

GOD CHOOSES NOAH

God's grace and mercy provide salvation for Noah and his family.



THE STORY: GENESIS 4:25-26 AND 6:1-12

MONDAY

**Apart from the
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Apart from the grace of God, sin will reign in the lives of men. People called on the name of the Lord at the end of Genesis chapter four but by the end of ten generations later, the people and all the inclinations of their hearts were only evil (Genesis 6:5). Apart from God's restraining grace, people are full of sin and this sin will express itself in the way they live. From the time Adam and Eve chose to disregard God's warning not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil to this very day, people follow their own ways.

TALK ABOUT IT:

Is sin different now that Jesus has come? *(No, every man born today is born with a sinful heart. Apart from the grace of God rescuing us through the cross, we would live just as the people in Noah's day, our hearts inclined more and more towards evil.)*

Think of little children. How do their actions support the notion that we are all born sinful? *(You don't need to teach young children, even toddlers, to disobey —it is a part of their nature. They lash out or whine when they don't get what they want; they hoard and guard what they have and selfishly keep it from others. Self-control, patience, kindness and the other fruits of the Spirit must be taught to them.)*

PRAY:

Ask God to forgive you for your sin (be specific if appropriate) and help you to demonstrate the fruit of the Spirit, not the deeds of the flesh (turn to Galatians 5:19-26 to inform your prayers).





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to all generations. Noah did not offer a covenant to God but God offered his covenant to Noah. Notice that God took the initiative, not man. It is clear that once again we did not choose God but God chose us. God had no obligation to save Noah—he could have destroyed the whole earth. It was because of God's mercy that he spared Noah and his family.

TALK ABOUT IT:

How is the way God reached out to Noah the same as the way he reaches out to us today? (*God spoke to Noah to save him. God speaks to us through his written Word and the Holy Spirit to save us.*)

PRAY:

Thank God for his mercy, without which there would be no salvation for Noah or for us.



Noah's life is a foreshadowing of Christ. Noah was a righteous man who, with his family, passed safely through the waters of God's wrath and judgment. Though the earth was flooded because of sin, God spared the man and his family. These waters of judgment, Peter tells us, symbolize our baptism into Christ.

Where is Jesus?

TALK ABOUT IT:

How are Noah and Jesus alike? (*Noah was a savior pointing forward to Jesus THE Savior. They were both used of God to rescue their own people.*)

When we read the story of Noah, of whom should it remind us? (*Jesus*)

PRAY:

Thank God for how the whole Bible fits together pointing us to our salvation. Just as Noah's family needed to trust Noah by entering the ark, so we need to trust in Christ.



God's judgment against sin in sinful man is just.

God's judgment against sin in sinful man is just. The just punishment for sin is death. God promised Adam and Eve that if they disobeyed him they would die. The fact that God did not immediately kill Adam and Eve was an expression of his grace and mercy at the beginning of his plan of redemption. In this passage of Scripture, God was totally just in killing those who had turned away from him. In his mercy, God rescued Noah. It was through Noah that Adam's lineage was preserved and it was from Noah's offspring that the Christ came.

TALK ABOUT IT:

What punishment should we receive for our sin? *(We should receive the same punishment that came to the people outside the ark—death. This means not only physical death, but spiritual death—spending all of time in hell apart from God.)*

Is there an ark for us? *(Yes, Jesus. His death and resurrection is our ark if we believe and place our trust in him.)*

PRAY:

Ask God to help you to trust Christ. Ask God to change each of your hearts that you might be able to believe and follow Jesus.



On the road to Emmaus.

Matthew records that as soon as Jesus came up out of the waters of baptism a voice came from heaven saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17). In Psalm 2 we see an earlier declaration that God's king, the one whom will receive the nations as an inheritance, is none other than the Son of God—Jesus. Here we read that Jesus is the decreed Son and his possession shall be the ends of the earth Jesus would redeem the earth and the nations from the power of Satan.

TALK ABOUT IT:

What in Psalm 2:6-7 makes it seem like the writer is talking about Jesus? *(Jesus is a king and he is also God's Son.)*

What did Jesus do to make the nations his heritage (inheritance, reward)?

(Jesus purchased people back to himself by paying the price for their sins. His life, given up on the cross, paid the penalty for their sins and removed Satan's claim upon them. No longer are they bound to the death that came through the sin of Adam and Eve. Instead, with the penalty paid, all those who trust in Christ will be a people for his possession and dwell as his subjects in heaven with him forever.)

PRAY:

Thank God for sending us Jesus and ask God to help you to follow Jesus today. Also pray that God will help you follow the example of Noah who followed the Word of God instead of the ways of the world.

