

# Kids' Chronicle

## God creates Adam and Eve in Eden

BY JOE SARNICOLA

God walked through the earth he had just created. There was the water. There was the land. But there were no people. Not a single person to live in the beautiful place he had made. So God reached down and dug into the moist clay that was the soil and began to form it into a shape.

He made a head, arms and shoulders, legs, until a man of clay was fully molded into shape. But the man of clay was still only clay. There was no life in it. Then God breathed on the man of clay and it was transformed into a man of flesh and blood, a living man.

Then God planted a garden in a place called Eden. This garden was the most beautiful place on the earth. Fragrant flowers, tall trees, cool, flowing rivers were in the garden. And there were two trees that were more special than all of the others. In the middle of the garden was the tree of life. And the other tree was the tree of knowledge of good and evil. This garden God gave to the man as a place to live.

"Everything you see is yours," God told him. "If you care for the garden, I will care for you. You will never go hungry, because there are many kinds of fruits that grow on the trees here."

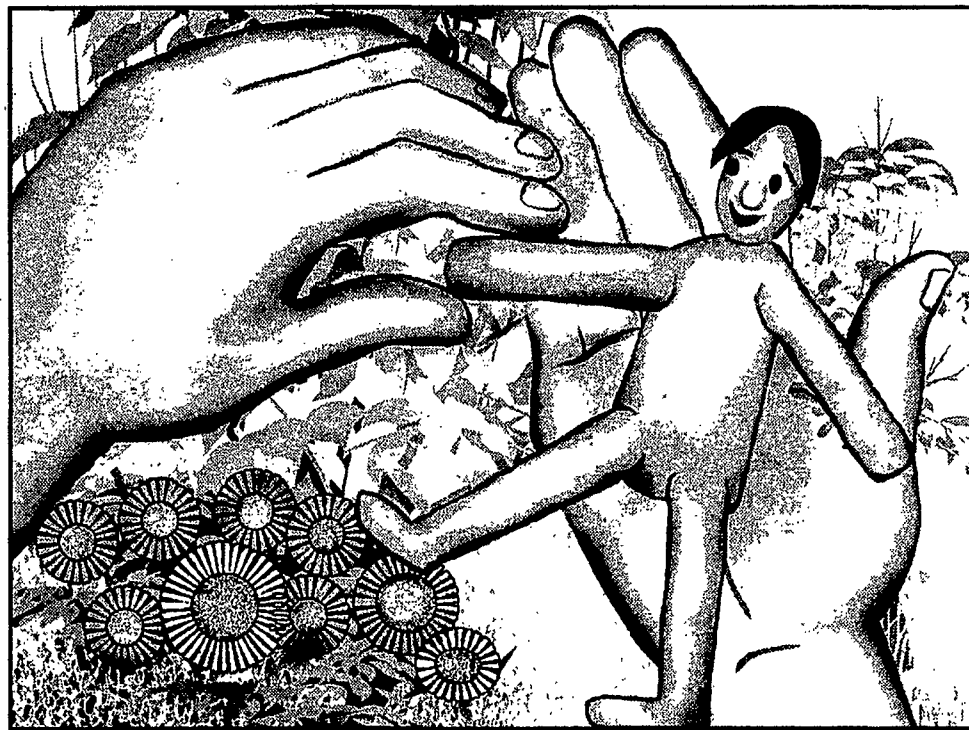


Illustration by Linda Jeanne Rivers

As God watched the man in the garden, he knew there was something missing. He realized the man needed a partner. God had created beasts and birds, fish and fowl. Although the man gave a name to each of them, not one of them proved to be the partner that the

man needed.

So God touched the man and the man went into a deep sleep. Then he removed one of the man's ribs. From the rib of the man, God made another person. He called this person woman, because she had been formed out of the man. Then God woke the man up. "I have another gift for you," God said. And God introduced the man to the woman.

"This gift, this woman, is flesh from my flesh," the man, Adam, said. "Her bones are made from my bones. I will care for her as I have cared for the garden. I will treat her as if the two of us were one person."

### READ MORE ABOUT IT:

Genesis 2

## Q&A

1. What did God do with the clay?
2. Why did God make the woman?

## Bible Accent

We call the place where Adam and Eve lived until they disobeyed God the Garden of Eden. The Hebrew word "edin" meant luxurious or pleasant, and the Sumerian (the Sumerians were a people of the ancient Arabic world) word "eden" meant a fertile plain or flatland. Using references from the Book of Genesis, some biblical scholars believe Eden may have been in the region near the Persian Gulf. Today this area includes the countries of Iran, Iraq and Kuwait. Four rivers flowed through the garden and there were two trees that God placed in the middle of the garden: the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God told Adam and Eve that they could eat from any tree in the garden except for the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. But Adam and Eve both ate from that tree and God ordered them out of the garden forever. We call this disobedient act by Adam and Eve original sin.

### St. Notburga

Notburga, a young peasant girl, served as a kitchen maid for Count Henry of Rattenburg in what is now the Austrian Alps. After meals, she would give uneaten food from the castle to the poor and hungry people who waited outside for scraps of food. Ottilia, the count's wife, did not approve of Notburga's generosity and forbade her to give any more food away. The countess ordered all uneaten food to be given to the pigs. At first Notburga obeyed, but gradually began to feed the poor people again. The countess found out, and Notburga was fired. After the death of the countess, Notburga was hired back as kitchen maid, and the poor people were once again fed. Notburga lived in the 1300s and is the patron saint of poor peasants and hired servants. We honor St. Notburga on Sept. 14.

## Puzzle

Fill in the blanks with the words that correctly complete the Lord's Prayer. Answers on page 16.

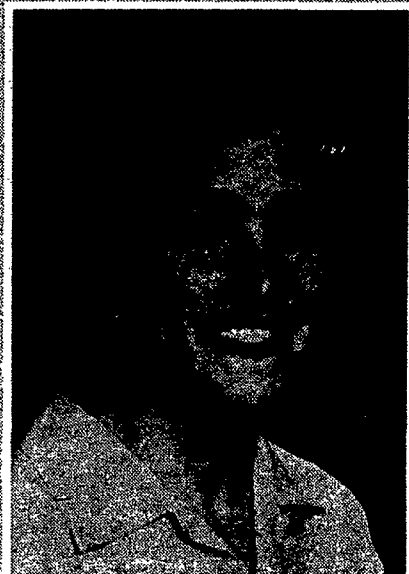
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Thy \_\_\_\_\_ come. Thy will be done on \_\_\_\_\_, as it is  
 in heaven. Give us this day our daily \_\_\_\_\_, and  
 \_\_\_\_\_ us our trespasses, as we forgive those who  
 trespass \_\_\_\_\_ us, and lead us not into  
 \_\_\_\_\_, but deliver us from \_\_\_\_\_. Amen.

## Bible Trivia

What did God do  
 on the seventh day  
 of creation?

(hint: Genesis 2)

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 to our provider staff.

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