



UNIT 1 | SESSION 4

Splash Oct 27th

THE GREAT FLOOD

GENESIS 6-9



KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 104:24

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

CHRIST CONNECTION: God rescued Noah and his family from the flood. The story of Noah points to an even greater rescue. God's Son, Jesus, came to take the punishment for our sin. By trusting in Him, we are saved from the power of sin and death.

STORY POINT: God is right to judge sin.



PREPARE

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 kids 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.



PREPARE

THE WEEK PRIOR

Prepare your heart to teach; plan the session



WELCOME

10–15 MINUTES

Greet kids and open the session



LEARN

25–30 MINUTES

Teach kids the story of the gospel



LOVE

15–20 MINUTES

Lead kids to love the God of the gospel



LIVE

15–20 MINUTES

Lead kids to live out the mission of the gospel



PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

GATHER Supplies

Keep a regular supply of the following items available at all times: Bibles, pens or pencils, markers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue or tape, paper.



WELCOME

Activity Page

- ☐ "Finish the Picture" activity page

Session Starter (Option 1)

- ☐ painter's tape
- ☐ music

Session Starter (Option 2)

- ☐ black cardstock, 1 per kid
- ☐ sheets of transparent contact paper
- ☐ tissue paper in the colors of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet
- ☐ cups



LOVE

Review & Bible Skills

- ☐ Small Group Timeline and Map Set (optional)



LIVE

Activity Choice (Option 1)

- ☐ aluminum foil sheets, 2 or 3 per group
- ☐ craft sticks, 4 or 5 per group
- ☐ cardboard pieces, 2 or 3 per group
- ☐ bin filled with water

Reflection and Prayer

- ☐ Bible Story Coloring Page (optional)



LEARN

Introduce the Session

- ☐ countdown video
- ☐ Story Point Poster

Big Picture Question

- ☐ Big Picture Question Poster

Review the Timeline

- ☐ Giant Timeline

Tell the Bible Story

- ☐ "The Great Flood" video
- ☐ Bible Story Picture Poster

Questions from Kids

- ☐ "Unit 1, Session 4" Questions from Kids video

Missions Moment

- ☐ "Serving in Rio" missions video

Key Passage Activity

- ☐ Key Passage Poster
- ☐ "Countless (Psalm 104:24)" song
- ☐ worship song of your choice (optional)



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

| **SAY** 🗨️ Have you ever seen a rainbow? When? Did it appear after a storm? Where was it? 🗨️

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Finish the Picture” activity page.

| **SAY** 🗨️ Today, we’ll learn how God placed a rainbow in the sky as a sign of a wonderful promise He made to all people. 🗨️

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

☐ OPTION 1: BOARD THE ARK



Before the session, use painter’s tape to create a large rectangle on the floor. Tell kids that the rectangle represents an “ark.” Invite kids to form a large circle around the “ark.” Play some music and tell kids to walk around the “ark.” When you stop the music, challenge kids to quickly jump in the “ark.” Tell kids that the last kid to jump in the “ark” is out. Play several rounds as time allows.

| **SAY** 🗨️ Long ago, God told a man named Noah to build an ark. An ark is a very large boat that was able to fit Noah, his family, and many pairs of animals. Today, our Bible story will help us understand that Noah built the ark because God was going to send a flood to judge people for their sin. We’ll see that **GOD IS RIGHT TO JUDGE SIN.** 🗨️

☐ OPTION 2: RAINBOW SUNCATCHER

Before the session, create a rainbow border for each kid by first folding a sheet of black construction paper in half and cutting out the arc-shape of a rainbow. Then cut out the center of the arc, leaving only a black rainbow-shaped outline. Stick the rainbow outlines on sheets of clear contact plastic. Then cut the excess contact plastic so only the inner portion of the rainbow has the contact plastic. Finally, cut out small squares of tissue paper in the colors of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet.

Place the squares of tissue paper in individual cups for kids to share. Provide each kid with a rainbow outline. Direct kids to create their rainbows by placing the tissue paper squares on the sticky side of the contact paper. Demonstrate how to make each arc of the rainbow colors.

| **SAY** 🗨️ Your rainbow suncatchers can be placed in a window to remind you of God’s faithful promises. Even though we disobey God, He has promised that anyone who trusts in Jesus will be saved. Today, we will see how God promised to save Noah from the judgment sin deserves. 🗨️

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





INTRODUCE the Bible Story

1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

* Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

SAY “Welcome, kids! I am so glad you’re here! My name is [your name], and I am looking forward to studying a story from the Bible with you. If you have your Bible with you, will you hold it up high? [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.]

The stories in the Bible are true and help us know God. Our Bible story today is about a great flood God sent because of sin. **GOD IS RIGHT TO JUDGE SIN.** [Display the Story Point Poster.] But God also provided a way for Noah to escape the flood. Let’s ask God to give us hearts to trust His Word: ‘Lord, I pray that You will open our eyes and our ears to hear what You want to teach us through this story today. In Jesus’ name, amen.’ ”

worship → * Praise You anywhere * offering
* Same God

2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

* Display the Big Picture Question Poster.

SAY “Our big picture question is, **Who is God?** Does anyone remember the answer? [Allow responses.] **God is our Creator and the King of everything.** Let’s repeat the answer together: **God is our Creator and the King of everything.**

Today, we will learn that because **God is the Creator and King of everything, GOD IS RIGHT TO JUDGE SIN.** As King, God rules and His ways are right and good. Sin is disobedience to God’s ways and leads to death. People’s sin makes them enemies with God and can lead them to do terrible things like hurt others. As a good King, God judges or punishes people who don’t turn away from their sin. God is also a King who wants to save people from their sin. He sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue us from His judgment. ”

3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the Giant Timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

SAY “God created the world to bring Him glory. Yet, not long after the world was created, Adam and Eve disobeyed God and sin entered the world. Sin causes all people to be separated from God. Last week, we saw how Cain allowed sin to rule over him, and he killed his brother Abel. As people multiplied on the earth, sin continued to spread. Today, we will see how God judged sin through a great flood, but He also chose to rescue a man named Noah. ”



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story



1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Genesis 6–9. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “The Great Flood.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

THE GREAT FLOOD

Adam and Eve’s family grew. They had children and grandchildren, and their families grew until many people were in the world. But all those people were like Adam and Eve—they sinned against God. God is good and loving. He wanted people to have a right relationship with Him, but the people did not want to live under God’s rule.

God was sad that He had made people. Because people’s hearts were so sinful, God had to judge the people for their sin. But one man was not like all the other people. Noah was a righteous man; he wanted to follow God. So God decided to save Noah and his family from this punishment.

One day, God told Noah to build a big boat called an ark. God told Noah what would happen: God was going to punish sin by sending a flood to wipe out everything on the earth. God made a special promise—a covenant—with Noah. God promised to keep Noah and his family safe.

God told Noah exactly how to make the ark. He told Noah how to build the roof, where to put the door, and how to make it float. God gave Noah instructions about what animals to bring on the ark and how many. Noah did everything that God commanded.

Noah worked for many years to build the ark. When it was finally finished, Noah filled the ark with food for his family and for the animals. Then Noah, his family, and the animals went into the ark and God closed the door.

Water began to cover the earth. Rain fell for 40 days and 40 nights until water covered even the highest mountains. Every living creature on the earth died, but Noah and his family were safe inside the floating ark. Then the rain stopped. Water covered the whole earth for months. Then finally, God sent a wind to dry out the earth, and the water started to go down. The ark came to rest on top of a mountain.

Noah waited until God told him to bring his family out of the ark. Noah came out of the ark and built an altar to make an offering of thanks to the LORD.

God told Noah’s family, “Spread out and fill the earth. Take care of the world and the creatures in it.” God promised Noah that He would never again send a flood over the whole earth, and He put a rainbow in the clouds as a reminder of the promise.

STORYTELLING TIPS

Active listening: Invite kids to make an arch with their arms when they hear the word “ark.”

Portray emotion: Use facial expression and tone of voice to display how sin grieved God.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

Christ Connection: God rescued Noah and his family from the flood. The story of Noah points to an even greater rescue. God's Son, Jesus, came to take the punishment for our sin. By trusting in Him, we are saved from the power of sin and death. 🙏

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY 🗨️ Why did God send the great flood? [Allow responses.] God saw how people were sinful and their hearts were full of violence. God was sad that He had made people because their sin was leading them to do terrible things. God sent a flood to judge their sin. God always does what is right, and **GOD IS RIGHT TO JUDGE SIN.**

Who did God choose to save from the flood? [Allow responses.] God saved Noah and his family through the safety of the ark. Noah was a sinner too, but Noah followed the Lord. All people sin, and we deserve God's punishment for our sin. But like God saved Noah, God provides the way for us to be saved through faith in His Son, Jesus.

What sign and promise did God give Noah? [Allow responses.] God placed a rainbow in the sky as a sign of His promise to never flood the earth again. God told Adam and Eve that a Savior would one day come in the world from their family. God kept that promise by keeping Noah safe during the flood. Noah came from Adam and Eve's family, but he wasn't the promised Rescuer. One day, Jesus would come from the family of Noah to save anyone who trusts in Him.

God rescued Noah and his family from the flood. The story of Noah points to an even greater rescue. God's Son, Jesus, came to take the punishment for our sin. By trusting in Him, we are saved from the power of sin and death. 🙏

3 GOSPEL DISCUSSION

SAY 🗨️ The Bible tells us that we all have sinned. The punishment for sin is death. But God, out of His great love for us, sent Jesus to rescue us from the punishment of sin. Jesus died on the cross, taking the punishment for our sin on Himself. Anyone who trusts in Jesus receives forgiveness of sins. Have you trusted in Jesus to forgive you? 🙏

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the "Unit 1, Session 4" Questions from Kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. God promised Noah not to send more floods. Why are there tsunamis and floods happening today?
2. How does God saving Noah and his family point us to how Jesus saves us from our sin?



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

SAY 🗣️ Eric Reese became involved in missionary work through short-term missions trips. He continued serving in missions and eventually became a full-time career missionary. Eric spent many years in the dangerous communities of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, telling people about Jesus. 🗣️

Play the missions video. Tell kids that sometimes God calls missionaries to dangerous places. Explain that the Reese family believes that missionaries must trust God to help them with any fears or dangers as they tell people about Jesus. Discuss how the Reese family shares the gospel so people can be saved from the punishment their sin deserves. Pray for the Reese family as they continue to tell the people of Brazil about how to be saved from their sins through faith in Jesus.

6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Show the Key Passage Poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Psalm 104:24 together.

SAY 🗣️ God is a good and perfect King! Everything He does is right. We can always trust Him. 🗣️

Invite kids to play follow-the-leader while saying the key passage aloud. Choose one kid to be the leader and instruct her to perform a motion for the kids to follow. Guide kids to line up behind the leader and perform the motion while walking around the room. Repeat the activity, choosing new leaders each time.

Lead kids to sing "Countless (Psalm 104:24)." You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

SAY 🗣️ Thank You, God, that You always do what is right. You alone are perfect. We praise You for providing the way for us to be saved through faith in Jesus. Help us live in a way that honors You. In Jesus' name, amen. 🗣️

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God by Applying the Story

1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles and display the Old Testament Mediterranean Map. Guide kids to open their Bibles to Genesis 9. Prompt kids to thumb through Genesis to discover how many chapters it contains. Invite kids to share the number of chapters they found. Tell kids that the 50 chapters of Genesis include stories from the family lines of Adam and Noah.

Consider pointing out the location of Mount Ararat (C11) on the Old Testament Mediterranean Map where the ark came to rest after the flood. Choose a volunteer to read aloud Genesis 9:16 or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verse aloud.

SAY 🗨️ God made a covenant with Noah. A covenant is another word for a special promise. God never lies. He always keeps His promises and the rainbow was a sign of His promise.

God's rainbow pointed to an even greater promise: God would send His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment our sin deserves. **GOD IS RIGHT TO JUDGE SIN**, but through Jesus we can be saved from His judgment. 🗨️

2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

SAY 🗨️ What is the punishment for sin? 🗨️

Tell kids that the Bible tells us the punishment for sin is death. (Rom. 6:23) Discuss how the people of Noah's day died because of their sin. Tell kids that all people deserve death because we have sinned against God, who is without sin.

SAY 🗨️ How can we be saved from the punishment of sin? 🗨️

Discuss how we can never be "good enough" to take away our sin. Explain that God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment our sin deserves. Share how only Jesus never sinned and though He didn't deserve death, He chose to take our punishment by dying on the cross. Tell kids that when we place our faith in Him, we are saved from the punishment our sin deserves.

SAY 🗨️ After Noah came out of the ark, he built an altar to give thanks to God. How can we show God we are thankful for all the ways He loves us? 🗨️

Prompt kids to think about how God has shown He loves them through His Son, Jesus. Encourage kids to remember all the ways God provides for them and takes care of them. Discuss how God is deserving of all our praise for who He is: good, faithful, kind, patient, holy, etc. Encourage kids to show thanks to God through how they live, their prayers, and how they treat others.

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





THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE the Mission

1 ACTIVITY CHOICE (10 minutes)

☐ OPTION 1: BUILD A BOAT

Fill a bin with water and set it on a table. Form kids into groups of two to four and give them paper and pencils. Provide groups with various supplies such as aluminum foil, craft sticks, tape, and cardboard. Challenge groups to use the supplies to build a boat that they think will float in water. Before they begin to build, encourage kids to work together to draw a plan for their boat using paper and pencil provided. Then invite groups to test if their boats will float by placing it in the bin filled with water.

SAY “God told Noah exactly how to build the ark. God also provided everything Noah needed to make the ark. While Noah obeyed God and followed His plan, God was the One who saved Noah and his family. God was right to send the flood because **GOD IS RIGHT TO JUDGE SIN**. But God also made the way to save us from the punishment our sin deserves through His Son, Jesus.”

☐ OPTION 2: BIBLE DRILL REVIEW GAME



Invite three kids to start the first round of the game. Provide each kid with a Bible. Tell the kids that you will call out a Bible reference from today's story in the book of Genesis. Direct kids to find the exact chapter and verse number you call out. Remind kids what chapter and verse numbers are, if needed. Then call out a Bible reference such as “Genesis 6:9.” The first kid to find the verse is the winner of that round. Consider inviting the winner to read the verse aloud, or you may read the verse aloud. Repeat the game choosing new kids each round as well as different Bible references from Genesis 6–9.

SAY “God’s Word, the Bible, helps us know God and His story to save people through His Son, Jesus. Noah and his family are a part of God’s bigger story. Jesus came from the family of line of Noah, through Noah’s son Shem. God’s promise to keep Noah’s family safe meant He was also keeping His promise to bring the Savior into the world.”

2 REFLECTION AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each kid. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

Be sure to send the sheets home with the kids along with the activity pages so parents can continue to discuss the Bible story with their kids. If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page. Pray for your group.