

THE RAINBOW OF GOD'S PROMISE

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: GENESIS 6-9



The STORY

Read "A New Beginning" & "Rainbow in the Sky" from The Children's Bible in 365 Stories (pages 20-21).

Please note: *The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.*

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

- Why did God send the flood? (Man's wickedness had become great and the thoughts of their hearts were only evil all the time.)
- What did God decide to do about the great evil in the earth? (Send a flood to destroy the men he created.)
- What different things did God decide to destroy? ("Men and animals and creatures that move along the ground and the birds of the air." 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 record does not mention fish in the list of those things God would destroy.)

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CRAFT QUESTIONS

Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: the ark sitting on the top of a mountain with a rainbow in the sky. Engage the children by asking:

- 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.)

SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack, engage the children 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 all the flood water come from? (The heavens, the sky in rain and from great springs from the deep.)
- Have any of you ever been in a flood? What was it like? (Answers may vary.)



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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.

The rainbow is a sign of another of God's covenants with His people. It reminds us of God's promise that He will not again destroy the earth by flood. This covenant was made in response to Noah's sacrifice of some of the animals after they came out from the ark. God's heart was affected by this sacrifice because it surely reminded Him of His plan to sacrifice His Son Jesus. Noah and his family's salvation from the flood is meant to point us to God's plan to ultimately save His people. Jesus' covenant is a better covenant than all those that God made before Jesus He came.

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

BE A DOER OF THE WORD

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.

