

■■ Bible Study Handout: “When the Waters Rise”

Genesis 7:17–24

Theme: Even when everything around you feels like it’s drowning, God still preserves those He has chosen.

I. The Rising Waters (vv. 17–19)

Key Thought: Sometimes what God uses to save you will look like it’s trying to destroy you.

- The flood that destroyed others *lifted* Noah.
- God can turn what overwhelms others into what elevates you.

Reflect: What storm has actually raised your faith?

“The higher the waters rose, the closer Noah drifted toward God.”

II. The Submerging of the Familiar (vv. 20–23)

Key Thought: God sometimes removes what was to make room for what’s next.

- The flood was not destruction—it was *divine reset*.
- God covers the old so new life can emerge.

Reflect: What “familiar” might God be flooding out of your life?

“What feels like subtraction may be preparation.”

III. The Sustaining Grace (v. 24)

Key Thought: Grace is what keeps you afloat when the flood won’t stop.

- The waters prevailed 150 days, but grace lasted longer.
- God doesn’t always calm the water; sometimes He strengthens the ark.

Reflect: How has God’s grace kept you during your own long wait?

“Grace doesn’t always remove the storm—it just makes sure you don’t sink.”

Takeaway: When the waters rise, remember: God’s plan is still afloat. The same God who shut you in will also bring you out.

Live It Out This Week:

- Identify your flood — name what feels overwhelming.
- Find your ark — notice what God has already given to sustain you.
- Hold your hope — even if it’s been “150 days,” God remembers you.

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for being our Keeper in the flood. When the waters rise, lift our faith. When the wait feels long, sustain our hope. Carry us safely until we see dry land again. **Amen.**