



Preschool Ministry Curriculum for
June 12, 2016

Dear Teacher,

This week we continue our summer curriculum which is following the theme and preaching from the Sanctuary service. This summer we will look back at most of the characters we studied this past year. The point of each lesson will center on the journey each person was on and how they ultimately looked to Jesus “as the author and perfecter of our faith.”

This week we study the life of Noah. Noah shows us what it means to trust God even though there are things to come that cannot be seen. Noah not only trusted God, but obeyed God. Noah’s trust and obedience is why the author of Hebrews says he was “an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.”

We encourage all classrooms to engage with the story from the options provided in class. Teachers, tell the story using any of the provided helps (Vos, Jesus Story Book Bible, Gospel Story Book Bible or printed Handout). If you would like, read the selected Scripture passages aloud in class, discuss or explain what the passages mean, and use the questions below to help guide the discussion. Also, use time in class to teach the Scripture Memory and the Catechism Questions.

Lesson: The Journey: Noah

Lesson Objective: To communicate to children that God always keeps His promises despite circumstances and even our inability to trust Him. God wants us to trust Him and obey His commands.

Scripture: Hebrews 11:7 and Genesis 6-9

Story: Vos Children’s Bible, Pages 14-16; Jesus Story Book Bible, Pages 38-47; The Gospel Storybook Bible, Pages 10-11; The Beginner’s Bible, Pages 28-35.

Teaching Points:

- God looks upon his Creation and sees that sin has corrupted (filled with violence) the whole world.
- God resolves to destroy the corrupt people and earth by means of the Flood.
- Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. Noah (and family) is the only righteous person God finds on Earth.
- God instructed Noah to build the ark so Noah, his family, and animals would be saved.
- God determined to save the lives of the righteous through the building of the ark.
- Noah responded in obedience, and ultimately trust, to the Lord’s commands.
- God treats sin with seriousness. He does not take it lightly.
- God treats those who are faithful with mercy and care. He promises (covenants) to preserve Noah in the midst of judgment.
- Noah is determined righteous by God for his faith in what God said He would do.

Preschool Ministry – Morning Overview

For the Sunday Schedule, please see “Sunday Schedule for Preschool” found in Handbook on the teacher’s table.

First Hour

Cherub Church

- Kindergarten/5’s – 9:35-10:00 (*Classroom’s: 162, 163, 121, 123, 124*)
- 3’s/4’s – 10:05-10:30 (*Classroom’s: 169, 168, 167, 166, 165, 164*)

Craft: Noah’s Ark

Supplies: Cardstock with animals, cardstock ark, popsicle sticks (1 large, 2 small), glue, crayons/markers

Instructions: Have children color the animals and ark, glue cardstock together so animals can be seen in the ark window, glue popsicle sticks to ark.



Snack

Second Hour

Craft: Rainbow ring

Supplies: Plastic ring, colored ribbon

Instructions: Tie different colored ribbons to plastic ring to form a rainbow.



Story: The Journey: Noah

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the Transition Question: Do you know who wears this kind of hat? (Let kids answer. A construction worker.) What do construction workers do? (Build things.) A construction worker is a person who builds things. They use hammers and nails to make wood hold together. Today in my story I’m going to tell you about a man whom God called to build something very important. And God gave him all the instructions. God told him just how to build it.
3. **TELL** the Story. When applicable or desired, use the Vos Children’s Bible, the Jesus StoryBook Bible, the Beginner’s Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

Singing

Scripture Memory (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Catechism Questions (Questions 1-10)

Optional Activities

Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- Who went inside the ark?
- What came down from the sky?
- Who kept Noah and his family and the animals safe inside the ark?
- Who was building a big boat?
- Who told Noah how to build that boat?
- Who did Noah worship after he left the ark?
- When God made a promise, what did He put in the sky?

Questions for Older Children:

- Who shut the door?
- What happened to the earth?
- How long did it rain?
- Why was God going to destroy the world?
- How did he find out if the water was going down?
- What's the first thing Noah did when he left the ark?
- What is the word that means God's promise?

Scripture Memory for Summer:

2 and 3 year olds:

"Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus." Hebrews 12:1-2

4 and 5 year olds:

"Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith." Hebrews 12:1-2

Catechism Questions:

- Question 1 – Who made you? *God*
- Question 2 – What else did God make? *God made all things.*
- Question 3 – Why did God make you and all things? *For his own glory.*
- Question 4 – How can you glorify God? *By loving him and doing what he commands.*
- Question 5 – Why are you to glorify God? *Because he made me and takes care of me.*
- Question 6 – Is there more than one true God? *No. There is only one true God.*
- Question 7 – In how many persons does this One God exist? *In three persons.*
- Question 8 – Who are they? *Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*
- Question 9 – What is God? *God is a Spirit and does not have a body like men.*
- Question 10 – Where is God? *God is everywhere.*

Story

The Journey

Today we continue on our journey together. We won't actually go to a far land or country. We won't have to pack up our suitcases or food or get in a car or a plane. Nope, we will stay right here! This journey is special. This journey takes us into the Old Testament and we get to see how people trusted in Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Our journey is still in the book of Genesis. In fact, you probably know the story of today's Old Testament character. His name is Noah. Let's find out more about how Noah trusted God.

Noah Is...Righteous

The man's name was Noah. The Bible says "Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord." That means God loved him. The Bible says that Noah was a righteous man. And that means he did the right things. He lived in a way that was pleasing to God. The Bible also says that Noah walked with God.

But you know what? (this is kind of sad) – Noah was the only person who loved God in the whole world. Every other person who was alive was wicked. They did bad things and they were so mean. The Bible says the Lord saw how bad the people were who lived on the earth and He was sad. God does not like it when people do bad things. And it wasn't just what the people did! God looked deep into their hearts and He could see that they were mean and bad all the time.

But then God looked at righteous Noah and saw that he loved God and obeyed Him. You know it's easy to be good when people around you are acting good. It's not always easy to be good when everyone around you is being bad. Noah was a righteous man and loved God when everybody else didn't. So God made a decision. And He told Noah all about it.

Warning Of Destruction

The Bible says God tells secrets to the people who love him. One day God told Noah a secret. God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with meanness and badness. I am going to destroy all the people and the earth. But Noah, I want you to make an ark." I bet Noah was listening very carefully to God. He may have been very surprised that God was going to destroy the whole world.

Directions For The Ark

Then God gave Noah instructions (kind of like those blueprints I showed you):

"Build the ark out of gopher wood. Make rooms in it and then put pitch on the inside and on the outside. Pitch is something that keeps water out! Then God said, make the ark 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. Then put a roof on it. Then put a door on the side and a window at the top."

God told Noah exactly how to build the big boat. Noah didn't have to figure it out by himself. God told him how to do it. God was going to destroy the whole world, but not Noah. God had a plan to keep Noah safe.

A Flood Is Coming!

Then God told Noah how He would destroy the earth. God said, "'I will bring a flood of water on the earth.'" A flood is when it starts to rain and keeps raining for a long time. When there's a flood the water comes down so fast and instead of sinking into the ground, the water rises and rises and gets higher and higher.

When there's a flood, water covers everything. God was saying He was going to send a flood to cover the whole world, but not righteous Noah. God made him a promise that Noah would enter the ark and be safe.

Other Guests

But you know what? Noah wasn't going to be there alone! God knew Noah had a family. Noah had a wife and three sons and his sons were married so they had wives too. God wanted them to go into the ark too. God wanted Noah and his whole family to be safe!

"Boy, that sure would be a big boat for Noah and his family to live in," Noah might have thought. "We'll have plenty of room!" But God wanted to put something else in that ark too!

God told Noah to bring two of all the living creatures into the ark with him, two of every kind of bird and every kind of creature that moves along the ground. That means – two lions, two elephants, two bears, two monkeys, two giraffes, and two of every other animal and bird that were living on the earth. God told Noah to bring a girl and a boy of every animal. God wanted all the animals to be on the ark with Noah.

And then you know what else God said, "You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and put it away on the ark. Take food for you and for them." That would be a lot of animals and a lot of food as well! But God had a plan to keep Noah and his family and the animals safe and dry in the ark while the flood was outside. God wanted to make sure they didn't get hungry!

Noah Obeys

The Bible says Noah did everything just as God had commanded him. Maybe he wrote all God's instructions down. First he probably found the gopher trees and then he had to cut them down. (I bet he needed lots of trees!) And then Noah needed to build it just as big as God had said. He put rooms inside. And he put the pitch on the outside and on the inside so water couldn't come in. Oh yes, Noah did everything God had said. It took him a long time too. The Bible says it took Noah more than 100 years to build that boat and it was very hard work. Remember Noah didn't have lots of tools like we have today. I'm sure he had some, but not many!

Noah Preaches

All the time Noah was working he was talking to the people about the Lord. He was telling them not to sin anymore, but to believe and love God. Noah told them that God would punish them for their sins, but nobody really listened. Noah told the people that God would send a flood and they would be destroyed.

But the people laughed at Noah. They thought he was silly because he was building such a big boat. Maybe Noah didn't like it when the people laughed at him, but he didn't stop doing what God had told him to do.

Noah kept on trusting God and obeying him until the day the ark was complete.

All Aboard!

Then the day came when God said to Noah, "It's time for everyone to go into the ark. In seven days I will send rain. It will rain for forty days and forty nights. Every living thing on the whole earth will be destroyed." Noah must have thought, "forty days and forty nights!!! That's a long time for it to rain." Once again, Noah obeyed God. Noah and his wife entered the ark. Noah had three sons. Their names were Shem, Ham and Japheth. Noah's sons went inside the ark and their wives came too. Eight people entered the ark that day.

A Floating Zoo

But that wasn't the only thing that went inside that ark! Oh no. Remember God had told Noah "take two of every creature that are alive on the earth and every bird – a girl and a boy of each animal!" Well, all those animals had to go on the ark with Noah and his family. I bet when Noah first heard that he wondered, "how am I going to find all those animals? How will I get them to follow me inside the ark?" But you know what, God had a plan. Noah didn't have to find the animals and catch them. Oh no. The Bible says "pairs of all the creatures came to Noah." (A pair is one girl and one boy!) Noah didn't have to find them, the animals and the birds came to Noah. God sent the animals and the birds to Noah. We don't know how God did that. But He did. (God can do anything you know.) So out of the jungle came 2 elephants, behind them maybe 2 lions came walking and there were 2 ostriches (you know those big fat feathery birds with long necks), next maybe 2 little prickly porcupines (personalize this section and enjoy) and more and more and more animals. And don't forget bumble bees and butterflies and robins and eagles! Two by two the animals walked and the birds flew down the path, right up and into the ark. That was a miracle! God had brought the animals and birds to Noah. Now all the people and all the animals were together inside the ark. The Bible says righteous Noah was 600 years old when he went into the ark. That's pretty old you know. Nobody lives to be that old now, but a long time ago they did. Noah had worked hard to build the ark just like God had said and now he and his family and all the animals went inside. Now they waited.

God Shuts the Door

Maybe they were sitting in the ark looking outside through the opened door when BANG, all of a sudden there was a noise - a big noise. The door went shut. But Noah hadn't shut the door. His family hadn't shut the door. Who shut the door? The Bible says God shut the door. There was only one door in the ark. After everyone had gone inside, God decided it was time. Noah and his family and the animals would be safe inside and so God shut the door. No one else could come in. I don't know how God shut the door. The Bible doesn't tell us. But He did.

The Flood

For seven days Noah and his family sat in the ark and waited. And then they heard a noise. (Tap on something to make the sound of rain.) It started to rain. It rained harder and harder. It poured down rain. The Bible says the springs of the great deep burst forth and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. That means water came up from the earth and water came down from the sky. It had never rained like that before and it has never rained like that since.

The rain fell on the earth for forty days and forty nights just like God had told Noah. Soon there was so much water on the ground that the water started to come up. It lifted the ark up so that the ark wasn't on the ground any more.

The ark started to rock back and forth on the water. The higher the water came up, the higher the ark was lifted up. Soon the water started to cover all the ground. And then it covered the tops of the trees. And finally the water even covered the mountains.

Everything that was alive on the earth was destroyed - no more animals, no more people. God had sent the flood and destroyed everything that was wicked just like He had said. Only Noah and family and the animals on the ark were safe. God had kept them safe.

Life Inside The Ark

But it wasn't easy for Noah in that ark. It was a mess inside! You know how messy animals can be. Have you ever watched them eat their food? Pigs don't have good manners you know! I bet Noah and his family had to work very hard to keep the ark clean. And I bet there was noise all the time. Sheep going baa, dogs barking, tigers roaring. It was good that God had told Noah to make a window at the top so at least there was nice fresh air for everybody to breathe. But Noah couldn't see outside and that was good too. It probably would have made him very sad to watch the earth be destroyed.

After 40 days, the rain stopped. No more rain was coming down from the sky, no more water was coming up from the earth. But water still covered the ground and so Noah and the rest had to wait longer in the ark. The Bible says that water covered the earth for 150 days!

I bet Noah was happy when the rain stopped falling. Maybe he wondered if God had forgotten about him. But God never forgets. The Bible says God remembered Noah.

God Remembers Noah

God had kept Noah safe in that ark for a long time. The Bible says, "God remembered Noah. So He sent a wind over the earth." God's in control of the wind you know. I don't know how He can make it do things, but He does! And so God's wind started to make the water dry up and the water started to go down. Remember how high the water was? It was higher than the mountains! But now it started to go down, slowly, slowly. And that meant that the ark started to go down too. The ark was floating on top of the water, back and forth very gently.

The Raven and the Dove

Finally, BUMP, the ark sat on something! The ark wasn't floating on the water anymore. It was sitting on a mountain. The mountain's name was Mount Ararat. Maybe Noah wanted to open the door and run outside, but NO. Noah had obeyed the Lord and he would obey him now. Noah waited. One of the passengers in the ark was a black bird called a raven. Noah opened the window and let the raven fly out. (Noah had made that window when he made the ark.) But the raven just kept flying around, back and forth. There wasn't any place for the little black bird to sit and there was nothing for the bird to eat. Then Noah found another bird that had traveled with him on the ark.

This bird was a pretty white dove. Noah sent the dove outside. He let him out the window. Noah wanted to see if the water on the ground was dried up. But the dove couldn't find any place to put his little feet because water was everywhere.

So the dove flew back to the ark. When Noah saw it, he reached out his hand and took hold of the little dove and brought it back inside the ark. "Oh my," Noah might have thought, "when will the water be gone? When can we leave this ark!" Noah had been inside that ark with his family and the animals for more than one whole year! That's a long time to be inside anywhere, especially a big boat with lots and lots of animals!

Seven more days went by and then Noah sent the dove out again from the ark.

This time when the dove came back in the evening, it had something in its little beak. Noah looked. It was a leaf. A little leaf from an olive tree. The dove had pulled it right off the tree! Noah knew the water was going down further and further! Now the tops of the trees were above the water. I bet he was getting excited.

Seven more days went by. Then Noah sent out his little dove again. But you know what? This time the dove never came back. The earth was dry enough that he could make a nest in a tree. That dove wasn't coming back to that ark again. That's for sure!

Obedience

Noah took the top off the ark. He could see that the ground was dry. But Noah wouldn't go outside, not yet. I bet he really wanted to. And Noah could have climbed out. But Noah had obeyed God. He had obeyed God all along. Noah

had built the ark like God had said, even when people were laughing at him. He had taken his family and the animals into the ark, just like God had said, and now he would wait as long as it took for God to speak again.

On Dry Ground

And sure enough, God did. God said to Noah, “Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives, and bring out all the birds and animals that are with you.” And so Noah and the rest finally came outside. Oh I bet the earth looked so beautiful. I bet they all breathed the air and looked at the pretty sky and felt the nice cool breeze on their faces. Oh to be standing on the ground again.

Worship

Guess what Noah did first? What do you think he did as soon as he came out of that ark after being in there for one whole year? (let them guess) The Bible says the first thing Noah did was to build an altar to the Lord and give God a sacrifice. The first thing Noah did was to worship God. Noah knew all that God had done for him. Noah knew God had chosen to save him and his family and so Noah thanked and worshipped God. Then the Bible says God smelled the sweet smell of Noah’s offering and He was pleased. God blessed Noah and his sons and told them to have lots of babies and to fill the whole earth.

God’s Promise and The Rainbow

Then God made Noah a promise. “I will make my covenant with you and your family forever” (a covenant is a promise). God promised, “Never again will there be a flood that destroys the earth. This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you. I have put my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind.” God put a rainbow in the sky so we will remember his promise forever. God promised that He would never send a flood to destroy the earth. Whenever you see a rainbow, remember the story of Noah and God’s great promise to us. Then the Bible says Noah planted a vineyard. He was a farmer. Noah lived 350 years after the flood. Altogether, Noah lived to be 950 and then he died. But I bet Noah never forgot how good God had been to him!

Many, many, many years later, someone wrote in the Bible that Noah was an “heir to righteousness.” What that (heir) means is that Noah received something, he received righteousness; and righteousness can be a hard word to understand too. Righteousness means that we have a right or good relationship with God. So Noah, because He trusted God and obeyed God, was said to receive and have a good relationship with God.

You know that’s what Jesus came to do for us too. Jesus came to make us all “heirs of righteousness.” Jesus wants us to be in a good relationship with God, but the only way to do that is to believe that Jesus is the only way to know God and to love God.