

Sunday School Stage 1 - Junior Class

Lesson 5 - The Story of the Flood

Introduction to Sunday School

- **Attendance** – are there any students who need homework emailed to them?
- **Bible/Binder/Journal** – do they have them?
- **Homework** collect last week and hand back marked work
- **Memory Verses** – glue memory card onto sheet on wall.

Review (Genesis 4)

- It is not enough to merely worship God – we must worship Him correctly, according to His terms.
- When we honour God’s ways, He extends mercy to us.
- The antagonism between those that follows God’s ways (seed of the woman) and those who follow their own way (seed of the serpent) still exists today.
- We all sin at times but we must be honest and humble enough to admit that we have done wrong. God is pleased when we acknowledge our faults and try to change our behaviour.

Lesson (Genesis 6-9)

- For many years the descendants of Seth (sons of God = seed of the woman – Romans 8:14; 1 John 3:10 (notice the connection to Cain vs Abel) followed God’s ways and shunned the wickedness of the descendants of Cain (sons of man)
- The sons of man were busy building cities, establishing a name for themselves and are noted for their inventions, music and entertainment, and violence. They were skillful at things and clever, but ungodly and rebellious.
- As time went on, slowly the sons of God were drawn in by the enticing lifestyle of the sons of men – in order to know what they were doing, they had to have exiled themselves from God (like Cain was exiled)
- They forgot to stay separate and this led to marriage with “the daughters of men” – as a result the sin and wickedness in the world increased.
- Genesis 6:1 “began to multiply” – what’s wrong with that? You might remember that back in the garden God had commanded Adam & Eve to “be fruitful and multiply” – while now men are not fulfilling their God given task of bringing forth fruit to Him – they are just enjoying the physical relationship God gave to man and woman without bringing forth any spiritual fruit.
- 6:5 “the thoughts of man’s hearts were evil continually” is contrasted to how God was “grieved in the heart”
- We’ll talk in a bit about what life was like before God sent the flood, but for now we want to focus on how it was so “corrupt” that God is doing to “destroy” it – but in the Hebrew both those words (corrupt/destroy) are the same word – the idea is that man has destroyed the earth so badly that now as a consequence God is going to destroy man. This is a consistent part of God’s character – He recompenses back to us (and mankind) according to the evil that **we** do.
- However, we know that there remained at least one faithful man – and although only Noah and his family entered the ark – there were other faithful men that would have been a support to Noah (Noah’s father was 56 years old when ADAM died! Noah’s grandfather, faithful Methuselah, was alive right until the year Noah went into the ark!)
- God told Noah what he planned to do to the earth and for the next 120 years Noah warned the people of God’s coming judgment. 1 Peter 2:5 calls Noah a “preacher of righteousness”

- We won't go into all the building details of the ark – God has given us such rich detail and I encourage you to go home and look into it with books your parents may have. However, we want to impress that God gave Noah the instructions of how to build the ark. It was not designed to be travelled in, but to ride safely upon the flood.
- It took Noah 120 years to build the ark, and in that time his three sons were born to him, he built and he preached to the world around him. God could have destroyed the earth immediately – but he was patient (long suffering) and gave lots of opportunity for man to repent. Three more people (Noah's daughters in law) came into the ark because God was long suffering.
- Noah was 600 years old when the flood waters began. Because of his faithfulness and obedience to God, he was invited into the ark (Genesis 7:1) Where was God in all this? Inside the ark "come into the ark" – you don't say "Come inside" if you yourself are outside, you would say "Go inside."
- Noah was also commanded to bring one pair of each unclean animal, and seven pairs of clean animals aboard the ark. On a practical note – Noah and his family could eat of the clean animals while onboard the ark. Even before the Law of Moses, God's laws of clean and unclean were understood.
- After being inside the ark for seven days God "shut him in" and closed the door – while Noah and his family waited inside the door of opportunity was open to the ungodly to turn from their ways and join Noah and his family. It is of significance that God "shut the door" because in doing so, GOD both saved Noah (and his family), and passed judgement on the rest of the world.
- On that very day the door was closed, the rains began. It never stopped for 40 days and 40 nights. We know that from parts of the Bible (Psalms) that there was earthquake and volcanic activity – the water was pushed up out of the ocean, and the mountains were brought low – until the whole earth – a fact emphasized in 7:20, 21, 22, 23 – the whole earth was covered, and all animals and man that dwelt there on were killed.
- For five months the waters covered the earth, the ark finally coming to rest on the mountains of Ararat (western Turkey), but God had not forgotten Noah. He sent a wind to dry up the water. After 40 more days Noah opened the window and let out a raven, which flew out and never returned. Being an unclean animal it would be willing to land on anything it could. Then Noah sent a dove, which being a clean animal, takes more care of where it lands, and finding no clean place, came back to the ark "as there was no place to rest the soul of her foot", after seven more days Noah tried again. This time the dove came back with an olive branch in its mouth. The third time, the dove never returned and Noah knew they would be leaving the ark soon.
- They had been in the ark for just over one year. God commanded them to go forth with the animals and once again be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth – the same command He had given Adam and Eve in the beginning. (Bible echo)
- Then Noah built an altar and placed some of the clean animals and birds on as sacrifice of thanksgiving to God. God was pleased and blessed Noah and made a covenant with him that he would never destroy the earth again with a flood. God gave Noah a sign that would remind him of that promise. This is the rainbow we see in the sky after the rain.

Comparing Noah's time to our time (As time allows)

Noah's Time	Our times!
Genesis 6:1 "men began to multiply on the face of the earth"	Population Explosion! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the year 1800 - 1 billion people on the earth ➤ 1930 – 2 billion (130 years!!) ➤ 1975 – 4 billion (45 years!!) ➤ 2018 – 7.7 billion ➤ In India there is a baby born every 1.5 seconds...
Genesis 6:2 "they were marrying"	The idea is implicit that they were marrying multiple times – a time of easy marriage,

<p>and giving in marriage”</p> <p>Cp Luke 17:26-27</p>	<p>more than one partner</p> <p>In western developed countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 41 percent of first marriages end in divorce. ➤ 60 percent of second marriages end in divorce. ➤ 73 percent of third marriages end in divorce. (People get married this many times!!) ➤ In America, there is one divorce approximately every 36 seconds. That's nearly 2,400 divorces per day, 16,800 divorces per week and 876,000 divorces a year.
<p>Genesis 6:11-12 “Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth.”</p> <p>Hebrew means “to ruin” – they had destroyed this beautiful earth God had created for them!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What we are doing to the earth! ➤ Pollution destroying our earth. Pollution is one of the biggest global killers, affecting over 100 million people. ➤ Over 1 million seabirds and 100,000 sea mammals are killed by pollution every year. ➤ More than 3 million children under age five die annually from environmental factors. ➤ Since 1950 we’ve lost a 50% of the world’s forests ➤ Hong Kong – 1000 tons of plastic refuse every day. ➤ Approximately 40% of the lakes in America are too polluted for fishing, aquatic life, or swimming.
<p>Genesis 6:11-12 “Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Each year, over 1.6 million people worldwide lose their lives to violence. Violence is among the leading causes of death for people aged 15–44 years worldwide ➤ During the 20th century, <i>one of the most violent periods in human history</i>, an estimated 191 million people lost their lives directly or indirectly as a result of armed conflict, and well over half of them were civilians. In 2000, about 310 000 people died as a direct result of conflict-related injuries – the majority of them in the poorer parts of the world. ➤ Of every 1000 crimes that happen, only 400 are recorded, and of every 400 that are recorded – only 1 gets charged and imprisoned.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ “And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.” Luke 17:26-27 ➤ “But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.” Matthew 24: 37-39 ➤ How could that be? It took Noah 120 years to build it – I thought he was a preacher of Righteousness? ➤ 2 Peter 3:3-6 – they were willingly ignorant – it wasn’t because Noah hadn’t preached, it was because they didn’t 	

want to know.

- We are living in an age that mirrors and reflects the story of Noah's age – why should God not judge the world again? He will. He's promised He will Luke 17 –as it was in the days of Noah.
- It is a warning for today. It won't be a flood - but it will be God's judgement and He will overturn the world as completely as He did in the days of Noah. And there will be a relative few who are saved.
- Noah being warned of God – moved by faith – built an ark – His judgements are coming again.
- Judgements – cleansing the earth again – He's going to start again, a new world, no crime and violence, pollution, endless population explosion, no corruption
- “They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.” Isaiah 11:9
- The earth will be filled with the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea – how filled is the sea with the water? 100%

Evidence for a World Wide Flood *(if time allows)*

- Please listen to Bro. Roger Lewis' class (The Genesis Flood – A warning for Today) for some excellent resources.
- www.ChristadelphianBibleTalks.com (search: “flood”)
- Examples: boulders from one country found on top of mountains of another country, beaches found underwater, many animals' bones from animals all over the world found altogether in caves high above sea level, remnants of rich harvests below the Swiss Alps snow covered mountains etc.

Main Lessons for Us

- God is aware of our behaviour. He wants us to love Him and obey Him as Noah did.
- God recompenses back to us (and mankind) according to the evil that **we** do.

Bible Marking *(references from NASB, you may have to modify words if using KJV but same ideas)*

Places (Orange)

(The first four verses are colored to emphasise that it was a world-wide flood.)

Genesis 7:20 “mountains were covered”

Genesis 7:21 “on the earth”, “upon the earth”

Genesis 7:22 “dry land:

Genesis 7:23 “the face of the land:

Genesis 8:4 “mountains of Ararat”

Time (Green)

Genesis 6:3 “one hundred and twenty years”

Genesis 6:4 “in those days”

Genesis 6:5 “continually”

Genesis 7:4 “seven more days”

Genesis 7:4 “forty days and forty nights”

Genesis 7:6 “six hundred years old”

Genesis 7:10 “seven days”

Genesis 7:11 "six hundredth year of Noah, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the selfsame day"

Genesis 7:12 "forty days and forty nights"

Genesis 7:13 "on the very same day"

Genesis 7:17 "forty days"

Genesis 7:24 "one hundred and fifty days"

Genesis 8:3 "one hundred and fifty days"

Genesis 8:4 "seventh month, seventeenth day of the month"

Genesis 8:5 "tenth month" x2

Genesis 8:5 "first day of the month"

Genesis 8:6 "end of forty days"

Genesis 8:10 "seven days"

Genesis 8:11 "toward evening"

Genesis 8:12 "seven days"

Genesis 8:13 "six hundredth and first year, first month, first of the month"

Genesis 8:14 "second month, twenty seventh day of the month"

Man/Sin (red)

Genesis 6:5 "thoughts of his heart were evil"

Genesis 6: 11 "filled with violence"

Genesis 6:12 "corrupt", "corrupted"

Genesis 6: 13 "filled with violence"

Circle the phrases below and draw a line from the connecting words to help students remember the lesson.

Genesis 6:6 "grieved in His heart" AND Genesis 6:5 "thoughts of his heart were evil" (*contrasting God's heart to man*)

Genesis 6:12 "corrupt", "corrupted" AND Genesis 6:13 "destroy" (*contrasting what man had done to the earth and what God was going to do to man as a result*)

Women in the Beginning Journals ☺

Leave blank page for "Adah and Zillah" if desired

"Daughters of Men" Genesis 6:1-2 (*give CSSA Intermediate notes pages 40-42 to give ideas "Marriage only in the Lord"*)

Leave blank page for "Noah's wives and daughters-in-law" if desired