

# THE FIRST BROTHERS

## Genesis 4:1-16

When Adam and Eve were driven from the beautiful garden they had to make a new home for themselves. They had to work, hard each day to get their food, for now there were thorns and thistles, birds, bugs, plant diseases. All these things were a result of sin, and they all competed with, and destroyed the good food giving plants. Adam and Eve most always fight these things in order to grow the food that they needed to live. Though these things made life difficult, God blessed Adam and Eve with sunshine and rain, so that the crops could grow. The LORD also blessed them with children. Their first baby was a boy that they named Cain. Eve said, "I have gotten a man from the LORD." After this Eve had another litter boy. They called him Abel.

As he grew up Cain liked working with crops, while Abel loved to work with animals. Time passed and both brothers brought a sacrifice to the LORD. Now as they grew up, I'm sure the boys were told by their parents all about the beautiful garden of Eden where they had first lived. They must have told the boys how they had disobeyed God's command not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and the result disobedience-being driven from the garden. Adam must have told his sons that the result of this sin was a curse on all the earth and death. Along with this the boys would have been told of the necessity of blood sacrifice in order to cover that sin and seek God's forgiveness.

The LORD was pleased with Abel's sacrifice and accepted it. But with Cain's sacrifice the LORD was not pleased. This made Cain very angry, and his whole attitude and the look on his face showed it. The LORD spoke to Cain and said, "Why are you so angry? If you do what is right, you know that I will accept you, if you don't sin I will control you."

One day both Cain and Abel were out in the field. Cain had never repented from his sin against God. Instead he had become more and more angry that God wouldn't let him have his way. Cain had begun to hate his brother Abel, because Abel did what God wanted. This evil in Cain's heart finally came out, he murdered his brother Abel, because Abel did what God wanted. This evil in Cain's heart finally came out, he murdered his brother Abel. Then he hid his body. But God knows and sees all things!

God spoke to Cain again. He said, "Where is your brother Abel?" Instead of being sorry for what he had done, Cain continued to sin more and more. He answered God in a very disrespectful and sarcastic way, saying, "Am I responsible to take care of my brother?" Then God said to him, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. Now you are cursed, the ground will no longer produce crops for you. You will become a fugitive and wanderer over the earth."

Still Cain was not sorry for his awful sin. He just whined and complained, "The punishment you are giving me is too much." So God in his mercy put a mark of protection on Cain so that no one would be able to harm Cain. As far as we can know, Cain continued on in his rebellion. How sad for Adam to see the results of their sin worked out in the life of their family.

When we see what happened with Cain, it helps us to understand how important it is to confess our sin and turn from it the moment that God convicts us. If we refuse, then we will continue to rebel more and more and get farther and farther from God.

We also see that Abel obeyed God because of faith. That is Abel believed what God said about sacrifice, and his belief led to obedience. True faith always leads to obeying God. It is our faith in God and what he says, that he counts on us for righteousness.

# Bible Text

## Genesis 4:1-16

- 1 And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord.
- 2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.
- 3 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord.
- 4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering:
- 5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.
- 6 And the Lord said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?
- 7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.
- 8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.
- 9 And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?
- 10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.
- 11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand;
- 12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.
- 13 And Cain said unto the Lord, My punishment is greater than I can bear.
- 14 Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me.
- 15 And the Lord said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the Lord set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.
- 16 And Cain went out from the presence of the Lord, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

# Learn:

By faith

Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain,  
by which he obtained witness that he was righteous,  
God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.  
Hebrews 11:4

## Lesson #5 Craft: The First Brothers

### Needed Supplies:

1 Sheet Turquoise of Construction Paper

1/3 Sheet Green Construction Paper

### Instructions:

1. Glue the green construction paper for grass at the bottom of the Turquoise construction paper.  
Edge the grass with a thin back line.
2. Color picture sheet and cut each piece out.
3. Paste pieces on the construction paper.

