

The Three Gardens of Easter FHE

Preparation: Cut out the pictures and scriptures found at the end of the lesson. Gather ribbon or twine and clothespins to create a banner with the pictures and scriptures as you talk about them in the lesson. There are two sizes to create a large or small banner or mix them together (some small, some large) to create a medium sized banner.



Lesson: Hold up a picture of the Adam & Eve in the Garden of Eden. Ask: *Who is this? What can you tell me about them? Where are they living in this picture?* (Hang the picture on the twine.)

Discussion 1: *Either read this or teach it in your own words depending on the age level of your children.*

Adam & Eve lived in the Garden of Eden. While there they could talk to God. The first commandment God gave them was to have children. God also told them they could eat the fruit of every tree in the garden except one, the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

One day Satan tempted Eve and Adam, and they disobeyed the Lord and ate the fruit that had been forbidden. Because they made this choice they were cast out of the Garden of Eden. We call this The Fall.

“Adam fell that men might be; and men are, that they might have joy” (2 Nephi 2:25). *Hang this scripture on the banner.*

Adam and Eve could now experience sickness, pain, physical death (their bodies would die), and spiritual death (they are separated from God). Someone would need to come and provide a way back to God for Adam and Eve and their descendants.

That person is Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ would come to earth and make it possible for all men to live again after death and to return to the presence of our Heavenly Father.

Show the picture of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. Ask: *Who is this? What is happening in the picture? Why is He doing that?* Hang this picture on the banner.

Discussion 2: Either read this or teach it in your own words depending on the age level of your children.

The Savior atoned for our sins by suffering in Gethsemane and by giving His life on the cross. It is impossible for us to fully understand how He suffered for all of our sins. In the Garden of Gethsemane, the weight of our sins caused Him to feel such agony that He bled from every pore (see [D&C 19:18–19](#)). Later, as He hung upon the cross, Jesus suffered painful death by one of the most cruel methods known to man.

How Jesus loves us, to suffer such spiritual and physical agony for our sake! How great the love of Heavenly Father that He would send His Only Begotten Son to suffer and die for the rest of His children. “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” ([John 3:16](#)). *Hang this scripture on the banner.*

After Jesus died on the cross the people that loved him took his body off the cross and wrapped it in a beautiful white cloth. They carried his body inside a tomb. A tomb is like a cave where people are buried. Jesus Christ's friends then closed the entrance to the tomb by rolling a large stone in front of the doorway.

Some soldiers came and guarded the tomb where his body lay.

Show the picture of the Garden of the Empty Tomb. Ask: *What is this? What happened here?* Hang the picture on the banner.

Discussion 3: Either read this or teach it in your own words depending on the age level of your children.

On the third day after he died, before the sun came up, angels came and rolled back the stone from the door. His body was not there. The soldiers were so afraid that for a while they could not move. As soon as they could, they ran away.

That same morning some women came to the tomb. They loved Jesus Christ and had come to put sweet spices on his body as people did in those days. They saw the stone rolled away from the door. They went into the tomb and the angels dressed in white, and they were afraid. The angels said, “Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen.” ([Luke 24:5-6](#)) *Hang this scripture on the banner.*

Jesus Christ was resurrected! Because he was resurrected all of us will be too. We will be able to be with our families again.

Read the following quote by Elder Bruce R. McConkie:

“As we read, ponder, and pray, there will come into our minds a view of the three gardens of God—the Garden of Eden, the Garden of Gethsemane, and the Garden of the Empty Tomb where Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene.

“In Eden we will see all things created in a paradisiacal state—without death, without procreation, without probationary experiences.

“We will come to know that such a creation, now unknown to man, was the only way to provide for the Fall.

“We will then see Adam and Eve, the first man and the first woman, step down from their state of immortal and paradisiacal glory to become the first mortal flesh on earth.

“Mortality, including as it does procreation and death, will enter the world. And because of transgression a probationary estate of trial and testing will begin.

“Then in Gethsemane we will see the Son of God ransom man from the temporal and spiritual death that came to us because of the Fall.

“And finally, before an empty tomb, we will come to know that Christ our Lord has burst the bands of death and stands forever triumphant over the grave.

“Thus, Creation is father to the Fall; and by the Fall came mortality and death; and by Christ came immortality and eternal life.

“If there had been no fall of Adam, by which cometh death, there could have been no atonement of Christ, by which cometh life.” (Bruce R. McConkie, [The Purifying Power of Gethsemane](#))

Additional activities:

1. Print out the following coloring pages for your kids to color later in the week. As they color a picture discuss what happened in that particular garden to reinforce what was taught in family home evening.

Coloring Pages:

[Garden of Eden](#)

[Adam & Eve in the Garden of Eden](#)

[Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane](#)

[Garden of the Empty Tomb](#)

2. For families with older children and teens watch Elder Bruce R. McConkie's talk, [The Purifying Power of Gethsemane](#). Discuss your favorite parts.

3. Plant a [Calvary's Hill or Empty Tomb Garden](#).



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