



# THE FIRST FAMILY



## Genesis 4

After Adam and Eve left the garden of Eden, they had a son named Cain and another son named Abel. Abel became a shepherd, and Cain worked the ground by growing plants and crops. Because sin entered the world through Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel were sinners too.

One day, Cain gave God an offering of some of the produce he grew. Abel gave God some of the firstborn of his flock. God accepted Abel's offering, but He did not accept Cain's offering.

Cain was furious. God said to Cain, "Why are you so mad? If you do what is right, your offering will be accepted." Then God warned Cain, "If you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at the door. Sin wants you, but you must rule over it."

Cain said to his brother, "Let's go out to the field." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

God said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

"I don't know," Cain lied. "Is it my job to keep track of him?" But God knew what Cain had done.

Because God is holy, God had to punish Cain for his sin. "Now you are cursed," God told Cain. "You will work the ground, but nothing will grow for you. Instead, you will wander the earth, never finding rest."

Cain would not be able to stay with his family. He could no longer live in God's presence. Even though God punished Cain, God was merciful. He put a mark on Cain to warn people not to kill him. Then Cain left the land and went to live in Nod, a land to the east of Eden. He had a wife and a family, but they did not follow God.

God gave Adam and Eve another son, Seth. Adam and Eve's family grew. Seth grew up and had a family too. Around this time, Adam's descendants in Seth's family began to call on the name of the Lord.



### Big Picture Question:

*Who is God? God is our Creator and the King of everything.*



### Christ Connection:

*God had promised that one of Eve's descendants would put an end to sin and death. Cain was not that descendant. He was sinful like his parents, Adam and Eve. As families grew and sin spread, people waited for God to keep His promise. At just the right time, God would send His Son, Jesus, to save sinners.*