

Bible Passage: Genesis 6-10

Key Passage: “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:23

Big Picture Question: *What does it mean to sin? To sin is to go against God and His commands.*

LEADER DEVOTIONAL

The Bible is full of promises. As early as the first few chapters of Genesis, we begin to see God make, and even fulfill, His promises: promises for punishment and for blessing, for death and for life, for separation and for salvation. In Noah’s journey to build an ark, survive the flood, and begin to repopulate the earth, we find multiple reminders that the Lord is faithful to fulfill His promises.

When God destroyed the entire population of the earth, except for Noah and his family, we are reminded that God keeps His promise to preserve a remnant of His people always. When Noah sent a dove to find dry land and it returned with an olive leaf, we are reminded of God’s promise to show His people the way at just the right time. And when God painted His bow in the sky, we are reminded of God’s promise that He will always keep His Word.

In a world filled with fake news and false prophets, we are often skeptical of the stories and promises that we hear and read about. When it comes to the promises and claims of the world, we should be discerning. But when it comes to the promises of God, we should be trusting.

As you survey Genesis 6–10, may it stir a great reminder in your heart and mind that God is always faithful and true. God is no liar, and He will not turn back from His word. May these chapters of Genesis also give you hope that though everything around you may fail, God’s Word never will.

God is a God of great and magnificent promises. And every single one of them we can trust completely. When in doubt of this truth, look to the cross of Christ and His empty grave.

As Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 1:20, “every one of God’s promises is ‘Yes’ in [Jesus].”

God will fulfill His promises. This week, pray that God would stir in you many reminders of how He keeps His word.

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WELCOME

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, ask kids about their week, and help new kids connect to your group.

SAY: *Have you ever been in a terrible storm? Tell us about it. Were you scared in the storm? Did you pray and ask God to protect you?*

ACTIVITY PAGE

Invite kids to complete the “Two by Two” activity page.

SAY *God rescued Noah, his family, and some of every land animal during the flood. God’s plan included saving at least two of each animal so they could scatter, multiply, and fill the earth when the flood was over.*

KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY

SAY *Every single person is a sinner. We are all born that way. But God gives us salvation through His Son, Jesus. If we confess our sin and believe in Jesus, we can be saved from our sin.*

Write the key passage on a dry erase board or chalk board. Invite the kids to read the key passage aloud. Erase one word. Invite the kids to read the key passage aloud again, filling in the missing word. Continue erasing one word each time until the kids are reading the key passage from memory.

SESSION STARTER

animal races

Use masking tape to make starting and finishing lines. Form teams of two. Allow each team to choose the animal they want to be. The teams will race against other teams. They will race as the animals they’ve chosen to be (if they are elephants, they will race on all fours; if they are snakes, they will race on their bellies; etc). Call two teams to the starting line. Instruct them to get into their animal position. The team that crosses the finish line, still in their animal positions, wins. Play again as other animals as time allows.

SAY *You all were hilarious as animals! Does anyone know why Noah brought two of every kind of animal onto the ark? It was part of God’s plan. Listen as we read the Bible story today to see that God’s plan included at least two of each kind of animal and Noah’s whole family.*

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BIBLE LESSON

God spared Noah

Adam and Eve had many children and grandchildren. Their grandchildren had children and grandchildren, and people began to fill the earth. God looked at all the people on earth and saw that they were choosing to sin more and more. Every person’s thoughts were evil, and God was sad that He made people. God decided to send a flood to destroy all the creatures on the earth.

But God showed favor to a man named Noah. Noah was a righteous man; he followed God. God warned Noah about the flood. He told Noah to make an ark to save himself, his family, and all kinds of animals.

God told Noah exactly how to make the ark, and He said that He would make an agreement—or covenant—with Noah and his family. Noah did everything God commanded. When the ark was finished, Noah went inside with his family and the animals, and God shut the door.

The rain started and water rose from the ground. Now the ark floated on top of the water. The water rose higher and higher until all of the mountains were covered. Everyone inside the ark was safe.

Finally, after 40 days and 40 nights, the rain stopped and the water started to go down. Noah waited inside the ark until the ground was dry. Then God told Noah to bring all the people and animals out of the ark. So Noah did. Noah built an altar and gave an offering to the Lord. God promised to never completely flood the earth again.

God told Noah and his family to spread out over the earth and fill it with people. God placed a rainbow in the sky as a special sign of the covenant He made with Noah. Every time Noah and his family saw the rainbow, they would know God remembered the promise He had made with all the living creatures on earth.

Christ Connection: God rescued Noah and his family from the flood. The story of Noah points ahead to a greater rescue. God’s Son, Jesus—the only perfectly righteous One—came to take the punishment for our sin. By trusting in Him, we are saved from the punishment our sin deserves.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Small Group ACTIVITIES



Say • Raise your hand if you had heard this Bible story before today.

Distribute Bibles and help kids find Genesis 6–10. Explain that, in most Bibles, the top left corner shows what book and chapter is at the start of the left page; the top right corner shows what book and chapter is at the end of the right page. Help kids find the book names and chapter numbers on each page. Help kids use those to find the Bible passage.

Choose a volunteer to read aloud Genesis 6–10.

SAY *The story of Noah is the first time that God made a covenant with His people after sin entered the world. A covenant is a promise that God makes to someone. A covenant is when God promises to do something regardless of anyone else doing anything in return. God promised Noah that He would never flood the earth again.*

As we read the rest of the Bible, we will see that God continued to make covenants with His people. Even when people disobey God, He still keeps His promises to us. God always keeps His promises.

Group Discussion

Ask the following questions. Lead the kids to discuss their answers.

SAY *Why would God want to destroy His own creation?*

Guide the kids to consider why God wanted to destroy the very people He had created. Help them to understand that God saw the spread of sin throughout the world. God saw that men were wicked, even every thought was evil. Help them understand that sin deeply grieves God. It’s not just that God must punish sin, it’s also that God is sad when His people choose to sin.

SAY *Why did God choose to save Noah?*

Help the kids understand that God chose to save Noah because God is merciful. Noah loved and trusted God, but he was a sinner like everyone else. Help the kids to understand that God chose to save Noah to point others to Jesus. Every story in the Bible points us to Jesus. Help kids consider how the story of Noah foreshadows the story of Jesus saving us from the punishment of our sin: death.

SAY *How can we trust God to keep His promises?*

Help the kids to discuss the promise that God made to Noah. God promised Noah that He would never destroy the world through a flood again. Help the kids to consider other promises God made throughout the Bible. Help them understand that God always keeps His promises. We can trust God to keep His promises because God is perfect and all-powerful. He can never fail. He does not lie. Help kids understand that we can trust God just as the people in the Bible, like Noah, did.

PRAYER TIME

Take prayer requests. Pray for your group.