

Teacher Background & Preparation Sheet For Teacher Study Only – Not Read Aloud

LESSON IDENTIFICATION

Week #: 6 Date: February 8, 2026 Lesson Title: God's Promise After the Flood Primary Scripture Passage(s): Genesis 9:1-17 Bible Timeline Placement: After the Flood, before the nations spread (post-Flood covenant)

PURPOSE OF THIS LESSON

Children should learn that God is faithful and always keeps His promises. God makes a covenant with Noah and all living creatures, showing mercy and care for the world He created. This lesson teaches children that God's Word can be trusted, that God shows grace even after judgment, and that His promises ultimately point forward to Jesus Christ, our Savior.

BOOK & PASSAGE BACKGROUND

Book Name: Genesis Traditional Author: Moses Approximate Date Written: Around 1400-1300 BC Original Audience: The people of Israel Purpose of the Book: To reveal God as Creator, Judge, Redeemer, and Promise-Keeper, and to show the beginnings of God's plan to rescue the world through a chosen people and ultimately through Jesus.

HISTORICAL & CULTURAL CONTEXT

Genesis 9 takes place after the global Flood. Noah, his family, and the animals have just left the ark. The earth is beginning again with humanity under Noah. God blesses Noah and gives instructions for life in a changed world (Genesis 9:1-7).

At this point, God expands humanity's diet. He tells Noah, "Everything that lives and moves about will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything" (Genesis 9:3). Before the Flood, people primarily ate plants (Genesis 1:29). After the Flood, the ground had been deeply altered by judgment. The earth would no longer consistently produce enough nutrients through fruits, vegetables, and seeds alone to sustain human life. God, in His wisdom and care, allowed meat to be part of the human diet to provide the nourishment people now needed.

This change shows God's practical care for human life. He understands the physical needs of His creation and provides what is necessary for survival in a broken world. Even this instruction reflects God's mercy and provision, not cruelty or neglect.

In the ancient world, covenants were serious promises, often made by a greater king to those under his care. God's covenant with Noah is not based on Noah's obedience but on God's grace. This covenant is universal—it includes all people and every living creature. The rainbow serves as a visible sign that God Himself chose to remember His promise (Genesis 9:12-16).

IMMEDIATE BIBLICAL CONTEXT

What happens before this passage? Genesis 6-8 describes human sin, God's righteous judgment through the Flood, and God's rescue of Noah and his family through the ark.

What happens after this passage? Genesis 10-11 records the spread of people across the earth and the Tower of Babel, where humanity again shows rebellion and pride.

Why this moment matters in God's plan: This covenant shows God's commitment to preserve life and continue His redemptive plan despite human sin. Without this promise, history toward Jesus would not continue.

KEY THEOLOGICAL TRUTHS — APPLIED TO THIS WEEK'S LESSON

CORE TRUTH #1: What this lesson teaches about God God is faithful and keeps His promises. God says, "Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood" (Genesis 9:11). God's character does not change, and He always does what He says (Numbers 23:19).

CORE TRUTH #2: What this lesson teaches about people People are still sinful and dependent even after judgment and rescue. Genesis 8:21 reminds us that "every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood." Humanity needs God's grace, not just a fresh start. People also rely on God for daily provision, including food and strength to live in a changed world (Genesis 9:3).

CORE TRUTH #3: What this lesson teaches about salvation God's covenant points forward to salvation through Jesus. Just as God provided safety through the ark, He provides salvation through Christ (1 Peter 3:20-21). Jesus is our greater rescue.

CORE TRUTH #4: Trusting God's Word God ties His promise to a visible sign so people can remember and trust Him. The rainbow reminds us that God's Word is dependable (Genesis 9:13). What God promises, He fulfills.

CORE TRUTH #5: God as Trinity God the Father makes and keeps the covenant (Genesis 9:8-11). Jesus, the Son, is the ultimate fulfillment of God's saving promises (2 Corinthians 1:20). The Holy Spirit helps God's people remember and trust God's Word (John 14:26). God is one God in three Persons.

RELIABILITY OF SCRIPTURE

The Flood account and covenant are recorded as historical events, not symbolic stories. The unity of Scripture shows consistent themes of judgment, mercy, and promise from Genesis through the New Testament. God's promise in Genesis 9 is echoed later when He promises never-ending salvation through Christ (Hebrews 13:8).

APOLOGETICS FOUNDATION

This event is believable because the Bible presents it as real history and because God's promises are consistent throughout Scripture. God's faithfulness can be tested against His actions—He has never broken a promise (Joshua 21:45). Children can be taught that we trust the Bible because it comes from a faithful God.

ANTICIPATED CHILD QUESTIONS

Question: Why did God put a rainbow in the sky? Answer: God chose the rainbow as a sign to remind us that He keeps His promises (Genesis 9:15-16).

Question: Does God still keep His promises today? Answer: Yes. The Bible says all God's promises are fulfilled in Jesus (2 Corinthians 1:20).

COMMON MISUNDERSTANDINGS

Children may think the rainbow means God will never judge sin again. Clarify that God promised never to destroy the world with a flood, but He still cares about right and wrong and offers forgiveness through Jesus (Acts 17:30-31).

GOSPEL CONNECTION

God's covenant with Noah shows mercy after judgment. This points forward to the cross, where God's judgment and mercy meet. Jesus took the punishment for sin so we could receive God's promise of forgiveness and new life (Romans 5:8).

TEACHER HEART PREPARATION

Take time to thank God for His faithfulness. Remember that just as God patiently keeps His promises, He is patient with children as they grow in faith. Pray for clarity, gentleness, and confidence as you teach God's trustworthy Word.