



# NOAH'S ARK

## Genesis 6–9

### Memory Verse

**“In God I trust; I will not be afraid.” (Psalm 56:4)**

**OR**

**“It was faith that made Noah hear God's warnings about things in the future that he could not see. He obeyed God and built a boat in which he and his family were saved. As a result, the world was condemned, and Noah received from God the righteousness that comes by faith.” Hebrews 11:7 (Good News Translation)**

### Context/Background

After Adam and Eve ate the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil things began a downward spiral. Humanity multiplied and violence reigned. Cain killed his brother Abel. One of Cain's descendants, Lamech, became a man renowned for violence, boasting his exploits (Genesis 4).

Sin and evil were only intensifying. How would God react to this state of humanity?

Just before the story of the flood begins, we learn that “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” (Genesis 6:5) and it grieved God “to his heart” (Genesis 6:6). (<https://bibleproject.com/articles/why-did-god-flood-the-world/> )

### Summary

Noah was a righteous man living during a time when wickedness and corruption had engulfed the earth. In response to this, God decides to bring a great flood to cleanse the earth. God instructs Noah to build an enormous ark to save himself, his family, and representatives of every animal species. Noah faithfully follows God's commands, constructs the ark, and gathers the animals. When the floodwaters rise, Noah and his family are protected inside the ark for forty days and nights until the waters recede. After the flood, God makes a covenant with Noah, promising never to destroy the earth by a flood again.

**Relevance/Application** **Themes: Sin, grace, hope, forgiveness, justice, courage**

### Younger students:

- Even when we don't understand God's plan, we can trust Him to fill our lives with the blessings and resources that we need.
- God provides us with a way to begin again when we make mistakes.
- God rescued Noah and his family, and promised never to destroy the world with a flood again.
- God sent Jesus to rescue everyone. When Jesus comes again the whole world will be made new.

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## Older students:

- **Faithfulness and Obedience:** Despite societal corruption and doubt from others, Noah's commitment to God's word demonstrates the importance of faithfulness and obedience in one's relationship with God.
- **Divine Judgment and Grace:** The story depicts God's judgment on humanity due to their wickedness. However, amidst the judgment, God extends grace and provides a means of salvation to Noah and his family. This reveals God's mercy and compassion, highlighting the opportunity for redemption and a fresh start.
- **Covenant and Promise:** God establishes a covenant with Noah after the flood, symbolized by the rainbow, as a promise never to destroy the earth in such a manner again. This covenant showcases God's faithfulness to His word and His love for humanity.
- Noah's Ark foreshadows **Jesus Christ and the redemptive plan of salvation.** Just as Noah and his family found refuge in the ark, believers find salvation in Jesus. Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of God's promise to provide a way of salvation, as He sacrificed Himself on the cross to save humanity from sin and eternal separation from God. The ark's role as a vessel of rescue parallels the role of Jesus as the Savior who offers salvation and a renewed relationship with God.

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## Christian Studies Framework

### CHRISTIAN BELIEFS

**Key Idea 3: A Christian worldview is shaped by the biblical teaching of sin and grace**

### CHRISTIAN CHURCH

**Key Idea 3: Christians pray, worship and celebrate the sacraments** (Noah worshipped God and gave thanks for his deliverance)

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## Catechism Connections

### THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

You shall have no other gods.

*What does this mean?*

We should fear, love and trust in God above all things.

Noah trusted God and obeyed him, even when it was very difficult, and God rescued him from the flood.

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## Discussion/Wondering Questions:

### Early Years

- Why did God choose Noah to build the ark?
- How big do you think the ark was?
- What animals would you like to play with on the ark?
- Why did God put the rainbow in the sky?

### Primary

- Why do you think Noah was chosen by God to build the ark?
- How would you have felt if you were Noah and had to gather all the animals?
- Why do you think it was important for Noah to follow God's instructions exactly?
- How can we show faithfulness and obedience to God in our own lives?

### Secondary

- Why do you think God decided to bring a flood to cleanse the earth?
  - How would you have reacted if you were Noah and people around you didn't believe in the flood?
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- Discuss the significance of the rainbow as a symbol of God's covenant with Noah. What does it represent?
- In what ways can we see parallels between Noah's Ark and the story of Jesus' sacrifice for humanity?
- How does the story of Noah's Ark challenge our understanding of God's love and His relationship with humanity?
- Explore the concept of the covenant between God and Noah. What does it mean for us today? How does it impact our understanding of God's faithfulness?

### Images or objects to spark discussion

- A boat
- Mark out a space in the school/local area about the same size as the ark; 134 metres long × 22 metres wide × 13 metres tall. Imagine what it would be like to build such a huge boat by hand, and what it would have been like filled with animals.



### Telling the Story

**Bibles:** The Beginner's Bible  
The Big Rescue Bible  
The NIV Bible

The Jesus Storybook Bible: A New Beginning - Noah's Ark

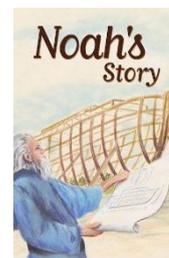
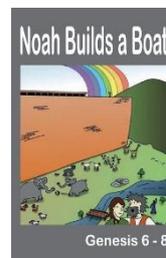
#### Tracts and Other Resources

Lutheran Tract Mission

[Noah Builds a Boat – Tract and Activity Booklet](#),  
[Noah's Story \(suitable for younger students\)](#)

GROW Ministries

[Woven Together – January - Genesis 6:9-9:17](#)  
[God tells Noah to build and an Ark](#)



#### Audio Stories/Podcasts

Kids Corner - Bible Stories [Noah's Ark](#)

[Bible.is](#) - Audio recordings of the Bible in many different languages and several English translations. Searchable by book and chapter. Excellent resource for NESB learners.

#### Videos: Early Years / Junior Primary

[Noah's Ark - Saddleback Kids](#)  
[The Story of Noah's Ark for Kids – Minno Bible Stories for Kids](#)

#### Middle – Upper Primary

[Noah and the Flood | God's Story - Crossroads Kids' Club](#)

#### Secondary/Staff

[Evan Almighty: The Flood Comes - Binge Society](#) – could be a good thought starter about following God's directions and trusting him despite the mockery or doubts of others.

## Invocation

God says: I have set my rainbow in the clouds,  
**and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth.** (Gen 9:13)  
Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

OR

In the name of God the Creator  
Jesus the Rescuer  
And the Holy Spirit our Comforter  
**Amen.**

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## Prayers

### Prayer

Thank you, Jesus, for giving us the rainbow to remind us of your great promise. When we see a rainbow, help us to remember your promises to save us from sin and eternal death. Help us to remember that we belong to you and to obey you even when others do not. In your name we pray, Amen.

Loving Father, forgive us when we cling to evil and fail to follow you. Open our ears and our hearts to listen to your commands and to walk in your ways. When times are tough, help us to keep trusting in you. Thank you for keeping your promises to Noah and to us. Thank you for sending Jesus to rescue us from the flood of sin and death. Amen.

Almighty Creator of the universe:

Every rainbow reminds us that you are in control of the earth, of nature, of the seasons, and of our lives. Your Spirit enriches the earth with the gift of life to all creatures, including all the varieties of birds and animals. Help us to care for the environment so that the earth is a healthier place to live for us and all the generations who follow us. We thank you for your Son, Jesus, who has taken all our sins, and paid for them on the cross even before we were born. Help us to live righteous lives like Noah, so that others can come to know you and also be saved. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Loving Heavenly Father, thank You for Your many precious promises. When the storm-clouds of life are thundering in on all sides, help me to trust Your Word and to remember the promises You have made to all Your children. May the sight of a beautiful rainbow remind me that Your Word cannot be broken and that all Your promises are true. Hallelujah! In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer

We thank you Lord for daily bread  
For rain and sunny weather  
We thank you Lord for this our food  
And that we are together, Amen.

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## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.  
**Amen.**

[Name], may you trust in God when the flood waters rise. Amen.

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## Music

[Noah, God's Friend - Crossroads Kids' Club](#)  
[Noah's Song - Saddleback Kids](#)  
[God Rescues Noah from the Storm – Rain for Roots](#)  
[Mr. Noah Had An Ark - Yancy & Little Praise Party](#)  
[Mr Noah - Colin Buchanan](#)  
[Rainbow - Hillsong Kids](#)

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## Activities

### Early Years:

- Paper Plate Ark: Provide students with paper plates, construction paper, and craft sticks. Have them create their own miniature ark by decorating the plate as the boat and using the craft sticks to represent animals. Encourage them to retell the story using their crafted ark.
- Make a cardboard box ark big enough for children and stuffed animals/toy animals to walk through two at a time.

### Primary:

- Diorama Creation: Assign small groups of students to create dioramas depicting scenes from the story of Noah's Ark. Provide materials like shoeboxes, paper, clay, and mini figurines. Encourage them to think creatively and include details that reflect key elements of the story.
- Rainbow Mobiles: Guide students in making rainbow mobiles using colourful construction paper and string. Each colour of the rainbow can represent a different part of the story or a specific theme. Discuss the symbolism of the rainbow and its connection to God's covenant with Noah.

### Upper Primary/Secondary:

- Storyboard Creation: Divide students into pairs or small groups and ask them to create storyboards of the key events in the story of Noah's Ark. Provide drawing paper, markers, and other art supplies. Encourage them to include dialogue or captions that reflect the story's themes and lessons.
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