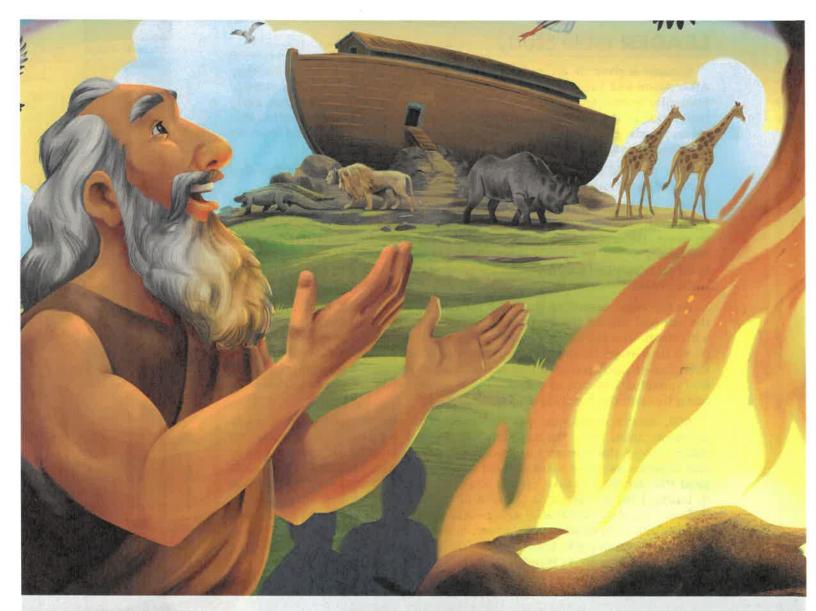
UNIT 1 | SESSION 4

# THE GREAT FLOOD

GENESIS 6-9



**CHRIST CONNECTION**: God must punish sin, but God is loving. He rescued Noah and his family. God planned an even greater rescue: to send His Son, Jesus, to save people from their sins.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Who is God? God is our Creator and King.

KEY PASSAGE: The earth is full of God's creatures. Psalm 104:24

STORY POINT: God is right to punish sin.



#### PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

## **LEADER** Bible Study

Genesis 6 gives us an understanding of the growth of early civilization. After Adam and Eve were cast out of the garden of Eden, the sinful state of humanity spread as far and wide as their family trees. God saw that every inclination of the human heart was evil all the time. And God regretted that He had made man. Yet, God had a plan to redeem His created world from sin that leads to death.

How did God provide salvation for Noah and his family? How has God provided redemption for us?

Though God was deeply grieved by the lifestyles of humanity, He found favor with righteous Noah. God chose to spare Noah from the destruction to come. He explained to Noah that, through faith-led obedience, he and his family would be spared from the flood waters. God instructed him to build an ark and to supply it with everything the people and animals needed while onboard.

As the water surged on the earth for 150 days, God remembered Noah and the ark and caused the storms to cease. Then God established a covenant with Noah, that He would never again curse the ground as He had with the flood. He blessed Noah's family, instructing them to be fruitful and multiply. Even though God's judgment on sin resulted in the waters flooding the earth, God provided a means of salvation that would result in a greater rescue to come through the family line of Noah.

Still, Noah's obedience was not enough to secure mankind's ultimate salvation. Even after the rescue of Noah and his family, God knew the inclination of the human heart was still evil. (Gen 8:21). A greater rescue and superior sacrifice were needed to rescue people from sin. God would send His own Son to take on the wrath they deserved. Noah's faithfulness in building the ark is but a glimpse of Christ's faithfulness in taking to a different wooden vessel—the cross—and securing the salvation of all who would place faith in Him. Help preschoolers see the mercy of God through the story of Noah's ark, that the God who created them has been faithful to provide the way back to Him through faith in His Son, Jesus.





# **GATHER** Supplies

Keep a supply of the following items available during all teaching sessions: Allergy Alert, Bibles, washable markers, crayons, scissors (adult use), blunt-tipped scissors, construction paper, copy paper, glue sticks, glue, tape, baby dolls, blocks, play dough, and a beanbag.

WELCOME	LIVE
Find pairs of animals  Big Picture Question Poster  Bible Story Picture Poster  pairs of toy animals  pillowcase or drawstring bag	Missions activity  "Serving in Rio" missions video (optional) "Continent Matching" printable, 1 per child world map puzzles
Tell the Bible story  — "The Great Flood" video (optional)	Snack and transition  ☐ hand sanitizer (optional) ☐ "Find the Hidden Name" activity page, 1 per child ☐ Big Picture Cards for Families
Review the Bible story  Bible Story Picture Poster	Chill Designation of the least of need on
Learn and practice the key passage phrase  [Key Passage Phrase Marker]	BONUS  Explore rain  misting bottle
LOVE	Say the key passage phrase  Key Passage Phrase Marker
Draw with wet chalk  colored chalk small bowl of water blue paper  Float and sink dishpan large towel assorted small floating items assorted small sinking items	Find a match  small container  Build an ark  pairs of animal figures  people figures  Make a rainbow  paper plates
	☐ large glue sticks ☐ paper streamers (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple)



## **WELCOME** Preschoolers

Provide as many learning activities as possible from the Love and Live sections to give preschoolers choices to learn. Incorporate the Bible story, the Christ connection, and key passage phrase in your conversations as the preschoolers engage in learning activities throughout the session.

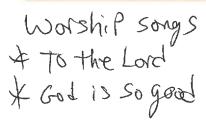
Use the following activity to greet children as they enter the classroom. Talk about the big picture question and answer. After each child completes the welcome activity, encourage him to participate in the activities provided from the Love and Live sections of the leader guide.

#### **FIND PAIRS OF ANIMALS**

Gather pairs of animals. Hide one of each pair around the room in a somewhat obvious fashion. Place the other half of the animals in a pillowcase or drawstring bag. Instruct each child to pull an animal from the bag without looking at it. Allow the child to identify the animal when she pulls it out and instruct her to locate the matching animal that is hidden in the room. Direct the child to return to you with the completed pair. Read the Big Picture Question and Answer Poster and review the Bible Story Picture Poster with preschoolers.



SAY 66 I am so glad you came to church today! What animal did you draw from the bag? I wonder what animals have to do with our big picture question and our Bible story? Do you have any ideas? [Allow responses.] Our big picture question asks, Who is God? Do you remember the answer? God is our Creator and King. In today's Bible story, we will hear about a way God provided for pairs of animals and for the family of a man named Noah.







# **LEARN** the Bible Story

## 1 INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

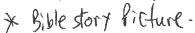
Mimic animals such as a frog, elephant, monkey, and kangaroo. Allow preschoolers time to guess each of the animals you mimic. Add other animals as time allows.

**SAY** \*\*Excellent guessing! In our Bible story today, we will learn that God brought pairs of animals to Noah to put onto the ark. God was about to do something that had never happened before, or since, because of peoples' sins. It was not a happy time for the world God had made. Let's find out more now.



# 2 TELL THE BIBLE STORY VINES

Open your Bible to Genesis 6–9. Tell the following Bible story using the provided storytelling points. You may choose to review the Bible story by showing the video.



#### THE GREAT FLOOD

**SAY** 66 Adam and Eve had children and grandchildren. Their families grew until there were many people in the world. Like Adam and Eve, they all sinned against God. They chose to disobey God's commands. God was sad. He decided to send a big flood.

Only one man in the world tried to do what was right. His name was Noah. One day, God told Noah to build a big boat called an ark. The ark would keep Noah, Noah's family, and many animals safe from the flood.

Noah obeyed God. When the ark was finished, Noah filled the ark with food for his family and the animals. Noah, his family, and the animals went into the ark and waited. Then God closed the door.

Rain fell for many days and nights. Water covered the whole earth. Then the rain stopped and God sent a wind to dry up the water. Noah and his family waited. Finally, God told Noah to bring his family and all the animals out of the ark.

Noah thanked God for keeping him safe. God promised to never again flood the whole world. He put a rainbow in the sky as a reminder of His promise.

Christ Connection: God must punish sin, but God is loving. He rescued Noah and his family. God planned an even greater rescue: to send His Son, Jesus, to save people from their sins.



## **3 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY**

Ask children to name things they remember from the Bible story. Offer prompts as needed. Allow them to pretend to close the door on the ark as they answer. Remind them each time of something else from the story that relates to what they answer.

SAY Once all the animals and Noah's family were safely on the boat, God closed the door Himself. God is our Creator and King. GOD IS RIGHT TO PUNISH SIN. But God is also loving. He rescued Noah and His family by having them live in the ark with the animals during the flood. Later, God sent Jesus to rescue people from their sins.

## **SING A SONG**

Sing the song to the familiar tune of "The Bear Went Over the Mountain":

The earth is full of God's creatures, The earth is full of God's creatures, The earth is full of God's creatures, Psalm 104:24



# How Countless sing

## LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE



Place the Key Passage Phrase Marker at Psalm 104:24. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage Read the key passage phrase. Lead children to say the key passage phrase while drawing an invisible rainbow in the sky.

**SAY** The earth is full of the amazing things that God has made. God rescued some of every kind of animal He had made when He rescued Noah and his family from the flood. They were all safe inside the ark Noah built. Our key passage phrase praises God for all the wonderful things He has made. **Who is God? God is our Creator and King. GOD IS RIGHT TO PUNISH SIN**. But God loves people like us so much He sent Jesus to rescue us from our sins. God put the rainbow in the sky as a reminder of His promise to never flood the whole earth again.

#### **6** PRAY

Pray, thanking God for rescuing Noah, his family, and the animals.



# LOVE God because of what we learned

## **JUMP IN PUDDLES**



Cut out a large puddle shape for each word of the key passage phrase from blue paper. Write one word per puddle. Tape the puddles to the floor in order. Lead children to jump from puddle to puddle while practicing the key passage phrase together.

SAY Jumping in real puddles is a lot of fun! I'm glad we can pretend to jump in puddles today and say our key passage phrase together. The Bible tells us, 'The earth is full of God's creatures. Psalm 104:24.' God rescued the animals He made when He had Noah build an ark to rescue them. God is our Creator and King. GOD IS RIGHT TO PUNISH SIN. But God planned to rescue people from their sins when He sent Jesus.

#### DRAW WITH WET CHALK

Place sticks of colored chalk in a small dish of water for a few minutes. Drain excess water. Give each child a piece of blue paper and place the colored chalks on the table for children to use. Allow children to draw rainbows onto the paper.

SAY Making the chalk wet makes the colors so much brighter! They're so pretty. I'm glad God created the rainbow to remind us of His promise to never flood the whole earth again. God is our Creator and King. GOD IS RIGHT TO PUNISH SIN. He is loving, even when He must punish sin. God made an even greater plan than the ark that saved Noah, his family, and the animals. God planned to send His Son, Jesus, to save people from their sins.

#### FLOAT AND SINK

Spread a large towel over a table. Set a dishpan with a few inches of water on top. Lead children to take turns choosing an item. Ask preschoolers if they think each item will sink or float. Direct children to guess. Watch together to see if their predictions are correct. Talk about what happens to each item.

SAY Today we learned that some things sink and others float in water. The ark that carried Noah, his family, and the animals floated on the flood waters and kept them safe and dry while it rained for many days and nights. Noah and his family waited for God to dry up the water with a big wind before they came out of the boat. Noah thanked God for keeping them safe.





## **LIVE** for God out of love

## BOAT RIDE



Lead children to rock back and forth as if riding in a boat as they say the key passage phrase together. Repeat several times while changing the pattern of the waves you encounter as you travel. Rock faster for big waves and slower for gentle waves.

**SAY** I wonder how wavy the water must have been at times for Noah and his family and the animals? It must have been an interesting journey together. I am glad we can learn about all the things God made and did.

## **2 MISSIONS ACTIVITY**



Before the session, print several copies of the "Continent Matching" printable. Cut apart the colored continent pieces. Show preschoolers South America on the map. Mention that Brazil is the largest country in South America. Help preschoolers place the seven continent pieces on the correct outlines. You may preview or show the "Serving in Rio" missions video.

**SAY** The Reese family moved to São Paulo, Brazil, where they currently serve as missionaries. The Reese family knows that people living in all areas of the world need to know about Jesus. It is important that missionaries trust God to help them with fears and dangers as they tell people about Jesus. [Lead in prayer.]

## **3 SNACK AND TRANSITION**



Post an Allergy Alert. Serve the snack, As children eat, review and talk about the Bible story. When children finish their snack, lead them to complete the activity page. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ connection.

SAY 66 God must punish sin, but God is loving. He rescued Noah and his family. God planned an even greater rescue: to send His Son, Jesus, to save people from their sins.

Remember to communicate helpful information to the bonus teaching hour leaders. If parents are picking up children at this time, tell them something their child did well during the session. Distribute Big Picture Cards for Families. Encourage parents to engage with the family discussion starters and family activities during the week.

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE** 





# **BONUS** Teaching Hour Group Time

#### **10 EXPLORE RAIN**

Mist the air around the preschoolers with water from a misting bottle each time you say rain. Remind preschoolers that today we will learn about a time God sent a lot of rain. In fact, it rained so much, the whole earth was flooded.

## **2 TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY**

Open the Bible to Genesis 6-9. Use the summarized points below to talk about the Bible story.

#### THE GREAT FLOOD

- · After Adam and Eve, all the people on earth disobeyed God.
- So God chose a man named Noah to build a big boat called an ark. God sent pairs of all the animals to the boat.
- •Then God sent a flood. Noah, his family, and the animals on the boat were safe from all the water.
- · When the water went back down, Noah and his family and the animals came off the ark.
- God put a rainbow in the sky and promised to never again flood the whole earth.

#### **3** SING A SONG

Sing the song below to the tune of "The Bear Went Over the Mountain":

The earth is full of God's creatures, The earth is full of God's creatures, The earth is full of God's creatures, Psalm 104:24

#### SAY THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the Key Passage Phrase Marker at Psalm 104:24. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Lead children to say the key passage phrase while using their hands and fingers to make it rain.

#### **5** PRAY

Pray, thanking God for the Bible that teaches us about God's creation and about His people.



# **BONUS** Teaching Hour Activities

## **6** FIND A MATCH



Place small squares of colorful construction paper in a container. Lead children to take turns choosing a square from the container and finding an item around the room that matches the color they chose. Remind children of the beautiful colors in the rainbow and of God's promise to Noah.

SAY God promised never to flood the whole earth again. God is our Creator and King. GOD IS

RIGHT TO PUNISH SIN, but He still loves us. God planned to send His Son, Jesus, to rescue people
from sin. This is an even greater rescue plan than the ark God told Noah to build to save the animals
from the flood.

#### **BUILD AN ARK**

Set blocks, animal figures, and people figures in one area of the room. Invite children to use the blocks to build an ark, adding animals and people to it when they are finished. Remind preschoolers the ark only had one door and God closed the door for Noah and his family.

**SAY** God told Noah to build an ark. God brought the pairs of animals to Noah for him and his family to put inside the ark. God instructed Noah and his family to go inside the ark, too. Then God shut the one door on the ark to keep Noah, his family, and the animals safe and dry during the many days and nights of rain. God rescued them. God rescued people from their sin when He sent His Son, Jesus.

## **MAKE A RAINBOW**

Before the session, cut each paper plate in half. Cut 12-inch strips of streamers in each color for each child. Give each child half a paper plate, a large glue stick, and one streamer of each color. Lead children to glue their streamers along the curved edge of the paper plate. Demonstrate waving the completed streamers in an arc from one side, up and overhead, and down to the other side.

**SAY** Your rainbow streamers are so pretty. You did such a good job making them. God put the rainbow in the sky to remind everyone that He will never flood the whole earth again. God always keeps His promises.

Release preschoolers to parents according to your church's security procedure. Tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.