

# GOD'S CALLING IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

## Lesson One

**GOD CALLED ADAM AND EVE** (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:8, 15-17; 3:1-10, 21)

### **Burden to impart:**

*God's creation and calling to man was to be responsible for all of His creation, to rule over it and take care of it. Also, man was called to obey God's word and not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, but to eat of the tree of life. We also see that although Adam and Eve failed and disobeyed God's commandment, God covered their shame and forgave their sins.*

**Memory Verse:** "And God said, Let us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth " (Genesis 1:26).

### **Facts to Teach:**

1. God created Adam in a very special way; with His very own image and likeness. No other creature has this, only man. God made man in this way because man was made just for God. God wanted man to share His life, His love, and His friendship. God created man to live together with Him, and to enjoy His presence forever.
2. We can see God's calling for man in His creation of man. Man was given the highest place in God's creation. He was given "dominion" over all the creatures on the earth and over all the earth. Man was created and called by God to represent Him and rule over all the earth. In children's language you could say that man was *called to be responsible to take care of God's creation* (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:15).
3. After placing Adam in the garden of Eden (paradise), God gave him one simple commandment: not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Hence, Adam was *called to obey God's word*.
4. Man was told that he could eat of every tree of the garden, except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He especially should have eaten of the special tree God had placed in the midst of the garden: the tree of life. This shows us that Adam and Eve were called to eat *of the tree of life*, that is, to receive God Himself, the source of life, into them.
5. Adam and Eve, however, failed God's purpose by disobeying His word and eating from the forbidden tree (Gen. 3: 1-10). While they were hiding God came to call them.
6. God now came to call the disobedient and ashamed Adam and Eve back to Himself. He Himself killed some animals (probably lambs) and made coats of skins to cover them. (These were much better *than* Adam's covering made of fig leaves.) Adam and Eve received God's gracious provision and were forgiven.
7. However, because of their disobedience, Adam and Eve were put out of the garden and were not permitted to take of the tree of life. Through Adam's disobedience to God's word of calling (God's plan), sin and death entered into the world. (Rom. 5:12)