Second Creation: The Falling Apart

Background
Focus: the “falling apart” and coming back together in a new way (Genesis 2:4-3:24)

Here we begin at the beginning with Adam-Eve and how they “fell apart” from God, from each other, from God’s creation, and from the image of God in their deep selves. We learn how these relationships were restored.

Material
The basket for Second Creation is on one of the Old Testament shelves.

It contains:
- a green felt underlay
- 2 wooden fruit trees
- figures for Adam and Eve
- a plastic serpent
- a hollow apple containing 10 differences

Movements

Watch. Watch where I go.

Words

Everyone needs to be ready.

When God created everything, God said, “It is good.” And God put God’s own image in the creatures that walk the earth.

In the midst of the creation, there was a wonderful garden. It was God’s garden.

Everything was there, but everything was so close it was all together. God was with the rocks and plants and animals, and they were with God and each other.

All the people were also together in one person who was called “Everyone” or, in their language, “Adam.”
Place the figures for Adam and Eve on the underlay so that they are physically touching, as if they are one person.

Eve was there too. She was always there, for she came from Adam. She and Adam were a kind of Adam-Eve.

Place the two trees behind Adam-Eve.

In the middle of the garden grew two trees.

God told Adam-Eve that they should not eat the fruit from these trees. One tree was about differences and one tree was about forever. If you ate the fruit of the tree of differences, you would know about differences, and if you ate from the forever tree, you would live forever.

Put the serpent beside Adam-Eve.

Now, the serpent was more clever than any other creature that the Lord God made. And he suggested that Adam-Eve taste the fruit from the tree of differences. And they did.

Separate Adam-Eve so they are now Adam and Eve.

Adam-Eve ate from the tree of differences and things fell apart. They became Adam and Eve. The difference between them and God also came apart. And the difference between good and evil did, too.

Cover Adam and Eve with your hand when you say that they hid. Uncover them when you say that God found them.

God called for them and they hid, but God found them. They did not know how to be with God anymore, because of all the differences.

Pick up the apple and open the lid. Pull out the "differences" and place them on the underlay beside the figures.

There were: good and evil, close and far, high and low, God and people, Adam and Eve... and many more.
Push Adam and Eve to the edge of the garden and place your hand at their backs when you speak of the sword and the angel.

The differences also did something wonderful. Now Adam and Eve could take things apart and put them back together again. They could be creators, almost like God. They couldn’t make something out of nothing, but they could make something out of differences.

After the differences, Adam and Eve could not go back to when everything was all together in the Garden. They could only go forward, and they did.

God sent Adam and Eve out of the Garden. An angel and a sword were put at the edge of the Garden so they could not go back, but only go forward. God went with them on their journey to help them be the best creators they could be, and to be with God in this new way, and to stay one with God.

Sit for a moment and look at the story to let the story rest. Then begin the wondering.
After the wondering is over, put the story away carefully. Name each item, saying, for example, “Here is the tree of differences. And here is the tree of forever.” After all of the story is back in the basket, carefully model how to fold the underlay and place it in the basket as well. Return the lesson to its spot on the shelf. Then return to your spot in the circle and dismiss the children one by one to do their work.

- I wonder what part of the story you liked best?
- I wonder what part was the most important?
- I wonder what part of the story was about you, or what part you were in?
- I wonder if we can leave out any of the story and still have all that we need?