

The First Question
Genesis 3: 1-5

Objective: The students will meet the snake, God's enemy.

Introduction:

We've been studying the beginnings of things in Bible time. We learned about the first man, and the garden God planted for him. We learned about the first command. Does anyone remember the first command? (review) We also learned about the first woman. How did God make the first woman? (review)

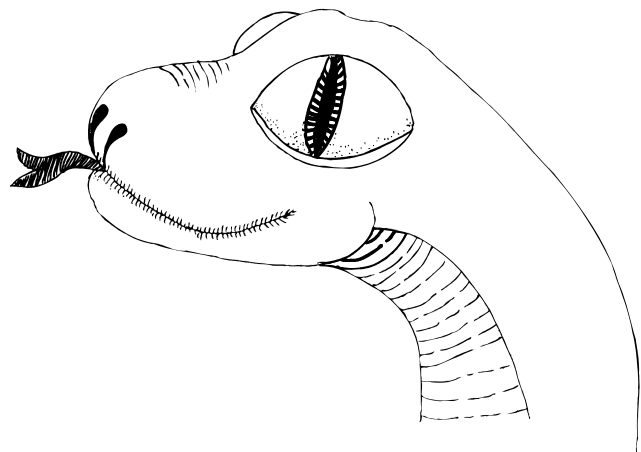
Today we will meet the snake. The snake will ask the woman a question. It is the first question in the Bible. Notice the question. Why does the snake ask a question? Is the snake for God or against God?

Questions:

- Why does the snake ask a question? (he is against God, he wants the woman to question God – His love, His goodness)
- Is the snake for God or against God? (against God. First he questions God, then he lies about what God said.)

Read Genesis 3: 1-5.

Answer the questions.



Go on. (possible threads to follow)

1. different reasons to ask questions. Did the snake want information? How do you know? How would you ask the woman for information? ('What did God say?' 'Did God say....?' It's the addition of the word 'really' that adds a note of doubt.) So the snake did not want information. What did he want? (to put a question in the woman's mind about God, to make the woman doubt God)
2. The snake is God's most powerful enemy. He is called 'the deceiver' and 'the father of lies.'" We see more clearly who he is in Romans 16:20 and Revelation 12:9. (Note: You may need to use a standard English translation.)
3. The snake lied about what God said. Now the woman had a new choice. This choice was to believe God or believe the snake. She could continue to believe God. Or she could stop believing God and believe the snake. "Faith" is what we call believing God today. And just like for the woman, if we have faith, if we believe God, we will obey Him. We disobey God because we do not believe Him.