

Tell the Story *(Don't just read it—know it and bring it to life!)*

I'd like to tell you a story. This story is about a being called God, who has always existed. This story, found in the Bible, describes God as the creator of all things, the heavens and the earth and everything that is alive.

God is also described as the only one who always does what is good and right and perfect—the Bible uses the word “holy” to describe him.

Do you know what God created first?

In the Bible, God asked a man named Job, *“Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Who decided it's size and shape? Who measured it? What was it set up on, or who laid its cornerstone while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?”*

The story begins like this...

When God set the foundations of the earth, the angels were already there watching—the angels were created before everything else. When the angels saw God's power and his ability to make so many different things, they sang together and shouted for joy, giving glory to God!

There was one angel who was the most beautiful of all the angels. This angel was named Lucifer, which means *“bright morning star”*.

When Lucifer saw the other angels singing songs to God and shouting great things about God, he became jealous – he wanted them to do that for him instead of for God – and he said in his heart, *“I will ascend to heaven and set my throne above God's stars... and I will be like God.”*

Then Lucifer went and convinced a third of the angels to follow him. Although Lucifer had seen God's power in creation, he continued to lead the fallen angels, who are also called demons, in a rebellion against God.

All rebellion against God and his ways is called sin.

But God knew what Lucifer was thinking and doing because He knows everything.

Because of God's perfect goodness, evil is never allowed to remain in his presence. So God showed his disapproval of Lucifer and his followers by casting them down to the earth. Lucifer's name also changed—instead of being known as the bright morning star, he was now known as Satan, which means “adversary” (one who is against someone else) – and Satan is against God.

This is the story that we call **“Beginnings”**.

Retell the Story

This may seem redundant, but it is very effective in helping your kids remember and own the story. You will want to help them retell the story by giving them leading questions like: *So, where did the story begin? What did God create first? How do we know that? What happened next? How did the angels respond to God's creation? Did they all respond the same way? How did Lucifer respond?*

Dialogue

These questions are a good start to draw out observations about the story.

- **What did God create in this story?**
 - » *God created everything—the earth and the angels are mentioned specifically.*
- **What was the angels relationship with God like?**
 - » *The angels were amazed by God and got to be with him as he created.*
- **Who are Lucifer and the demons and where did they come from?**
 - » *They are angels created by God.*
- **Who is stronger, God or the angels and demons? Why?**
 - » *God is stronger because he made the angels*
- **How did Lucifer challenge God?**
 - » *He said he would be like God.*
 - » *He deceived a third of the angels to follow him.*
- **God cast Lucifer and the fallen angels out of heaven. Why do you think he did this?**
 - » *God will never allow evil to remain in his presence.*
 - » *God punishes evil.*
- **What do we learn about God in this story?**

(When your kids answer ask them: **Where in the story did you see this?**)

 - » *God is powerful.*
 - » *God is an amazing creator. He made everything with his creativity!*
 - » *God is perfect, good, and right – He is holy.*
 - » *God is amazing and deserves to be worshipped.*
 - » *God knows all things. He knew what was in Lucifer's heart, and which angels were following him.*

Application (Optional questions that also work well in smaller groups)

- What do you like best about the story and why?
- What questions do you have about the story?
- Have you ever wanted to be in charge of something and weren't – what did you do?
- How are we like Lucifer/Satan?
- How can we be more like the angels?

Scripture Memory Verse

O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory
above the heavens.
Psalm 8:1