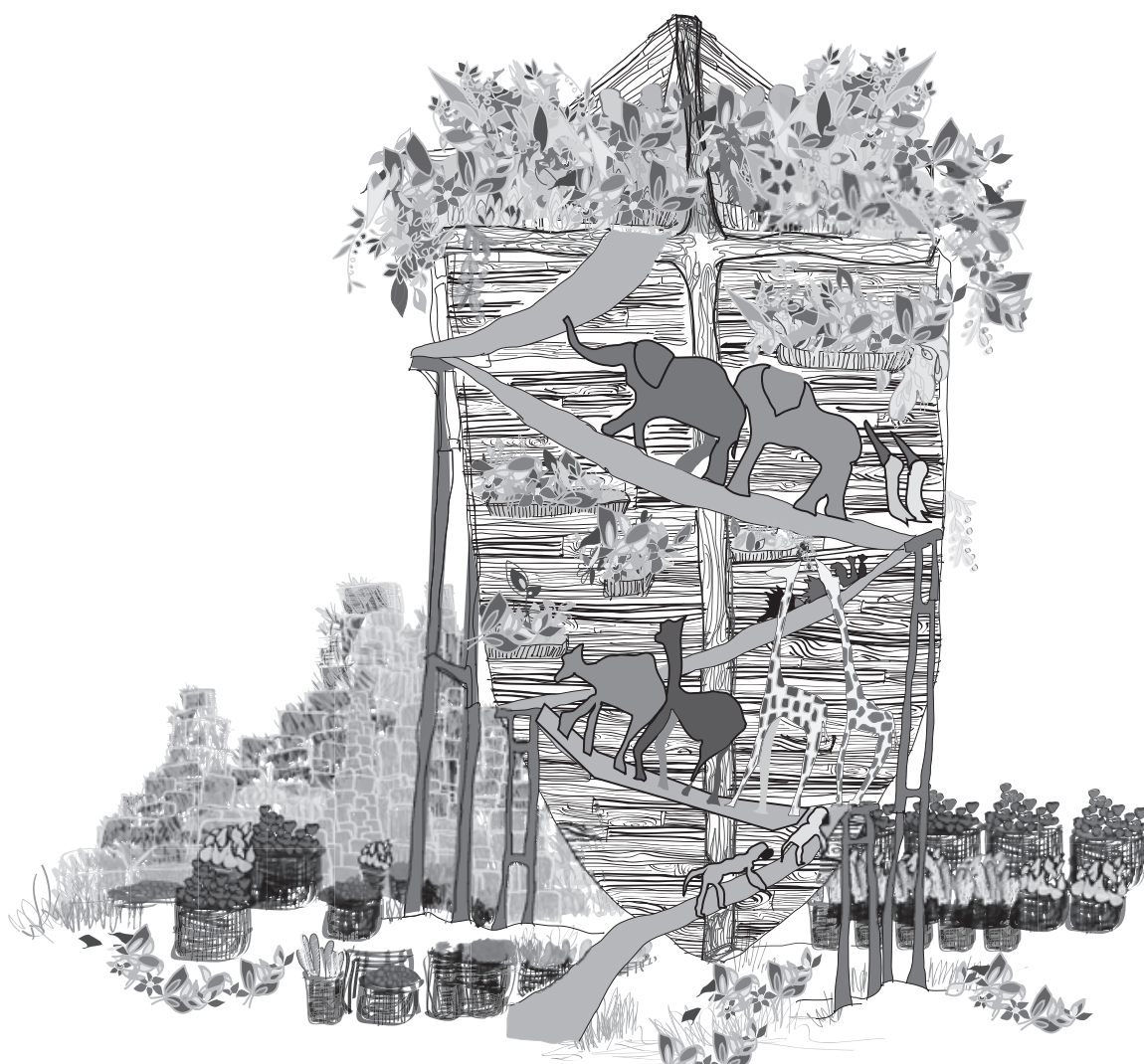


LESSON 5

God Chooses Noah

GENESIS 6–7



BIBLE TRUTH

GOD'S GRACE AND MERCY PROVIDE SALVATION FOR NOAH AND HIS FAMILY

LESSON SNAPSHOT

- 1. OPENING REVIEW** **5 MIN**
 Use last week’s lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.
- 2. BIBLE STORY** **10 MIN**
 Read Genesis 6:11–22 from the Scriptures or read story 5, “God Chooses Noah,” from *The Gospel Story Bible*.
- 3. OBJECT LESSON 1** **10 MIN**
 Only Evil All the Time
SUPPLIES:
 ✓ one dozen eggs (one hard-boiled)
 ✓ twelve sheets of colored tissue paper twelve-inches square
 ✓ a black marker
 ✓ one disposable drop cloth
 ✓ one hand towel or roll of paper towels
- 4. TEACHING/DISCUSSION** **10 MIN**
- 5. OBJECT LESSON 2** **10 MIN**
 God’s Call
SUPPLIES:
 ✓ a digital voice recorder
- 6. SWORD BIBLE MEMORY** **5 MIN**
- 7. ACTIVITY TIME** **10 MIN**
 The True Story of Noah’s Ark
SUPPLIES:
 ✓ *The True Story of Noah’s Ark* by Tom Dooley, Master Books (<http://www.christianbook.com/the-true-story-of-noahs-ark/tom-dooley/9780890513880/pd/0513880>)
- 8. CLOSING PRAYER** **5 MIN**
- 9. BONUS OBJECT LESSON** **10 MIN**
 God’s Salvation

TOTAL 75 MIN

PREPARING TO TEACH

TEACHING POINTS

Apart from God's grace, sin controls our lives—At the end of Genesis 4, people began to trust in God. But by Genesis 6, which was ten generations later, no one trusted God anymore because “every intention of the thoughts of [man's] heart was only evil continually” (Genesis 6:5).

People are full of sin. Adam and Eve chose to eat fruit from the forbidden tree, and ever since then people follow their own ways. Apart from the grace of God, sin will control everyone's life.

Even in God's judgment, he is merciful to sinful man—It was God's idea to reach out to Noah, give him instructions, and offer him the opportunity to be saved from the flood. This is one of many ways the Bible shows us that we do not choose God, but God chooses us.

Also, God did not have to save Noah—he could have destroyed the whole earth. It was because of God's mercy that he spared Noah and his family.

God's judgment is just—In Genesis 7, God was totally just in killing those who had turned away from him. At the same time, in his mercy God rescued Noah and the rest of his family. It was through Noah that mankind was preserved, and it was from Noah's offspring that Jesus was born.

God is gracious and patient about the sins of mankind. But he does eventually punish all sin. In his mercy, however, God provided a way for Noah to be saved. Later in the New Testament, Jesus warned that those who rebel against God will be judged and go to a fiery place called hell (Matthew 5:22).

WHERE IS JESUS? _____

How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?

Read 1 Peter 3:20–22.

In the flood, God did finally judge the world for its sin. Peter tells us that the floodwater is a symbol of our baptism in Christ because the water of baptism covers our sin just as the floodwater covered the sinful world.

Also, Noah's ark was a symbol of God's salvation in Jesus. There was only one way to be saved from the floodwater. You had to go through the door and live in the ark. The Bible tells us that Jesus is the gate or door through which we must go for salvation.

God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities, and powers in submission to him.
(1 Peter 3:20–22 NIV)

So, reading about Noah and the flood should make us think of Jesus and his salvation.

THE LESSON

OPENING REVIEW 5 MIN

Use last week's lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.

BIBLE STORY 10 MIN

Read Genesis 6:11–22 from the Scriptures or read story 5, "God Chooses Noah," from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

OBJECT LESSON 1 **10 MIN**

Only Evil All the Time

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ one dozen eggs (one hard-boiled)
- ✓ twelve sheets of colored tissue paper twelve-inches square
- ✓ a black marker
- ✓ one disposable drop cloth
- ✓ one hand towel or roll of paper towels

The object of this activity is to help the children understand and remember the pervasive nature of sin in our lives. In Genesis 6:5 we read: “The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.” The eggs in this illustration represent the sinful heart, and the colored tissue represents the good works we sometimes attempt to use to cover our sinful actions.

Prior to class, hard-boil one of the eggs and mark it so that you know which one it is. Spread out a disposable drop cloth in front of the room.

Explain to the class that apart from grace we would always sin. Read Genesis 6:5 and explain that the fall of man applies to everyone just like gravity applies to everyone. Ask the children what will happen if you drop an egg (show them the egg) onto the floor. Just as they are about to answer, drop the egg, and then pick up the dripping mess and hold it high for everyone to see. Inform them that the egg is like sin.

Wipe off your hands then pick up the colored tissue. Take another raw egg and wrap it in the colored tissue explaining that sometimes we think we are doing good, but apart from the grace of God even the good things that we do are done from selfish motives. We love so that others will love us in return; we clean our rooms so we don't get punished; we drive within the speed limit to avoid getting a ticket; we say nice things so that others will like us. But inside (drop the tissue-covered egg) we are just as sinful as can be.

Ask the class what kind of outward behavior kids can put on while their hearts are far from God. (Dress up in nice clothes for church, respect their teachers in class but gossip outside of class, say nice things to someone's face but talk about them when they are not there, etc.) Write down these suggestions on a few sheets of tissue then in dramatic form, toss the eggs in the air and let them come down with a splat.

Explain to the children that in the midst of all the wickedness in the earth, God changed Noah's heart and poured out his grace on him. Take the hard-boiled egg, place it in a tissue, toss it up, and let it hit the floor. Pick it back up, wipe it off, and then peel it. Explain to the children that God is the only answer to the sin in our hearts. Tell the children that God's grace transforms our lives so that we are changed, "Just like this egg was changed when I boiled it this morning."

TEACHING/DISCUSSION 10 MIN

Using the teaching points, teach through the lesson for today.

OBJECT LESSON 2 10 MIN

God's Call

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ a digital voice recorder

Prior to class make a recording telling five children in your class to perform simple commands. For example, "Jeremy, shake hands with the teacher." Pick names of children you know will likely be in class. Play one name and one command at a time. Pause the recorder between names and allow time for the child to complete her activity. When everyone is finished, discuss what it means to be chosen or called to a certain task. Ask the class how this exercise is like our story in which Noah was called by God to complete a certain task.

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY 5 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.

ACTIVITY TIME 10 MIN

The True Story of Noah's Ark

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ *The True Story of Noah's Ark* by Tom Dooley, Master Books (<http://www.christianbook.com/the-true-story-of-noahs-ark/tom-dooley/9780890513880/pd/0513880>)

Have the children sit around you as you read through the story as presented by Tom Dooley. This book contains wonderful scaled illustrations to show just how big the ark was compared to common objects like a football field.

CLOSING PRAYER 5 MIN

Pick several children to pray prayers based on the day's scripture passages.

BONUS OBJECT LESSON 10 MIN

God's Salvation

Choose a volunteer to play the part of Noah. To create the illusion of an ark, have the rest of the children sit on the floor in the shape of a football, all facing the center. Have Noah sit on a chair in the center.

Tell the class you are going to pretend to be the waves. When you come close to the ark, the children nearest you should raise their hands high against the waves. Move around the ark and rush toward it, periodically pretending to be crashing waves and saying things like, "Here comes a giant wave. I am going to crash against the ark!" After doing several rounds of waves talk with the class and ask them what it must have felt like to be in the ark with all the animals in the storm-tossed sea. Talk with the class about how this exercise was a picture of how God protected Noah in the ark.

LESSON 5 - GOD CHOOSES NOAH

