

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Genesis

NOAH'S ARK

Genesis 6-8

Elementary Lesson

Year One, Quarter One, Lesson Six

[0060]

AIM: to use the story of Noah's Ark to teach my class that sin always leads to death.

OBJECTS TO HAVE: A picture of a boat, or maybe a little toy boat
A picture of old carpenters' tools
A picture, or figurines of animals
A picture of lots of water
A picture of a rainbow
Your Bible

POINT OF CONTACT: I want you to take a look at this boat that I have here. Do any of you have a toy boat at home? There are many different kinds of boats—fishing boats, sailboats, speedboats, battleships, canoes, and many, many other kinds of boats. How many of you have ever ridden in a boat?

Can you imagine if you had to build a boat? That would take a lot of work, wouldn't it? And when you finished all of that hard work, you would have to make sure that it would float when you put it in the water!

Well, today I am going to tell you about somebody who built a great big boat many years ago. Because he built that boat, God used him to save the human race from being destroyed. You may already know who it is—his name was *Noah*.

STORY: Remember that a few weeks ago I told you how Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, and because of that all of us are sinners. After Adam and Eve, sin on the earth just got worse and worse. Mankind became more and more wicked in God's sight. The Bible tells us that by 1500 years after God created man, man had become extremely wicked. In fact, the Bible says that man became so wicked that there came a time when God looked down and wished He had never made man at all. The people of the world had become so wicked that God knew He would have to destroy the entire human race. Even though God had made a way for man to trust God and be saved, most people refused to trust God, and chose to live in sin. God had to destroy the world, because sin always brings death. God found one man, however, who was saved, and who was living right. That one man was raising his children right, and was telling people around him that they ought to get saved and live right also. That man's name was *Noah*.

God decided that because He had found Noah living right and raising his family right, God could use Noah to protect his family from the destruction that was coming, and to start over after it was finished. God called to Noah one day and said, "Noah, I am going to destroy the world with a great flood. The entire human race is going to die in this flood—except for you and your family. I am going to use you and your family to continue the human race when the flood is over, because you believe in me and you are living right. I want you to build a boat, called an *ark*, that your family can live in when the flood comes. You will be safe there." God told Noah exactly what size to make the ark. He told Noah what kind of wood to use. He told Noah how the ark was supposed to look. And God told Noah where the doors and windows were supposed to be.

Then God told Noah that, not only would this ark save Noah and his family, it would also save every kind of animal in the world. God was going to have Noah put two of every kind of animal in the **whole world** into the ark. This ark was going to be very big!

Noah went to work with his sons, cutting down trees and dragging them to the place where he was building the ark. They worked hard every day cutting with saws, carving with axes and chisels, and hammering with hammers. This ark was going to be so big that it would take years and years to get it done.

While Noah and his sons were building the ark, the wicked people of the world would walk by and say, "Noah, you're crazy! You're spending all of your time building that dumb boat! Come down from there and enjoy life like us! There's not going to be a flood! You're nuts!"

Noah just kept on working. And while he worked, he preached to warn the people. "The flood is coming! God told me so! You'd better get ready! The flood is going to come and destroy the world!"

Noah kept on working, and the people kept on laughing at him. Finally, after many years, Noah finished the ark. God said, “Noah, take all of the animals of the earth, two of every kind, and put them in the ark.” Every kind of animal in the world got on the ark: two horses, one male and one female; two giraffes, one male and one female; two elephants, one male and one female; two rabbits, one male and one female. Every kind of animal that you could name, Noah brought two of them onto the ark. Then Noah and his wife, and Noah’s three sons and their wives all got on the ark. Noah must have made one final plea to the people outside: “Please! Please come into the ark and be saved from the flood!” But no one outside of Noah’s family got in the ark. They just stood, and watched, and laughed at crazy Noah and his family.

Then, when everything was ready, God closed the door to the ark.

Imagine standing outside of the ark, laughing at Noah and his family with all of those animals inside of the ark. How silly of them to be cooped up in there like that. Then all of a sudden you notice something that has never happened before—you notice a drop of rain on your face. You see, kids, before the flood it had never rained on the earth. God simply sent a heavy dew each morning to water the earth. But now, with Noah and his family safely inside the ark, drops of rain were falling from the sky. The drops got heavier and heavier, and puddles of water were forming on the ground. Then water started to break through the surface of the ground, and no matter where you went the water was 3 or 4 inches deep. People started screaming as they realized that what Noah had said for years was now coming true. The flood was here, and they were all going to die. The people ran to the ark, and began to beat on the door, screaming, “Noah! Noah! I was wrong! I’m sorry! Please forgive me! I want to be saved! Please let me in!” But Noah couldn’t open the door, for God had closed it.

The water rose higher and higher, and people climbed trees and hills and mountains, trying to stay above the water. But it was only a matter of time before the water covered the face of the entire earth, and everyone in the world, thousands and thousands of people, died in the flood. The only people who lived through the flood were Noah and his family, because they were inside of the ark, as God had instructed them.

Why did this terrible flood have to happen? Because **sin always brings death**. One of the most important things that you must remember as long as you live is that **sin always brings death**. Sin might seem fun at first, and everyone who is sinning may act like they’re having fun, but **sin always brings death**. It might seem like fun to try drugs, but it’s sin, and **sin always brings death**. It might seem like fun to go to a party where they’re dancing and playing rock or rap or hip-hop, but it’s sin, and **sin always brings death**. It might seem like fun to try a drink of beer, or try smoking a cigarette or pot, but it’s sin, and **sin always brings death**. It might seem like fun to look at dirty pictures and tell dirty jokes and watch dirty movies, but it’s sin, and **sin always brings death**. Don’t play around with sin, because **sin always brings death**.

After the flood was over it took many days for the water to settle down. After it did settle down, God told Noah and his family to leave the ark, go into the world, and get it going again. And God said, “Noah, look in the sky. See that rainbow? I will put a rainbow in the sky as my promise to you that, even though it will rain again, the rain and the floods will never destroy the world again.” Every time you see a rainbow you should be reminded that God has made a way for man to be saved from the death that sin brings. Every time you see a rainbow you should think of Jesus, and how He died for your sins.

You see, just like the people of Noah’s day were going to die because of their sins, and the only way they could be saved was to get in the ark; so God tells us today that we are sinners, and we are going to die and face everlasting punishment for our sin. But if we will trust in Jesus, because He died for our sins, we will be saved from that punishment, and go to be in heaven. How sad to die in the flood because you didn’t get in the ark. And how sad to die and go to hell because you didn’t receive Jesus as your Saviour.

Let’s learn our memory verse: **Romans 10:9** – *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*

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Teen and Adult Lesson

Year One, Quarter One, Lesson Six

[0060]

Teacher, choose one of the following truths to expand upon in teaching this portion of Scripture to your teen/adult class. Teach and apply the truth that you choose using statements and illustrations that are most helpful and applicable to your students.

- I. **THE ROOT CAUSE OF THE WICKEDNESS THAT BROUGHT ABOUT THE FLOOD WAS WICKED THINKING.** Genesis 6:5. The most important area of your life is the part that no one but you and God can see—your thought life. Your ideas, your fantasies, your imaginations, your dreams, and your thought processes all determine what you do and who you are. The Bible talks a great deal about the importance of our thoughts. He says we are transformed by the renewing of our minds. Romans 12:2. He says that we are to fight and reject every thought that is not in total harmony with the ways and the will of God. 2 Corinthians 10:5. He tells us the kinds of things that we should fill our minds with if we desire to please Him. Philippians 4:8. God's people, and especially young people, must work to maintain the right kind of thoughts if we are going to excel. Proverbs 4:23. We must fight lustful thoughts, hateful thoughts, selfish thoughts, and every other kind of lie.
- II. **THERE COMES A POINT WHEN GOD MUST TAKE ACTION AGAINST MAN'S SIN.** Genesis 6:6-7. Because of Christ's sacrifice on Calvary for the sins of the whole world, God in His mercy and longsuffering can endure for a time the sins of man on the earth that He created. But there comes a time when God must take action against the wickedness of mankind. This is seen again and again throughout human history. God must deal with sin.
- III. **GOD IS LOOKING FOR ONE OBEDIENT PERSON, THROUGH WHOM HE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.** Genesis 6:8. God saved the human race because one man was living obediently. Are you willing to be that one person, in your home, in your neighborhood, in your school, on your job, in your town or city, in your nation, and in your world?
- IV. **GOD HAD TO PRESERVE THE HUMAN RACE THROUGH THE FLOOD IN ORDER TO KEEP HIS WORD.** God had promised over 1600 years of human beings that a Saviour was coming. Genesis 3:15. That Saviour could not come if the human race were destroyed; thus, every believer from Adam to Abel to Enoch to Lamech would not have received God's forgiveness, for there would have been no hope of redemption through the sacrifice of Christ. The Ark represented the salvation of every believer who had ever lived.
- V. **NOAH SHELTERED HIS CHILDREN; WHEN THE FLOOD CAME, THEY WERE THE ONLY FAMILY WHOSE KIDS WERE SHELTERED.** Of course, Noah's sons were grown when the flood came. But they were raised to fear God because Noah had "sheltered" them from the ways of the world when they were younger, and trained them to obey God. As from within the ark they heard the screams of those who were destroyed in their sins, they certainly had no complaints about their "sheltered" upbringing. When we shelter our kids from the influences of this ungodly, self-absorbed, indulgent age in which we live, we are also sheltering them from the pain, sorrow, heartache and death that sin brings.

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Genesis 6-8

[0060]

God Judges the Human Race with a Flood

I. GENESIS 6:1-7 Man's Wickedness Must Be Judged

6:7 Man's sin forces God to make a difficult choice

II. GENESIS 6:8-22 God Instructs Noah to Build an Ark

6:8, 17-18 God chooses Noah and makes a covenant with him

III. GENESIS 7:1-10 Noah Enters the Ark

7:1, 5 The same obedience that caused God to choose Noah
caused Noah to enter the ark

IV. GENESIS 7:11-24 The Flood Covers the Earth

7:23 The only survivors were those who followed God's instructions

V. GENESIS 8:1-14 They Wait while the Waters Recede

8:7-12 Noah sends out birds to measure the progress

VI. GENESIS 8:15-22 Noah and His Family Leave the Ark

8:16-17 God commands Noah to begin again

Romans 10:9

*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe
in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*

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[0060]

Search the puzzle below to find the ten words in the wordlist from today's story. Words may be vertical, horizontal, or diagonal. Circle each word that you find.

N O G R D H R W U D L T
O A N A N G F L O O D R
P R U I G Y T S G E D P
R K R N D P O D Y N T S
H N G B D E S T R O Y A
A R P O H E D R D A P N
O G L W O O K O G H M I
K L R O O P R T O U S M
F R F A M I L Y L R H A
L D T I C L N G R D P L
N Y O T N E G R D P Y S
R P R O M I S E H N R P

WORDLIST:

NOAH

FAMILY

GRACE

ANIMALS

DESTROY

DOOR

FLOOD

PROMISE

ARK

RAINBOW

*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus,
and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him
from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*

ROMANS 10:9

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The solution to this week's puzzle

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | O | G | R | D | H | R | W | U | D | L | T |
| O | A | N | A | N | G | F | L | O | O | D | R |
| P | R | U | I | G | Y | T | S | G | E | D | P |
| R | K | R | N | D | P | O | D | Y | N | T | S |
| H | N | G | B | D | E | S | T | R | O | Y | A |
| A | R | P | O | H | E | D | R | D | A | P | N |
| O | G | L | W | O | O | K | O | G | H | M | I |
| K | L | R | O | O | P | R | T | O | U | S | M |
| F | R | F | A | M | I | L | Y | L | R | H | A |
| L | D | T | I | C | L | N | G | R | D | P | L |
| N | Y | O | T | N | E | G | R | D | P | Y | S |
| R | P | R | O | M | I | S | E | H | N | R | P |

WORDLIST:

| | |
|---------|---------|
| NOAH | FAMILY |
| GRACE | ANIMALS |
| DESTROY | DOOR |
| FLOOD | PROMISE |
| ARK | RAINBOW |