



Week Four – Noah: Grace and Obedience

CONNECT

- What is the longest time it has taken you to build or create something you love?
- Have you ever been on a boat in the open seas? What was it like?
- Where is the furthest you've traveled from where you currently live?

WORD

Genesis 6:9-22 (NIV)

9 Noah was a righteous man, the only blameless person living on earth at the time, and he walked in close fellowship with God. **10** Noah was the father of three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. **11** Now God saw that the earth had become corrupt and was filled with violence. **12** God observed all this corruption in the world, for everyone on earth was corrupt. **13** So God said to Noah, "I have decided to destroy all living creatures, for they have filled the earth with violence. Yes, I will wipe them all out along with the earth! **14** "Build a large boat from cypress wood and waterproof it with tar, inside and out. Then construct decks and stalls throughout its interior. **15** Make the boat 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high. **16** Leave an 18-inch opening below the roof all the way around the boat. Put the door on the side, and build three decks inside the boat—lower, middle, and upper. **17** "Look! I am about to cover the earth with a flood that will destroy every living thing that breathes. Everything on earth will die. **18** But I will confirm my covenant with you. So enter the boat—you and your wife and your sons and their wives. **19** Bring a pair of every kind of animal—a male and a female—into the boat with you to keep them alive during the flood. **20** Pairs of every kind of bird, and every kind of animal, and every kind of small animal that scurries along the ground, will come to you to be kept alive. **21** And be sure to take on board enough food for your family and for all the animals." **22** So Noah did everything exactly as God had commanded him.

THOUGHT

When God created the earth he said it was good but once sin entered into creation, what was designed to be good and holy turned bad and wicked. Sin permeated every facet of creation and people became increasingly evil towards each other. It got so bad that it made God regret his work. Yet in spite of all the dismay, God still saw a chance to redeem the situation. God's covenant with Noah to save him and his family as the future reproducers of the human race was one of several covenants that God has made with man throughout the Scriptures. God is always able and willing to find that one person or generation of people that are worth keeping and worth starting over with even when everything else is bad. His unrelenting love for his creation led to the greatest act of salvation through Christ. Now we'll turn our discussion to Noah who chose to live blamelessly for God in a world that had turned against God.

DISCUSSION

1. Why do you think God choose water as a means of judgment and starting over?

- Water can flow into any space*
 - Water cleanses by washing away things*
 - No one knew how to swim*
 - Water is refreshing*
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2. How would you have felt if God had told you to build the ark?

- Excited that God wanted to use you to help save mankind*
 - Overwhelmed at the immensity of the project*
 - Annoyed that he didn't come up with easier plan*
 - Grateful that you and your family would be saved*
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3. Why did Noah choose to be righteous before God when all the people around him were doing whatever they wanted?

4. What do you think about the moment God regretted making mankind?

5. If you could get a “do-over” for a season of your life, which one would it be? Why?

6. How has this study of Noah affected your view of God and the Great Flood?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- What is one way in which you might act or think differently towards God this week as a result of this lesson?
- What is one thing you can find that is redeemable about a difficult situation in your life this week?

PRAYER

- Ask God to give you a heart that is faithful and obedient to him.
- Ask God to protect your friends and family in seasons of trials and tribulations.
- Ask God to help you to see his grace and saving power in the difficult seasons of your life.