgive one another. Instead of saying "It's okay" when someone apologizes, practice saying "I forgive you" so the person's forgiveness is not in doubt and everyone can move on from the offense.

Vocabulary Words for Your Children to Review

- **Original Sin**
- **Savior**
- **sin**

Find digital flash cards to help your children review on the parent portal.



For more family faith formation resources, go to the parent portal.