



# NOAH

## THE BIG FLOOD

### LESSON SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

God wants us to learn patience so we can wait for his best.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that God uses waiting to teach us patience.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Genesis 8:1-14. Waiting for the flood to recede.

**MEMORY VERSE:**

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." - Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)*

**SUMMARY:**

Noah had to wait a long time for the waters to subside. He had no choice; there was nowhere to go! We don't like to wait for things, but God uses waiting to teach us patience and reliance on him. When we wait on God, we will always get his best.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Forgive us for being impatient with you. Teach us to depend on you so that we can wait for your best.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*



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### MEMORY VERSE

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.” - Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)*

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding. In all your ways remember him. Then he will make your paths smooth and straight.” - Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)*

#### **LARGE GROUP:**

Choose four kids who think they know the verse. Line them up on stage. Have the kids recite the memory verse, with each kid saying one word, starting left to right. When you get to the kid on the right, go back to the kid on the far left. Keep going until they get through the whole verse.

#### **SMALL GROUP:**

Play the telephone game with the memory verse.

For younger kids you will want to break the verse up into smaller sections and play several rounds.



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### SKIT

#### LOOKING FOR LAND

##### ITEM NEEDED:

A spyglass

##### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: 3M

##### CHARACTERS:

Noah

Shem

Ham

*Ham is at center stage, looking over the audience with the spyglass.*

SHEM: What are you doing?

HAM: Looking.

SHEM: Looking for what?

HAM: Land.

SHEM: Any sign of land?

HAM: No.

SHEM: How about now?

HAM: No.

SHEM: *(pause)* How about now?

**NOAH: NOWHERE TO LAND**

# SKIT

HAM: Still no.

*Longer pause.*

SHEM: Ham?

HAM: Yes?

SHEM: How about now?

*Ham looks at Shem.*

HAM: NO.

*Ham looks through the spyglass again.*

SHEM: How about now?

HAM: Don't you have a wildebeest to feed?

SHEM: Not if you found land. Did you find land?

HAM: No!!

SHEM: Are you sure? Look again.

HAM: Shem, how long can you tread water?

SHEM: Dad!! Ham's threatening to throw me overboard again!

HAM: I am not!!

*Noah enters.*

NOAH: Boys, are you at it again?

HAM: He keeps bugging me. He keeps asking if I can see land.

NOAH: Can you see land?

HAM: No!!

NOAH: There's no land, Shem. Go feed the wildebeest.

**NOAH: NOWHERE TO LAND**

# SKIT

SHEM: Dad, do you know how bad that thing smells?

NOAH: He still has to eat, Shem, and until we spot land--

SHEM: Have we spotted land yet?

HAM: No.

NOAH: No.

SHEM: We'll never get off this boat!

NOAH: We will, son, in God's time.

SHEM: God sure does like to take his time.

NOAH: Sometimes he does, and for good reason - he wants us to learn patience. If God gave us everything when we wanted, we'd get spoiled pretty quick. But God doesn't want us dependent on things. He wants us dependent on him.

SHEM: I guess you're right. But I sure can't wait until we spot-

HAM: Land!

SHEM: Really? You spotted it?

HAM: No, I was just teasing.

*Noah takes the spyglass from Ham.*

NOAH: Just for that, you go feed the wildebeest.

HAM: Awww, Dad!!

**NOAH: NOWHERE TO LAND**



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## THE BIG FLOOD

### OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

**ITEM NEEDED:**

A crock pot

Who can tell me what this is?

For those who've never seen one of these, this is a crock pot. Crock pots are slow cookers that take all day to prepare a meal. When you cook in the crock pot, you have to plan dinner well in advance. Any meat, veggies, or other ingredients have to be put into the pot early in the morning so they will be ready by dinner time. It's a slow cooking process, but the results are well worth it.

Most people prefer to cook with a microwave than a crockpot. Microwaves can turn frozen food into dinner in minutes instead of hours. But microwave food can't touch crock pot food when it comes to taste. The best meals aren't rushed. They are slow cooked, and they are worth the wait.

It's never easy when God tells us to wait, but it's always better. Noah didn't have any choice; without land to set foot on, he and his family would have died outside the ark. I doubt any of them were happy spending all those long days and nights on that smelly ark, but in the end, considering the alternative, they were glad to wait.

When God tells you to wait, don't get angry. Be thankful. God is preparing his best for you. And God will use that waiting time to remind you that the one thing you need most isn't a thing at all; it's Him!



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### LARGE GROUP GAME

#### EGG SCOOPER

##### ITEMS NEEDED:

Two eggs  
Two ice cream scoops  
Orange cones or other markers

##### INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose two teams of three for this game. Line both teams up at a starting line with cones approximately twenty feet away. This is a relay race to see which team can successfully transport an egg in an ice cream scoop around the cone and back three times. The first team to finish the race is the winner - unless one team drops their egg. Then the game is over.

##### VARIATION:

For older kids, use a tea spoon or something smaller to up the challenge.



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### LARGE GROUP LESSON

**BOTTOM LINE:**

God wants us to learn patience so we can wait for his best.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that God uses waiting to teach us patience.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Genesis 8:1-14. Waiting for the flood to recede.

**INTRO**

Begin this lesson by walking on stage, sitting or standing as you usually do when teaching, but doing so in silence. Let the silence go on for a few minutes - long enough to make your opening point, but not so long you lose them.

Anybody out there wondering when I'm going to talk?

I kept you waiting, didn't I? How many of you enjoy having to wait?

No one enjoys waiting but, like it or not, we can't get away from it. We wait in line at school to use the restroom. We wait for lunch and recess and the end of the day. We wait in line at the grocery store. We wait patiently in our seats at the theater for the movie to start. We even have to wait for those things we really CAN wait for - like visiting the doctor or the dentist. That's a wait you don't usually mind, right?

But waiting can teach us something very important: patience. Patience is the willingness to wait for things. Patient people are calm people who do not get agitated when they have to wait. Patient people are those who are willing to hold out for something better, who don't rush into things or settle for something less. Patient people are willing to wait for the best. And patient people understand that the one thing they need most is God.

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

We don't usually talk about patience in relation to Noah, but we really should. If anyone had to endure a long, trying time of waiting, it was Noah!

## **READ Genesis 8:1-14**

### **MAIN POINT**

The writer of Genesis tells us that Noah sent out birds to look for land. Three times he sent birds out to look for land before he discovered that the waters were receding. What he leaves out is what Noah did in the mean time. He cleaned animal pens. He fed animals. He watered animals. He cleaned some more. He broke up fights among his sons. He might have dealt with sea sickness.

The rain came down for forty days and nights, almost six weeks. But after the rain stopped, it was a long, long wait until the land appeared again. Noah and his family were in that boat a half a year, caring for animals, shoveling poo, and trying to keep from getting sea sick. They couldn't rush ahead and leave the boat; there was nowhere to go. They had to wait on the Lord, trusting that he would see them through their voyage and lead them to safety in his time.

### **DRIVE IT HOME**

Patience doesn't come easy for anyone. We live in a world of high speed Internet, microwaves, and interstates. We don't like standing around. We want to go from one thing to another, instantly! We want everything NOW!

But God can teach us something very important if we're patient. He can teach us what's most important. That thing you want badly may come in time, and when it does it will be great. But in the mean time, you already have all you need. You have Jesus. If you have accepted Jesus as your Savior, you have the Holy Spirit in your heart, and through Him, you have a direct line to God. All the things in this world that we wait for - vacations, holidays, special events, new movies, new toys - they are all temporary. When this world ends, all those things end with it. But Jesus is eternal. He's our Savior now and forever. He may make you wait for things from time to time, but there's never any waiting when you need to reach Him.

Waiting is a part of life. Every day we wait for something, and when we get there, we'll just end up waiting on one thing more. I hope and pray none of us have to wait a half a year on a ship full of smelly animals like Noah, but even if you do... know that God is there with you.

If you are patient, God will see that you get his best. But in the mean time, you'll get something even greater. You get Him!

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

## CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER

*Dear God,*

*Forgive us for being impatient with you. Teach us to depend on you so that we can wait for your best.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*



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## THE BIG FLOOD

### SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

#### ICEBREAKER

What's the hardest thing you have ever had to wait for?

#### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Proverbs 3:5-6

Play the telephone game with the memory verse.

For younger kids you will want to break the verse up into smaller sections and play several rounds.

#### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

Play a round of the quiet game. Can anyone last at least 3 minutes??

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**Read Genesis 8:1-14**

Why didn't Noah and his family leave the ark right away after the rain ended?

What happened the first time Noah sent out a bird to look for land?

How many birds did he send before he knew that land was in sight?

Why is it hard to be patient?

Who can help us to become more patient people?

#### SIMPLE PRAYER

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for always looking out for us. Help us to rely on you, and teach us patience so we can wait for your best!*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*



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## THE BIG FLOOD

### SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

#### ICEBREAKER

What's the hardest thing you have ever had to wait for?

#### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Proverbs 3:5-6

Play the telephone game with the memory verse.

#### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

Play a round of the quiet game. Can anyone last at least 3 minutes??

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

##### Read Genesis 8:1-14

How many times did Noah send birds out to look for land?

What do you think it was like waiting on the ark for the water to recede?

What are some things that are hard to wait for?

Why does God want us to learn patience?

How does waiting draw us closer to God?

#### SIMPLE PRAYER

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for always looking out for us. Help us to rely on you, and teach us patience so we can wait for your best!*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*



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### POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

#### True or False.

As soon as the rain ended, Noah opened the door of the ark and let the animals out.  
FALSE

Noah sent out a few birds to look for land.  
TRUE

Noah knew it was almost time to leave when a bird returned with an olive branch.  
TRUE

It's almost impossible to learn patience.  
FALSE

God uses waiting to teach us to depend on Him.  
TRUE

# MAKE IT STICK

## 5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With Your Kids

### THIS WEEK'S LESSON: NOWHERE TO LAND



#### IN THE CAR:

On the drive home, ask your child what he learned about this week's lesson: Today we talked about learning to be patient. Noah and his family had to wait a long time for the water to recede after the flood, but they knew they had to wait to exit safely. God wants to teach us patience so we can wait for his best and rely on him.



#### HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Try to keep count how many times you and the kids have to wait - in line, in a lobby, for a scheduled event, etc. - this week. How does patience help us deal with all that waiting?



#### AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- What are you struggling to wait for right now?
- What can we learn from Noah about patience?
- Why does God want us to be patient people?



#### AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

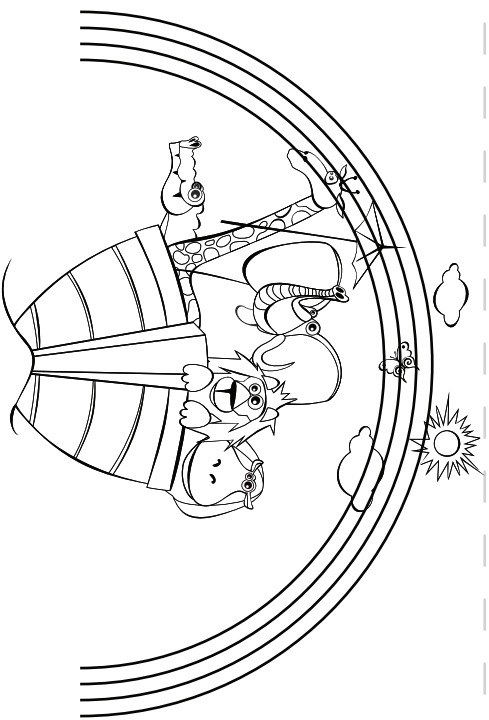
*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." - Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)*



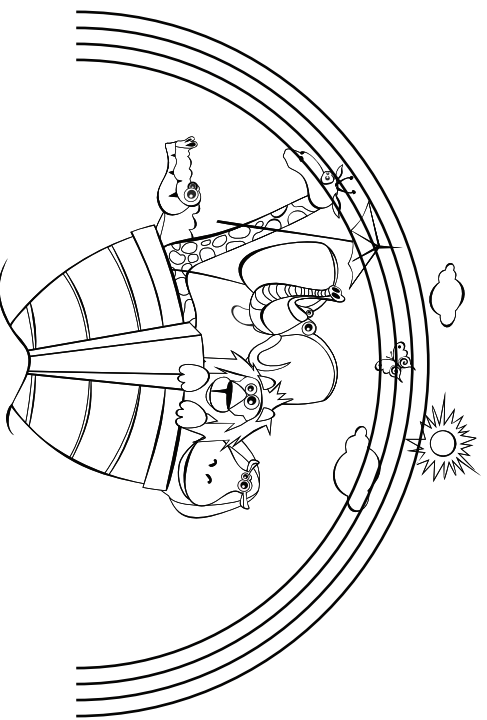
#### PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

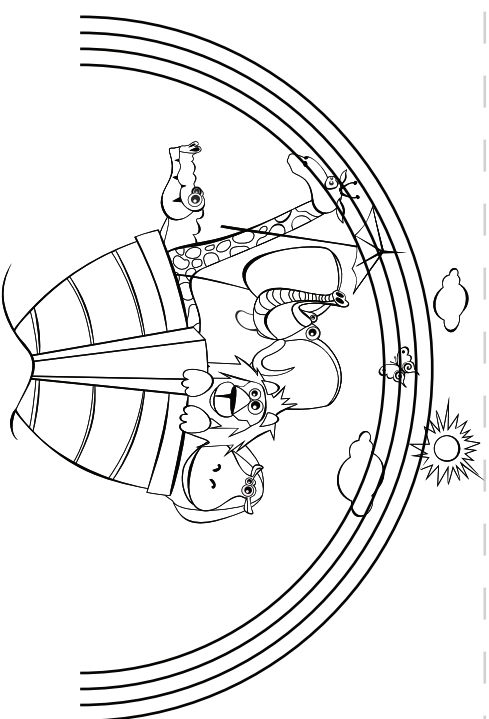
What are you impatient about right now? Give your worry and frustration to God, and remember that at the end of the day, He's the one thing you need most!



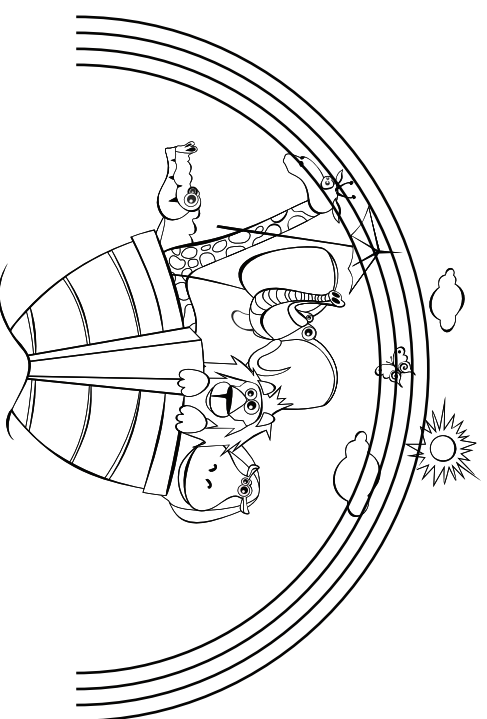
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# Word Scramble

Unscramble the following words from today's story.

ATPCNEIE

P      E

TREWA

R

NVRAE

N

VDEO

D

Now unscramble the words in the boxes to answer the riddle below. hint: it's a pun.

Who is the most patient person in the whole world?

A "W      "

# Answers

Patience

Water

Raven

Dove

Waiter