



Lesson 7

Salvation For Those Who Believe

Large Group Lesson & Games

Bible Story The Great Flood <i>Genesis 6-9</i>	Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No materials needed
Bible Verse “For God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, not to pour out his anger on us.” <i>1 Thessalonians 5:9, New Living Translation</i>	
Key Teaching Point Receive salvation.	



Large Group Lesson (15 Minutes)

The human beings God created, Adam and Eve, went on to have other sons and daughters. Their children married, had children, and the number of people on the earth began to grow and grow.

After a time had passed, people forgot all about God. All the time, their hearts were filled with all kinds of evil, with thoughts, desires and purposes that did not acknowledge God or honor him. The people were cheaters. They hurt one another and they did not love or walk with God. It was chaos!

God was deeply saddened that the people he created forgot about him. He was sorry that he had made humankind and placed them on the earth. So God made the heartbreaking decision to destroy all the wicked people and every living thing on the earth.

Ask the children to show a facial expression that would show how God was feeling about all this.

But there was one man God was pleased with, and his name was Noah. Noah lived his life in a close relationship with God. Because of that close relationship with God, Noah was able to do what was right in God's eyes. He honored and obeyed God with his thoughts, words and actions. While the others living on the earth were full of wickedness, Noah was innocent before God. While the others forgot about God, Noah knew God personally.

Ask, “**What pleased God about Noah?**”

Take student responses.

Because Noah walked with God, God told Noah his plans. “I am about to cover the earth with a flood that will destroy every living thing on the earth that breathes!”

(Invite the children to GASP!)

God told Noah to make an ark, a great ship that would be large enough to hold Noah's family and pairs of each kind of animal that the Lord had created. God gave Noah specific instructions on how to build the ark and what to bring inside. (Ask the children to knock on a hard surface to recreate the sound of pounding nails into wood.) Knowing God's plan to send a flood, Noah obeyed all of God's instructions.

Ask, “**What do you suppose the other people living on the earth thought about Noah as he was building the ark? How do you think Noah's family felt?**”



Take student responses.

When the ark was complete, Noah, his wife, his sons and their wives entered the ark to escape the flood, along with all the animals God asked Noah to bring on board. (Ask the children to get up and stomp their feet.) **Seven days later, God himself closed the doors of the ark** (Dramatically close one of the doors in the room.), **and the floods came and covered the earth.** **Underground waters erupted from the ground and rain poured down from the sky, for forty days and forty nights.**

(Show children how to make the sound of rain by rubbing their hands together as quickly as they can. Point to several children, instructing them to clap their hands to signify claps of thunder.)

After many days had passed, as the waters from the flood started to lower, the ark came to rest on top of a mountain. Then Noah sent out a dove. At first, the dove could not find a branch to rest on, so it returned to the ark. After seven days, Noah sent the dove out again, but this time it returned with a green olive leaf. The earth was starting to dry out and was coming alive again! After waiting another seven days, Noah sent the dove out again, and this time it did not return.

Ask, “**Why do you think the dove did not return a third time?**”

Take student responses.

When God said it was time, Noah, his family and all of the animals departed from the ark. To honor and thank God for saving him and his family, Noah gave some of the animals God rescued back to God. God was pleased with Noah’s heart.

Ask, “**Based on this story, what is pleasing to God?**”

Take student responses.

God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. Rule over all the animals on the earth.” God told Noah that animals could now be used for food along with grain and vegetables, but he warned him not to kill other people, for God created human beings in his image, to represent him on the earth.

Then God made a special promise to Noah, his sons and all living creatures. God said he would never again send a flood to destroy the earth. He told Noah that every time a rainbow appeared in the sky, God would remember that everlasting promise with all living creatures.



(Challenge children to work together to create a rainbow based on the shirt color they are wearing.)

While the children are still standing in the rainbow, ask the following questions:

- What gift did God offer Noah and his family?
- What was required of Noah to receive this gift for himself and for his family?
- What did this story tell you about who God is?
- What did God save Noah and his family from?
- What can God save you from? (Leaders may feel led to share what God has saved them from.)

We'll talk more about how we can receive God's salvation in our small groups today. Before we do, what does today's story tell us about who God is and what he is like?

Take students' responses, then dismiss children to their small groups.



Large Group Games (25 Minutes)

PAIR-UP, ANIMALS!

No materials needed.

Ask children to form a line. Going down the line, assign each child an animal from the list below by whispering in their ear. Make sure that there are at least two children assigned to the same animal. Tell children that they can choose to make animal noises, walk or move like the animal they've been assigned, or a combination of the two, but they must find the other children in the room who've been assigned the same animal.

- Penguin
- Frog
- Snake
- Crab
- Inchworm
- Flamingo
- Dog
- Cat
- Fish
- Horse
- Sheep
- Lion
- Crocodile
- Snail
- Rooster
- Duck
- Pig
- Elephant
- Monkey
- Bee

WALKING WITH GOD FREEZE TAG

No materials needed.

Identify one person to be “It,” but they will be called “SIN.” On the “GO” signal, whoever this person tags will freeze in place (and be frozen/stuck in sin). Assign one person to be the “RESCUER.” The rescuer will free those who are frozen by linking arms with them and walking with them 15 paces, after which they will be welcomed back into the game. Continue as long as time allows.

Emphasize that when we walk with God just like Noah did, God is able to rescue us from sin, evil and lawlessness.

