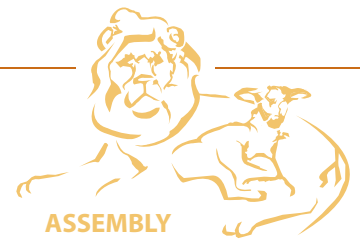


GOD CHOOSES NOAH

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: GENESIS 6



*Please do not feel the need to cover the entire portion of scripture in your lesson.
The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can
present this material.*

LESSON IDEAS

THE PENALTY FOR SIN

Use the following questions to engage the children concerning the penalty for sin.

- What is the penalty or consequences for sin? (The penalty for sin is death.)
- When did God first tell man about this? (He told Adam and Eve not to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. On the day they would eat of the tree they would surely die.)
- Why do you think there is such a terrible penalty for people who sin? (God is holy and sin is an attack against God.)
- God's character demands that He destroy evil. How can Christians escape death? (Jesus died on the cross in our place so we can live forever in heaven.)
- How is Jesus like the ark? (Trusting in Jesus is our salvation from death just like the ark was Noah's salvation from death, see 1 Peter 3:19-22.)

FILLING THE ARK

Supplies:

- tape
- list of animals

Use the tape to make the shape of a ship on the floor which is big enough for all the class to stand in. Come prepared with a list of animals long enough to give everyone a chance to be an animal.

Assign children to be Noah and his family as well as give everyone left over an animal to act out. Have a teacher play the role of God and tell the animals to line up to the door of the ark in an orderly way, acting out the sounds and motions of their animal.

Pair by pair, have the animals go inside of the tape. Caution them not to step out of the tape, for that is the water and they will drown. See how long they can stay in the ark. When they start becoming uncomfortable, keep them there just a bit longer. Talk about the challenges of living cramped in an ark with so many animals! Help the children to realize there would be terrible smells and it would be very crowded.

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THE MERCY OF GOD

Use the following questions to engage the children concerning the mercy of God.

- How could Noah follow the Lord in a time when all the people were wicked? (He trusted the Lord.)
- How did Noah know who God was? (God walked with Noah and talked with Noah to show him who He was, see Genesis 6:9-14.)
- The Bible says Noah was a righteous and blameless man. Do you think Noah ever sinned? (Yes, the Bible says all men have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, see Romans 3:23.)
- How many sins do you need to commit to be guilty of sin and deserve to die? (One)
- Since Noah was a sinner, why did God save him? (God saved Noah out of His mercy.)
- When we don't get the punishment we deserve it is God's mercy to us. How does God show His mercy to us today? (He does not treat us as our sins deserve and He sent His Son to die on the cross. Jesus took the punishment for our sin so that we would not need to die.)



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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.

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.

...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)

