

**STORY**

Noah and the Flood - Genesis 6-9:17

TEACHER PRAYER

Dear Father in heaven, guide me as I present this lesson to the young people in my class so that I may bring to them the truths You would have them learn from it. Help them to retain and benefit from this lesson on their journey toward eternal life. Help them to grow in faith in the gracious God Who has sent them forgiveness and salvation through Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

VOCABULARY

gopherwood - apparently a variety of cypress

pitch - a gummy, waterproof substance from a coniferous tree

cubit - approximately a foot and a half, 18 inches

covenant - an agreement, especially one God makes with men

OUTER AIM

God cleansed the earth which had become corrupt and violent.

INNER AIM

The evil world around us is always ready to help Satan lead believers away from God. By God's grace we are able to resist those temptations and continue to trust in our Savior Jesus Christ for salvation.

BACKGROUND (Rupprecht *Bible History References*, Vol. 1, pp. 26-35)

As the human population increased, unbelief and sin also increased. When believers married unbelievers, the believers were led away from faith in God. Because of the wickedness of the people, God decided to destroy them. God spared Noah and his family and told him to build an ark. Into this ark Noah was to take his family, a pair of every creature on earth, and food to feed them all. God sent a flood which covered the highest mountains. All land creatures and birds not in the ark died. Just over a year later the earth had dried and all in the ark came out. God promised never to send such a flood again.

Chapter 6

vv. 1-4 Marriages between believers and unbelievers resulted in gifted, but unbelieving children. Their wickedness was so great that God determined not to put up with it for more than 120 years.

vv. 5-7 Because of the great wickedness of the people, God decided to destroy them along with all land creatures and birds.

vv. 8-10 Noah was the exception to the wicked people. He believed in God and tried to do His will. He had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

vv. 11-13 God revealed to Noah his intention to destroy the earth with its corruption and violence.

vv. 14-16 Noah was instructed to build an ark according to the dimensions God revealed to him.

vv. 17-22 The destruction of every living thing on earth would be by a flood. Noah, his family and pairs of every land creature and bird were to be saved in the ark.

Chapter 7

vv. 1-4 Noah was commanded to enter the ark with his family and the creatures who were to be saved.

vv. 5-10 The designated passengers entered the ark and waited for seven days.

vv. 11-16 Noah was 600 years old when the flood began. Water fell from above and gushed up from below the earth for 40 days and nights. All in the ark remained safe.

vv. 17-24 The water rose until it covered the highest mountains. All the creatures on land died. The flood continued at that level for five months.

Chapter 8

vv. 1-5 God sent a wind and the water began to recede. The ark came to rest on a mountain in Ararat. Later, the tops of the mountains became visible.

vv. 6-12 Noah sent out birds to learn what it was like outside the ark. A raven did not return. A dove was sent out at weekly intervals. It did not return the third time.

vv. 13-14 On the first day of Noah's 601st year, he opened the ark. About a month later, the earth's surface was dry.

vv. 15-19 After receiving permission from God, Noah, his family and all the creatures left the ark.

vv. 20-22 Noah built an altar and offered a thankoffering to God. God promised never to send such a disaster again.

STUDENT PRAYER

Opening

Gracious heavenly Father who has said, "As I live, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live," keep us from living a wicked life. Help us to do Your will and, when we fail to do so, lead us to repent and look to Your Son, Jesus Christ, for forgiveness. Keep us trusting in Jesus as our Savior so that we may be saved eternally. Amen.

Closing

Dear Heavenly Father, we see that we sin much every day. We know that we deserve death as a punishment. Thank you for sending Jesus, whom you punished in our place on the cross. Fill our hearts with the Holy Spirit that we may learn to obey you. Thank you for giving us eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen..

PRESENTATION

Introduction

(Hold up picture of Timothy McVeigh. See last page.) This man killed many people. The angry judge said, "You deserve to die?" This man was put to death as punishment for killing so many people. In our Bible story today we will hear about a world that was filled with bad people such as this man. (Feel free to substitute a more timely picture, but stress here the fact that God is not pleased with any sin, not just mass murder. No one escapes the judgment of God except by God's grace and faith in our Savior Jesus.)

Suggestions for telling the story

1. Use a play boat and animals in a dishpan. Use Play Dough to make mountains. Pour water from a sprinkling can or pitcher for rain. Be sure to cover the Play Dough mountains with water.
2. Act out certain parts of the story. Hammer and saw boards, pint pitch, pretend to be animals. Make rain sounds and wind sounds.
3. Show pictures.
4. Pace off the size of the ark in front of your church. (It was huge. One pace equals about one yard. The ark was about 150 yards long (1 ½ football fields), 25 yards wide and 15 yards tall (45 feet tall.)
5. Make the paper plate visuals form the Level 1 student's page in advance to help explain the story and application.

The Story

This is written out in the Level 1 and Level 2 children's pages.

Review

- We are going to learn two important words today. The first one is "judgment." It reminds us of an angry judge who says, "you are guilty. You have done wrong. You must be punished?" (Show picture of judge here. See last page)
- What was wrong with the people of Noah's day? (They were very wicked . [bad])
- What did god decide He would have to do because of their sin? (Destroy them with a flood.)
- Did God love all these people? (Yes!)
- Why didn't God save their lives instead of killing them? (Jesus died fro their sins also, but these wicked people didn't want to have anything to do with God or His forgiveness through Jesus.)
- God, in His Love, knew He could not let their wickedness grow and grow. It had to be stopped! (Think of what a scary place to live that would be with all those murders and beatings.)
- Why did God decide to save Noah and his family? (Noah believed in God. Galatians 3:6)
- Did Noah ever sin? (Yes)
- Then why didn't god let Noah and his family die in the flood? (By God's grace, Noah was sorry for his sins. Noah believed in God's forgiveness through the promised Savior, and so was saved. Don't let believing in Jesus sound like a good work. Even our faith is a gift of God. Ephesians 2:8-9)
- This bring us to our second new word, "mercy." Mercy means God loves us and makes a way to save us.
- How did God save Noah and his family? (He saved them in the ark.)

Inner Aim

Here's something for us to remember: *Along with God's judgment always comes God's mercy.* God punishes sin, but He also saves. (Ezekiel 33:11 As I live, says the Lord, I don't want the wicked man to die; I want him to repent and live. Turn, turn form your wicked ways!)

APPLICATION

Do we sin? (Yes, every day.)

What do we deserve because of our sin? (The wages of sin is death.)

God is the judge who said our sins have to be punished.

Does God punish us for our sins? (No)

who did God punish for four sins in our place? (He punished Jesus; Jesus died on the cross.)

(Show a picture of Jesus dying on the cross.)

There is Jesus being punished for all of your sins and mine. But first Jesus had to live a perfect life in our place.

Did Jesus ever sin? (No)

Since Jesus never sinned, He always did everything right. We call this His righteousness. All those right things Jesus did become ours when we believe in Him as our Savior.

Just like Noah was saved in the ark, we are saved through Jesus. This saving work of Jesus becomes ours through our baptism. "Baptism now saves you." 1 Peter 3:21. When we are baptized, the Holy Spirit gives us the power to live a New Life by obeying God and His Word. He also gives us eternal life. What will our life be like after we die? (Briefly discuss out resurrection and life with Jesus in heaven.)

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (A possible illustration: Show one sealed envelope that says "Your paycheck (wages)" on the outside. Open it up and take out a 3x5 card. On one side it says, "For the sins you do, you deserve..." and on the other side write, "death (hell)." Now take out a wrapped present that is sealed and says, "gift" on the outside. Open it and take out a 3x5 card that says on one side, "I was punished for you. Instead of death, I give you..." On the other side write, "eternal life with Me in heaven. Love, Jesus.")

Ps. 5:4 For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, nor shall evil dwell with You.

Ps. 34:8 Oh taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him.

Prov. 1:10 My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent.

Mark 16:16 He who does not believe will be condemned.

Eph. 2:8 By grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.

2 Cor. 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers.

HYMN CHOICES

I Lay My Sins on Jesus TLH #652:1 and 4
God Loved the World So That He Gave TLH #245
All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall TLH #369
All That I Was, My Sin, My Guilt - TLH #378
Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray - TLH #446:1-5



