

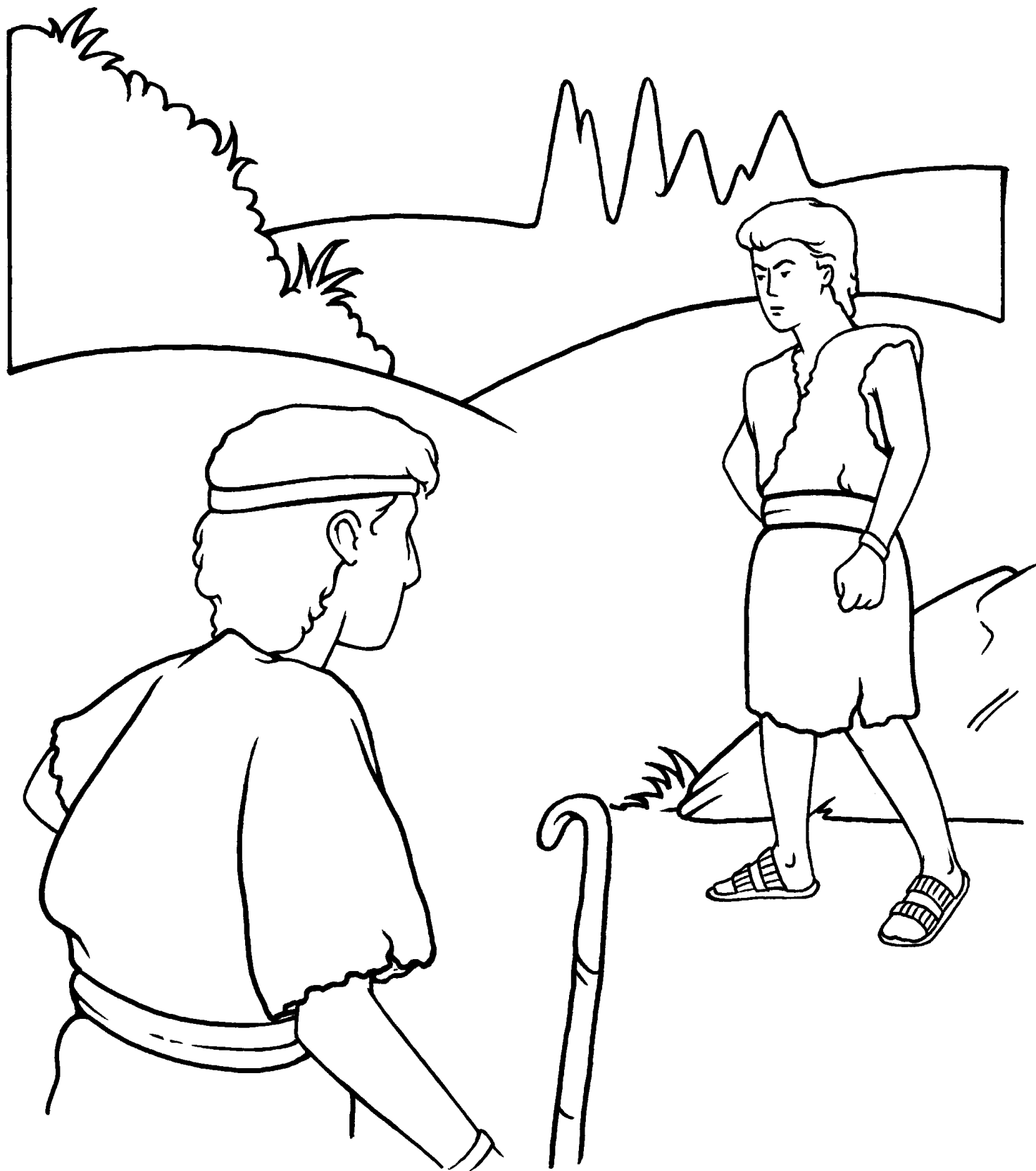
## Story Time - Read the story to the children

### Lesson 5: CAIN AND ABEL

#### GENESIS 4:1-17

Adam and Eve had a son. Then Eve said, "I'll name him Cain because I got him with the help of the LORD." Later she had another son and named him Abel. Abel became a sheep farmer, but Cain farmed the land. One day, Cain gave part of his harvest to the LORD, and Abel also gave an offering to the LORD. He killed the first-born lamb from one of his sheep and gave the LORD the best parts of it. The LORD respected and was pleased with Abel and his offering, but not with Cain and his offering. (The Bible doesn't tell us why the LORD didn't like Cain's offering, but perhaps it was because Cain gave the Lord what his own works did - growing things... but Abel gave the Lord a life - the first of his flock, and he didn't 'work' for this offering - we can never please God with our works - God desires obedience!). This made Cain so angry that he could not hide his feelings. The LORD said to Cain: What's wrong with you? Why do you have such an angry look on your face? If you had done the right thing, you would be smiling. But you did the wrong thing, and now sin is waiting to attack you like a lion. Sin wants to destroy you, but don't let it! Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go for a walk." And when they were out in a field, Cain killed him. Afterwards the LORD asked Cain, "Where is Abel?" "How should I know?" he answered. "Am I supposed to look after my brother?" Then the LORD said: Why have you done this terrible thing? You killed your own brother, and his blood flowed onto the ground. Now his blood is calling out for me to punish you. And so, I'll put you under a curse. Because you killed Abel and made his blood run out on the ground, you will never be able to farm the land again. If you try to farm the land, it won't produce anything for you. From now on, you'll be without a home, and you'll spend the rest of your life wandering from place to place. "This punishment is too hard!" Cain said. "You're making me leave my home and live far from you. I will have to wander about without a home, and just anyone could come along and kill me." "No!" the LORD answered. "Anyone who kills you will be punished seven times worse than I am punishing you." So the LORD put a mark on Cain to warn everyone not to kill him. But Cain had to go far from the LORD and live in Nod, which means "exile" or "wandering", which is east of Eden. Later, Cain and his wife had a son named Enoch. At the time Cain was building a town, and so he named it Enoch after his son.

## 5. CAIN AND ABEL (GENESIS 4:1-17)



“Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose against Abel his brother and killed him.”

**GENESIS 4:8**

# 5. CAIN AND ABEL

GENESIS 4:1-17

## MEMORY VERSE:

*"If you do well, will you not be accepted? And If you do not do well, sin lies at the door." GENESIS 4:7*

## **Review Questions**

### True or False

1. Cain brought an offering of wine to the Lord.
2. Abel brought an offering by killing the first born sheep and offering the best parts of it to the Lord.
3. The Lord loved Cain's offering.
4. The Lord respected and liked Abel's offering.
5. One day Cain went to his brother Abel and said, 'Let's go for a swim'.
6. While they were out walking, Cain killed Abel.

### Questions

1. Whose offering did the Lord like? Whose offering did the Lord not like?
2. What did Cain bring to the Lord? What did Abel bring to the Lord?
3. When Cain was very angry about the Lord not liking his offering, what did the Lord tell Cain?
4. When Cain told Abel to come with him and take a walk, what happened?
5. What punishment did God give to Cain for killing his brother Abel?
6. What was Cain's reply to the Lord when he found out about his punishment?
7. What did God say would happen to anyone who killed Cain?
8. Where did Cain move to?
9. What did Cain name his son?
10. What did Cain name the town he was building?

## Lesson 5 Activity and Discussion

### Act It Out!

Let the children act out the lesson today. Have Cain bring his sacrifice before the Lord, then have Abel bring his sacrifice. Then let the Lord be pleased with Abel's offering and displeased with Cain's offering.

Then have Cain take Abel for a walk, then have him "kill" Abel (pretend to kill – DO NOT focus on the violent act, help the children move QUICKLY past this part of their skit), then have the Lord curse Cain, and let Cain respond that the punishment is too hard, and that when he wanders the earth, just about anyone can come up & kill him, then let the Lord explain "No. If anyone kills you, I will punish them seven times worse than you were." And let the Lord put a mark upon Cain (Have the student touch the forehead of 'Cain').

### I Remember When...

Tell the children in your class about a time you tried to hide something from someone. When and how did they find out? Were you defensive or repentant? Allow some of your class to share about when they have had similar situation. How did God fix the situation? (Be sure that the experiences you share are appropriate for the age you are teaching; it's most effective if you share about something that happened when you were their age.)

God cursed Cain, banning him from the ground he, as a farmer, had cultivated. The ground would no longer yield its fruit for Cain, and he was forever driven from before it to wander like a Bedouin in the desert wastelands. Cain acknowledged that his punishment was too heavy for him to bear. We see the mercy of God in sparing his life, but Cain was afraid that as a wandering nomad, he would lose his life at a stranger's hand. Away from home, and therefore, presumably away from God, he felt unprotected in the desert. Once again God showed his love for a man in sin by placing a sign on Cain, indicating that he belonged to God and that he was under His protection. God became the "kinsman redeemer" for the murderer as well as for the murdered. It is interesting that Cain was more concerned with his punishment than with his sin.

### PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to do things God's way. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them an opportunity.