

LarryBoy and the Bad Apple



What is the STORY about?

Something is rotten in the peaceful town of Bumblyburg! The Bad Apple has dropped onto the scene and is trying to take control of the town by making all of its citizens give in to their greatest temptations. Everyone is in danger including Mayor Blueberry, Reporter Petunia, Butler Alfred—even the town's fearless defender, LarryBoy! Will the good people of Bumblyburg be able to resist the Bad Apple's clever tricks? Can LarryBoy see through this sour plot and save the day? *LarryBoy and the Bad Apple* teaches kids that we can't fight temptation on our own—we need God's help and the help of our friends.

- *A Lesson in Fighting Temptation*
- *Key Passage: Genesis 3 (Lesson-related Bible story)*
- *Running time: 46 minutes*



What do you THINK?

- *What temptations do the show's characters face?* (LarryBoy - chocolate, Petunia - video games, Mayor Blueberry - vanity/looking good, Alfred - television's Top Banana.)
- *Who is always working to get the characters to "fall into temptation?"* (The Bad Apple.)
- *Why does LarryBoy think he is stronger than temptation?* (He is a super hero and doesn't need any help.)
- *Who can help us when we meet up with temptation?* (God and the people around us.)



What does the BIBLE say?

Adam and Eve's TEMPTATION story is found in Genesis 3. Read the story from a Bible translation that is easy for the children to understand OR tell it in this revised version.

God made Adam and Eve—the very first people—perfect and without sin. He placed them in the beautiful Garden of Eden. God told Adam and Eve that they could eat from any tree EXCEPT the tree in the middle of the garden...they were not allowed to touch the tree or eat from the tree. God warned Adam and Eve that if they disobeyed, they would die. One day a serpent (Satan) appeared in the garden and found Eve. He asked if God had really told them not to eat from the special tree. When Eve replied that God had indeed instructed them not to eat from that tree, the crafty snake had an answer. The snake told Eve that she would not die, but she would become as wise as God. So Eve, seeing that the fruit of the tree was good and that she would become wise, decided to eat from the tree that God had forbidden. The fruit tasted good so she gave some to Adam. Then their eyes were opened, and they realized they had sinned against God. They tried to hide from God because they were ashamed of what they had done. Adam told God that Eve had caused him to sin; Eve said the snake had caused her to sin. God cursed the snake and commanded that he crawl on his belly for the rest of his days. And for their disobedience, God banished Adam and Eve from the beautiful Garden of Eden forever.

The Story of Adam and Eve



ACTIVITY

Talk briefly about temptation and what it means to be tempted. With the children seated on the floor in a scattered pattern, hand one child a ball of yarn. Instruct the child to hold on to the end piece of the yarn and toss the yarn ball to someone else. Continue tossing from one child to another, with each child holding on to the yarn before tossing it to someone else, until the leader shouts: **TEMPTATION!** The person holding the ball of yarn must name an example of temptation (*watching video games excessively, cheating on a test, taking something that belongs to someone else, etc.*). Continue tossing and giving examples of temptation until everyone has been included. Note that a large, tangled web has been woven. Discuss how Bad Apple enticed the residents of Bumblyburg to become tangled in webs of temptation.



What can we DO?

Encourage discussion with the following life-application questions.

- **Has anyone ever dared (tempted) you to do something that you knew you shouldn't do?** (Answers will vary)
- **Is it possible to stay away from temptation?** (Answers will vary)
- **Who can help us if we are dared or meet up with temptation?** (God and the people around us who love God)
- **What should you do if you know that one of your friends is facing temptation?** (Answers will vary, but encourage helping others when they are struggling with temptation.)
- **What does the Bible tell us in Matthew 26:41 to do if we are faced with temptation?** ("Keep alert and pray.")

Help the children find these Bible verses to read aloud.

- **James 1:13** "When tempted, no one should say, 'God is tempting me.' For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone."
- **Proverbs 1:10** "My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them."
- **Matthew 6:13** "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

3 Things to remember about Adam and Eve

1. Adam and Eve were the **FIRST MAN and WOMAN**
2. A snake **TEMPTED** Eve in the Garden of Eden
3. Adam and Eve **DISOBEYED** God

KEY VERSE

(Matthew 26:41) "Keep alert and pray. Otherwise temptation will overpower you. For though the spirit is willing enough, the body is weak."

KEY NUGGET

We can't fight temptation on our own—we need God's help and the help of our friends.

