

VALUable Bible Plays Book 1

ADAM & EVE

Genesis 1:1 – 3:24

CAST: (Grouped by measure of involvement in play, most to least)

SPEAKING PARTS

Narrator: Adult - The narrator will read connecting explanations between dialogue.

God's Voice: Older student or adult. This person needs to be able to read with a strong voice, offstage (if an extra microphone is available, that would help a lot). However, if necessary, this role may be played on stage off to the side of the stage area.

Adam (Man): Older student - this part is throughout the play.

Eve (Woman): Older student - this part is throughout the play.

Snake: Student who is able to move freely and expressively, perhaps with some dance background. There is more physical action than speaking in this part. Additional snakes, of any age, may be added to the scene without speaking parts. They may simply hiss. The main snake would be dressed all in black.

NONSPEAKING PARTS

Actors can double up on these parts.

Angel(s): Any age - appears only at end. There may be any number of angels in addition to the main angel who is guarding the Tree of Life with a flaming sword.

Trees and bushes: Any age actors - would have to stand or sit still for the duration of the play on the stage. However, using people as trees or bushes, or behind pictures or cut-outs of such, would enable slight natural movement when God's voice is speaking. Another option: if using a free standing fake tree or bush with artificial foliage, use a slow speed, quiet fan blowing on the foliage, on the trees or bushes, when God's voice is speaking.

*****Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil:** This should have a large label and look different than the Tree of Life. Remember, this is the tree **from which** Eve will pull fruit.

*****Tree of Life:** This should have a large label.

Dry land: Any age- actors could wear large pictures or painted cut-outs, depicting these forms of creation.

Ocean: Any age - actors could wear large pictures or painted cut-outs, depicting this part of creation.

Sky: Any age - actors could wear large pictures or painted cut-outs, depicting this part of creation.

Grass and Grain: Any age - actors could wear large pictures or painted cut-outs, depicting these parts of creation.

Sun: Any age - the actor could wear a large picture or painted cut-out, depicting this part of creation.

Moon: Any age - the actor could wear a large picture or painted cut-out, depicting this part of creation.

Stars: Any age - actors would wear large pictures or painted cut-outs, depicting this part of creation.

Fish: Sea creatures - any age - actors could wear large pictures or painted cut-outs, depicting this part of creation.

Birds: Any age - actors could wear large pictures or painted cut-outs, depicting this part of creation.

Various animals and reptiles: Any age - actors could wear large pictures or painted cut-outs, depicting these parts of creation.

STAGE

All of the scenes will be enacted on the same set. Simple props will be noted before narration. Scenes will flow together by association of dialogue and cast movements.

SETTING

Background pictures could include trees which are heavy with healthy green leaves, flowers, and fruit. Scenes of flourishing colorful flowers, with friendly animals mixed in, would blend with animated trees and bushes.

ADDITIONAL PROPS

- Brown blanket
- Fan
- Light weight dirt-like material (such as spray painted cotton balls)
- Coats made of animal skins (coat liners work)
- Sword (with taped on flames, or blinking mini lights with electrical connection)
- A large piece of metal to create rumbling sound.

ADAM & EVE - The Play Begins

NOTE: *The entire stage and audience are in COMPLETE DARKNESS as the scene opens. The narrator is heard, in darkness.*

NARRATOR: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was empty, and there was no life on it at all. It was covered by a roaring ocean of water. The ocean was covered by total darkness. But there was something else....the most important of all. The Spirit of God was moving over the water like a mighty wind. Then, God spoke.

GOD'S VOICE: *(from offstage in a booming voice)* Let there be light!

NARRATOR: And there was light. *(Light comes on over stage)*

God was just getting started! He made night to balance day. *(Light goes off, then on to stay on)* He made the dry land and the oceans. *(If small children walk out with symbolic pictures, the narrator would pause while each child walks across the stage and finds a place in the background to stay for the remainder of the play. These actors should be free to enact their role...such as fish swimming, birds flying, or sun sparkling.)*

He made things grow on the land like grass, fruit trees, and grains. God made fish and sea creatures. He made all kinds of animals and reptiles. God made birds that flew over the earth. He made the sun. He made the moon. God made the stars. God planted the most beautiful garden there ever could be in Eden. Then, in God's own image God made humans out of the earth's dust and breathed life into them. *(From offstage, or from behind a bush, a fan, which is already turned on, is plugged in so that dry dirt in front of it blows across the stage. Note that the dry dirt-like material has been blown off a brown blanket, which is on the ground. Person underneath the blanket, who is ADAM, dressed in a solid beige or brown outfit, tosses off blanket. He stands, stretches, and looks around in amazement and confusion. Then he heads in the direction of the labeled Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil and the labeled Tree of Life.)*

GOD'S VOICE: I have given you life Adam. Now I place you here to take care of this, my Garden of Eden. You may eat from any of the trees, except THAT one. *(Beam of light, perhaps a flashlight, shines on the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Adam jumps and slowly walks over to the Tree of Knowledge. He reaches out as if to touch it...)*

Do NOT eat from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. That would give you the eyes to see and to understand more than I want you to.

(Adam walks over to the Tree of Knowledge and is about to touch it when God's voice booms.)

If you do eat from this tree, you will DIE!!!

(A rumbling sound from shaken flat metal is heard, and Adam falls back as he hears the word, "die". Visibly trembling with fear he crawls back to the brown blanket and covers himself.)

I can see that man should not be alone in my garden. He needs something to do. I will create all kinds of animals and birds, and he can name them.

(Various animals wander across the stage towards Adam who climbs out from under the blanket when he hears their approaching noise. Adam examines each animal and speaks with excitement and determination as he names each kind.

Available animal costumes will dictate the names)

Adam could use help now. I will make him a helpmate! I will create woman!

(Electric fan is again turned on to blow dry dirt-like material off a blanket, which has been placed on the opposite stage area from where Adam is naming the animals. The blanket lifts up, like before. This time, a woman, Eve, also dressed in solid beige or brown, stands up and looks slowly around. After she does, Adam suddenly turns and sees her. The animals wander away from Adam. Adam and Eve stare at each other, tilt heads, walk over to meet. They hold hands and slowly walk off towards the Tree of Life. Adam and Eve pick fruit off the Tree of Life, sit down, and eat it. They act as if it is delicious. Adam stretches out his arms, gives a big yawn, leans against the tree, and dozes off- perhaps snoring. Eve stands and walks around, looking at all there is to see. From behind a tree, the snake slowly tiptoes on stage.)

SNAKE: Hiss....hiss...hisssss. Look over here! Hiss.... Look at me, Eve!

EVE: *(startled)* Oh! Hi there! What's new?

SNAKE: *(standing very close to woman, hunching shoulders up and down)*
Woman, did God tell you not to eat fruit from that tree?
(He shoots his arm out to point at the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.)

EVE: We can eat all the fruit we want from any of the trees, except that one that you are pointing at. That is the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Why, if we even touch it we will die!

SNAKE: *(Laughing loudly and holding sides)* Why would God ever say that?
(Snake falls down and continues to laugh)

EVE: *(with hands on hips)* God says that if we eat from it we will then see things He does not want us to see or to know about.

SNAKE: *(now standing)* So how can seeing or knowing something be bad? It will just make you smart. You would be wise, like God! Don't you want that?

EVE: *(looks confused)* Well, yes... but God said...

SNAKE: *(interrupting Eve's thoughts)* Oh, but it would be SO good! If you thought that last piece of fruit was good, just think how juicy and sweet one would be from THAT tree!
(Snake holds its face and licks lips, as if enjoying a delicious food.)

EVE: Well, but God said...

SNAKE: *(reaches up as if he is about to yank a large and colorful piece of fruit off the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, staring at it as he speaks)*
One taste couldn't hurt, and it would be so sweet!

(Eve suddenly reaches up and pulls the fruit off the tree before the snake can. The snake smiles and puts his hands down and begins to wring them.)

SNAKE: Just one little taste...

(Eve throws her head back, holds the fruit up for a closer look, then takes a bite. She may act as if juice is running down her chin. The snake leaps backward and begins hopping around the stage waving and smiling at his success.)

EVE: *(swallowing hard)* This really is delicious! I must share it with Adam. One little bite couldn't be so bad! *(The snake's leaping is almost uncontrolled with glee.)*

(Eve walks over to where Adam is sleeping against the tree. She puts the apple in front of his face. He immediately starts to sniff the air, then he awakens and finds himself looking at the fruit.)

ADAM: What a gorgeous piece of fruit! And it has such a sweet scent! Eve, where did you get it? *(But before Eve says anything, Adam takes a big bite!)*
This is truly the best fruit I've ever eaten!

NARRATOR: Adam and Eve have now both eaten from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. They have disobeyed God! With this sudden realization they stare at each other in shocked silence. Each realizes they are not covered. They are naked, and they suddenly have the knowledge that this is bad. They now know the difference between good and evil, right and wrong. Look at what they're now doing!

(Adam and Eve are picking up huge fig leaves and attaching them to make individual aprons. They act very scared, looking around as if they are afraid they are going to be caught. Once covered they both run and hide behind trees.)

GOD'S VOICE: Adam! Adam! Where are you, Adam?

ADAM: Oh, God! I am here behind this tree in your garden. I hid when I saw that I did not have anything covering me!

GOD'S VOICE: What? What are you saying, Adam? How do you know that you are naked? You know this because you have eaten from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil! Isn't this the one thing I told you NOT to touch?

ADAM: *(As Adam puts his head out from behind the tree he points with his hand towards Eve's location.)* It was her fault! You gave me that woman! She gave me the fruit from the forbidden tree, and yes, I ate it!

GOD'S VOICE: Woman! Why did you do this awful thing? Why?

EVE: *(She puts her head out to make sure God hears her answer.)*
Oh, God! It was the snake's fault! *(Her hand points at the standing snake.)*
The snake made me do it! He made it sound SO good... so wonderful... and I believed him! I fell for his lie. I fell into his trap!

GOD'S VOICE: *(loudly)* Listen to me, all three of you!
Snake! Look up! Listen! Because of your tricks and lies, from now on you will crawl on your belly and eat dust! *(Snake crashes to the ground, twisting in pain)*

Woman! Because of your action and disobedience, your husband will lead you. And when you have children, you will feel much pain. **Adam!** As for you, because you listened to your wife, and went against my rules, you will sweat and work very hard for the food you will eat from now on. Life will not be easy. And, now you **MUST** die someday. You will return to the dust from which you were made. I warned you, but you didn't listen. I know how you feel with this new knowledge that you need clothes. You will find some coats of animal skins that I have made for you to wear.

(Adam and Eve both spot their coats at the same time. They quickly put them on and pull them closed.)

Because of your choice and actions, life will never be the same as it was. You have ruined the relationship we had. You must not be allowed near the Tree of Life. If you eat from it now, you will live forever. That I cannot allow! You will work for everything you have.

(They watch as an angel appears and walks over to the Tree of Life. Taking a motionless stance, the angel holds a flaming sword up as if to be ready to strike anyone who might come too close. Additional angels may also appear.)

You both must leave my Garden of Eden forever! You must leave NOW! *(Rumble of metal is heard as Adam and Eve, holding hands, run off the stage. Snake stays, wiggling, slower and slower while the narrator speaks...finally ending with twitches signifying evil is still alive and with us. Slowly the lights dim to darkness while the Narrator continues speaking and the stage clears.)*

NARRATOR: God put an angel by the Tree of Life to guard it. He could not take any chances. Adam and Eve left the garden, and as God said, life was very hard. Adam and Eve had many children, and the first were named Cain and Abel. Adam and Eve's children were the very first farmers, shepherds, the first to live in tents, and the first to play harps and flutes. They made tools from bronze and iron. They began to worship God. Adam died at the age of 930, but one of his descendents, named Methuselah, died at the age of 969! Going even further ahead, one of Methuselah's grandsons was named Noah! As time passed men and women got tired of working so hard. They began to grumble, and they became evil. But God was still with them, listening. God loved them as he moved some of them into the area, which would later be seen as the Promised Land by Moses. But for now, it is enough to remember this. In spite of how Adam and Eve had disobeyed, God stayed with them. A great plan had been set in motion, and even though they chose not to follow God's rules, He did not desert them. God loved them, still.

THE END