

Main Lesson, Activity & Discussion Questions Ages 5–11 | Read-Aloud Lesson | Scripture-Centered | Christ-Centered

LESSON OVERVIEW

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 Big Idea: God always keeps His promises, and we can trust His Word.

MEMORY VERSE

"I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth."
Genesis 9:13

Explain to the children that a covenant is a very strong promise. God chose the rainbow to help people remember that He keeps His promises.

SETTING THE SCENE (INTRODUCTION)

Hold up the Bible and speak calmly and warmly to the children.

Children, before we begin today, let's remember what this special book is. This is the Bible, God's true and trustworthy Word. The Bible is made up of 66 books. It was written by more than 40 different people, over about 1,500 years, across three continents. Parts of it were written in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. Even though many people wrote it over a very long time, there are no contradictions. That's because God guided every word.

The Bible tells one big, beautiful story. It is the story of an all-loving God who created people, loves them deeply, and desires to be reunited with His beloved humanity. Every part of the Bible points us to Jesus.

Last week, we learned how God rescued Noah, his family, and the animals through the ark during the Flood. Today, we are learning what God said and did after the Flood waters went away. Let's listen carefully to what God tells us in His Word.

MAIN LESSON NARRATIVE (READ ALOUD – ONE CONTINUOUS STORY)

Children, imagine what it was really like for Noah and his family.

When God told Noah the Flood was coming, Noah trusted God and obeyed Him. God also explained that the Flood would not come from rain alone. The Bible tells us that water would come from two places God had prepared. Then the rain began to fall. The Bible explains that before the Flood, there was water stored above the earth, like a great canopy in the sky, and water stored deep under the earth. When the Flood began, God released both. The Bible tells us that water poured down from above the earth and burst up from below the earth. Genesis 7:11 says that "all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened." Then it rained for forty days and forty nights (Genesis 7:12). That

is more than a whole month of rain without stopping. The rain did not fall gently like a quiet spring shower. It came down hard and heavy. Water poured from the sky as the canopy above the earth opened, and water burst up from deep inside the earth as the ground cracked open.

Soon, the ark began to lift off the ground. Massive amounts of water were moving at the same time, changing the surface of the earth itself. The water was not calm and peaceful at first. The ark was tossed to and fro on the raging waters. The waves were strong, and the storm was loud. Inside the ark, Noah, his wife, his sons, their wives, and all the animals could hear the rain pounding and feel the ark moving back and forth. They had to trust God completely.

After the forty days of rain ended, the waters did not disappear right away. The Bible tells us that the waters slowly went down over many months. As the floodwaters were receding across the whole earth, huge waves would have moved back and forth across the land. These powerful waves carried dirt and sediment from one place to another, laying it down in thick layers. Even while the water was going down, it was still moving with great force.

During this long time, the ark did not sit quietly on calm water. The moving waters would have rocked the ark again and again. Noah and his family could feel the motion as the ark rose and fell. Day after day, week after week, they waited.

The Bible helps us understand how long this was. Noah and his family were on the ark for about one full year—just over 370 days—from the time they entered until the time they finally stepped back onto dry ground (Genesis 7:11; Genesis 8:13–14).

Imagine living on the ark for that long. It was dark inside. It was noisy with animals. It smelled like animals. Every day, Noah and his family fed the animals, cleaned up after them, and cared for them. They woke up each morning not knowing when the water would go away, but trusting that God would keep His word.

Finally, God caused the waters to begin going down. The ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. Months later, the ground dried completely. At last, God told Noah it was time to leave the ark.

Noah, his family, and the animals stepped onto dry ground again. The world looked very different, but God was still the same faithful God.

God spoke to Noah and blessed him. God told Noah and his sons to have families and fill the earth again. God wanted people to live and care for the world He had made.

Explain to the children that God was doing something very important here. God was giving Noah the same kind of instructions He had given to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. Just as God told Adam and Eve to have families, fill the earth, and take care of His creation (Genesis 1:28), God was now giving those instructions again after the Flood. This shows that God had not given up on people. He was giving humanity a fresh beginning and inviting them once again to live in His world under His loving care.

God also gave instructions to help people live in this changed world. Before the Flood, people mainly ate plants. But after the Flood, the ground had been deeply changed. So God lovingly provided another kind of food to help people get the nourishment they needed.

God said, "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)

God cares about our bodies and our needs. He knows what His people need to live and grow, and He provides for them.

Then God made a very special promise. God promised that He would never again destroy all living creatures with a flood. This promise was not made because people would always obey God perfectly. It was made because God is merciful, faithful, and loving.

God called this promise a covenant. A covenant is a very strong promise that cannot be broken.

Then God gave a sign so people could remember His promise. God said:

"I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind." (Genesis 9:13–15)

Every time we see a rainbow, we can remember that God keeps His promises. God Himself said He would remember His covenant. God does not forget. God does not change. God always does what He says.

Children, this same faithful God is the God we worship today. God is one God in three Persons. God the Father made the promise. God the Son, Jesus, came to keep God's greatest promise by saving us from sin. God the Holy Spirit helps us understand God's Word and trust what He says.

Just as the ark rescued Noah and his family through the violent Flood waters, Jesus rescues us from sin. Jesus died on the cross and rose again so we can be forgiven and made right with God. This is why we can trust God's Word.

When you see a rainbow in the sky, remember this: God keeps His promises, and His greatest promise is found in Jesus.

TEACHER CLOSING PROMPT

Close by gently reminding the children that the same God who carried Noah safely through the Flood is caring for them today. Encourage them to remember that trusting God sometimes means waiting, even when things feel unsettled. Reassure them that God always keeps His promises, that His Word can be trusted, and that His greatest promise is Jesus, who loves them and will never leave them.