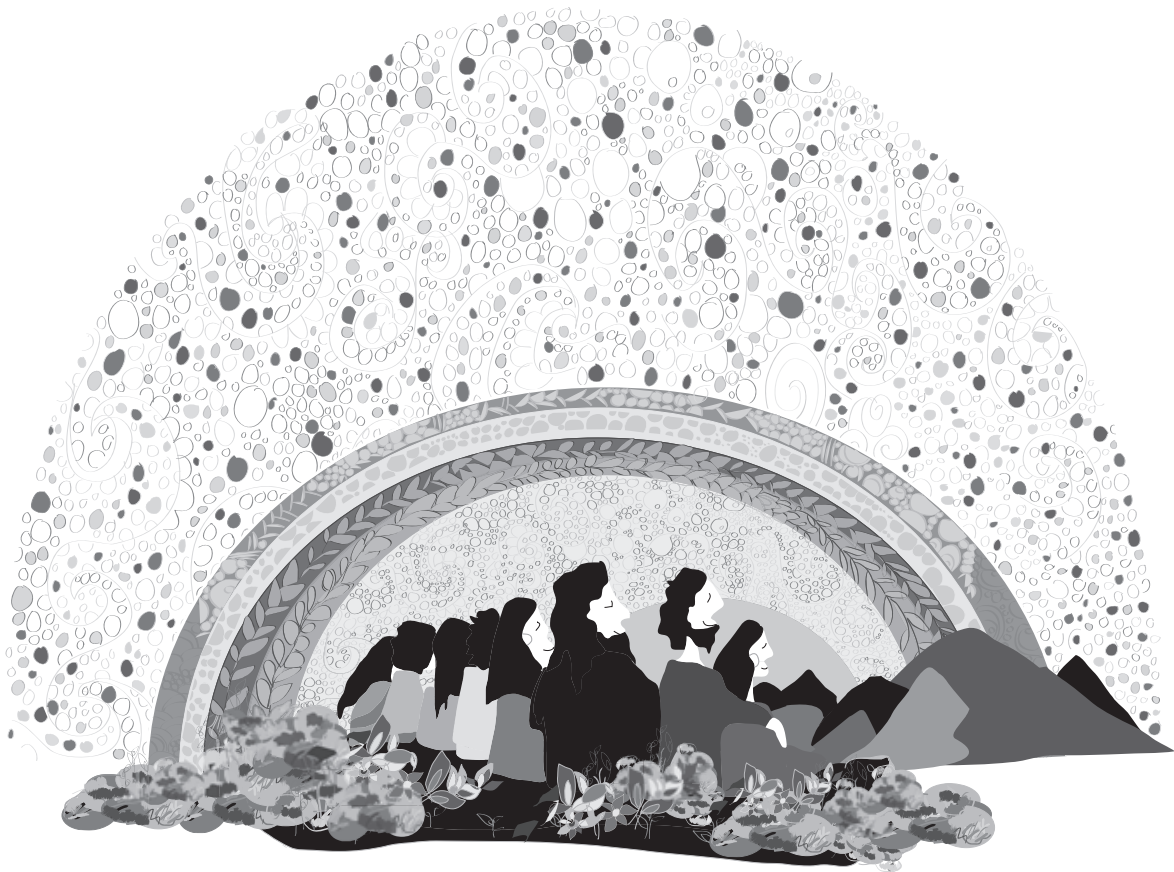


LESSON 6

The Rainbow of God's Promise

GENESIS 8–9



BIBLE TRUTH

BY HIS GRACE, GOD ESTABLISHED A COVENANT WITH NOAH

LESSON SNAPSHOT

1. OPENING ACTIVITY AND INTRODUCTION 5 MIN

2. BIBLE STORY 10 MIN

SUPPLIES: *The Gospel Story Bible* (story 6)

3. BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION 5 MIN

Where Is Jesus?

SUPPLIES: Bible (ESV preferred); Review “Where Is Jesus?” to prepare

4. SNACK QUESTIONS 10 MIN

SUPPLIES: Snack food/water

5. SWORD BIBLE MEMORY 5-10 MIN

6. ACTIVITIES AND OBJECT LESSONS (CHOOSE ONE OR MORE) 20-30 MIN

Coloring Page 6

SUPPLIES: markers/crayons

Passing the Time

Make a Giant Rainbow

SUPPLIES: tape, crayons, two sheets of large paper

7. CLOSING PRAYER 5 MIN

TOTAL 60-75 MIN

THE LESSON

OPENING ACTIVITY AND INTRODUCTION 5 MIN

In today's lesson the children will hear how God brought Noah out of the ark and made a covenant with him.

Tell the children that Noah sent birds out several times to see if the flood was going away. Then tell the children you are going to have them pretend to be the birds on the ark. Have them put their hands under their arms to make wings at rest. Give them the following clues to act out:

- The ark is on the water. Lean one way and then the other. Repeat.
- The ark is coming to rest on a tall mountain. Shake like the ark hit a rock.
- The ark is moving just a little bit. Move a little back and forth.
- You are a raven and Noah is sending you out of the ark. Fly around, but you find no place to land.
- Now you are a dove. Fly around and look for a place to land. Oh no, there is no place for you to land, so fly back to the ark.
- Now Noah is sending you out again. Fly around looking for a place to land. You see a branch. Land on the branch, and pick a leaf with your beak. Now carry it back to Noah.
- Finally, Noah sends you out again. Fly around. You see plenty of land and trees, so wave goodbye to Noah. Fly away.

Now have the children sit down. Ask them what God put into the sky after the flood? See if they can tell you what the rainbow was put into the sky to tell us.

Pray for the remainder of the class time before moving forward with the lesson.

BIBLE STORY 10 MIN

Read story 6, "The Rainbow of God's Promise," from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION 5 MIN

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion:

Why did God send the flood?

(People had become very wicked, and the thoughts of their hearts were only evil all the time.)

What did God decide to do about the great evil on earth?

(send a flood to destroy the people he created)

What different things did God decide to destroy?

(people and animals and birds [see Genesis 6:7])

Who did God decide not to destroy?

(Noah, his family, two of every kind of animal and birds, and the fish [the Bible does not mention fish in the list of those things God would destroy])

SNACK QUESTIONS 10 MIN

While the children are eating the snack, engage them by asking:

What do you think it would have been like to see the animals all coming up to the ark?

(Accept any answer.)

Where did the floodwaters come from?

(as rain from the sky and from great springs from the deep)

Have any of you ever been in a flood? What was it like?

(Answers may vary.)

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY 5-10 MIN

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECT LESSONS. 20-30 MIN

Coloring Activity

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ coloring page 6—one copy for each child

While the children are coloring, engage them by asking the following questions:

Where Is Jesus? _____

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

Passage: Luke 22:19, 20; Hebrews 12:24

As soon as he got off the ark, Noah sacrificed some of the animals to God. Noah didn't realize it, but to God all genuine sacrifice to him points forward to his plan to sacrifice his son, Jesus. So the story of Noah and his family being saved from the flood should remind us of God's plan to save his people through the death of his Son, Jesus.

God gave Noah (and us!) the rainbow as a sign of one of God's covenants with his people. It reminds us of God's promise that he will never again destroy the earth by flood. God always keeps his covenants perfectly, and the best covenant of all is the one involving Jesus and his death on the cross for our sins.

Why did God place a rainbow in the sky?

(as a sign of his promise to Noah that he would never again destroy the whole earth by a flood)

What did Noah do when he came out of the ark?

(He built an altar to the Lord.)

Why do you think Noah did this?

(to thank God for protecting him and his family from the flood)

Can you think of any other times God saved his people from death?

(Daniel in the lions' den, Jonah in the belly of the whale, Jesus dying on the cross for our sins so that we can have eternal life)

Passing the Time

Ask the children how long Noah's family and the animals were on the ark. The children may answer 40 days, but that is how long it rained. They were on the

ark nearly 11 months. Ask the children to imagine being on a boat with a bunch of animals that long. Continue the discussion by posing the following questions:

What would be some good things about that?

What would be some difficult things about that?

What would it look like to care for the animals every day?

In what ways might you be tempted?

What would you do to pass the time?

Talk to the children about the gratefulness of Noah toward God after coming out of the ark, and how Noah thanked God for preserving him and his family for those 11 months.

Make a Giant Rainbow

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ tape
- ✓ crayons
- ✓ two sheets of large paper

On a very large piece of paper draw an outline of a rainbow. Have the children start coloring in the various sections of the rainbow with large crayons. Have them work on it until the rainbow is all colored in or you run out of time. You can tape it up somewhere as a reminder of God’s faithfulness. The next week when the kids return, see how many can remember why God placed the rainbow in the sky.

PRAY **5 MIN**

Take time at the end of class to thank God for all you learned today. Include parts of your Bible lesson in your prayer as another way for the children to remember what today’s lesson was about.

LESSON 6 - THE RAINBOW OF GOD'S PROMISE

