

Fort Hill Christian Youth Camp 2024

Class Curriculum - The Book of Genesis

Age - Senior Campers

Tuesday - Noah

Summary

1. Subject: Noah and the Flood
2. Scripture: Genesis 6-9, 1 Peter 3:8-22
3. Grade/Level: Senior Campers
4. Objective: Learn the story of Noah and the Flood, with an emphasis on God's righteousness as well as His commitment to salvation. The importance of listening to God.
5. Time Allotment: 1 Hour

Prayer: Don't forget to begin and end your class with a prayer! If possible, have a camper lead one or both of these prayers.

Lesson

Overview: This week's classes will study the book of Genesis. Each lesson will focus on one person and their life. Each lesson will also examine a different aspect of God's character, and provide valuable application to New Testament teachings and the Church.

Today's lesson will focus on Noah and the flood. God will be examined as the Righteous Judge and the God of Salvation. The applications will be listening to God and obeying His commandments diligently.

The full account of the life of Noah is long. Please read the full account yourself in preparation for this class, as only certain portions will be read aloud together.

Read: 25 Minutes

The following section provides a brief commentary of the passage, as well as some reading comprehension questions.

Genesis 6:9-22, 7, 8:20-9:16

Genesis 6:9-22

This passage outlines the beginning of the story of the flood. Scripture is clear on the purpose of the flood; the world had become entirely corrupt and had abandoned God's ways. There is only one righteous man left: Noah. God is compelled to cleanse the world and make a statement of His righteousness that will be preserved through all generations. Noah, despite not having a formal law of God's commandments was righteous. He is described as "blameless". Verse 22 indicates his faithful obedience

Genesis 7

In this chapter, we see the execution of Noah's faithfulness and the fulfillment of God's plan to cleanse the world through a flood. The timeline of events is also recorded here. It took Noah 100 years to build to ark. It rained for 40 days, and waters covered the earth for 150 days. In the next chapter we see that Noah and his family remained in the ark for one year. The detail of this account is not ambiguous; these days and times are meant to be understood as literal.

Genesis 8:20-9:16

These verses take place after Noah and his family exit the ark. They build an alter to Lord, and receive the first formal covenant given to mankind after Adam and Eve. The Lord promises not to destroy the world through water again; this cleansing and the story of it are sufficient to understand God's righteous judgment until the final days where He will destroy the world in fire. God gives Noah several components of this covenant. He and his descendants are to have dominion over plants and animals, like Adam. He is to be fruitful and multiply. And the first "law" is issued by God, that there must be atonement for certain sins. A one-for-one system of punishment is established for anyone who harms another man. This passage also shows the significance of lifeblood, and the atonement of blood, both of which foreshadow the blood of Jesus.

Reading Comprehension:

- How does this passage help us understand the extreme obedience of Noah?
- How does this account teach us to handle peer pressure?
- Living a faithful life can be unpopular, and at times it can be scary to follow God's will. What are times in our lives where we may be asked to do extreme things for our faith in God?
- What does the covenant with Noah tell us about Jesus Christ?

1 Peter 3:8-22

1 Peter 3:8-17

This passage is important in understanding the differences between our covenant under Jesus Christ, and the one given to Noah. The Old Testament covenants carry with them some laws important for society to function. With Noah, and with Moses, the Old Testament contains physical punishments for many sins, leading many to seek retribution if they have been wronged. The New Covenant is different. We no longer should look to have our own revenge, or to “repay evil for evil”, but instead we are to trust in God's judgment of all people and look to be full of grace and love ourselves.

1 Peter 3:18-22

This passage is one of the most significant insights into the events surrounding Noah. God, through Peter, reveals that the life of Noah and the events of the flood are a foreshadowing of the New Covenant. In Genesis, the world was corrupt with sin, and God cleansed it through water. Today, we are corrupt due to our sin, and are cleansed completely through the waters of baptism. The waters of the flood led to a new version of the world, populated by Noah and his family. When we are baptised, we too leave behind our old self to walk in newness of life (see Colossians 3).

Reading Comprehension

- What are some of the main differences between God's covenant with Noah and the covenant He has given the Church through Jesus Christ?
- How does the account of the flood help us understand our salvation today?
- Verse 12 says, “The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous”. How was this true for Noah? How is this true for us today?
- Where is Jesus Christ today?

DISCUSSION

Remaining Time

Guided Discussion:

Begin by asking, “**What are some things your parents or teachers tell you that is important to obey?**”. There are many times where it is crucial to be obedient, but as teenagers it is easy for obedience to feel optional. Help them understand that nearly all instructions are important, and that God commands our obedience to our parents and to authorities. Some examples of obedience, and good reasons for obeying, may be:

- Chores. These are important in maintaining a healthy household, developing discipline, and being part of your community
- Homework. While it may feel pointless, or like busywork, it is important in developing your skills and training your mind, as well as practicing giving your best even when you don’t want to
- Safety instructions. The purpose of these are more easily understood, yet for teenagers they are quick to overlook. Curfews, rules around driving, or instructions on who/where to socialize are usually in place for their safety

Sometimes we aren’t given reasons behind our instructions, or may not understand how they are beneficial to us. Noah was given the explanation of the flood, but many around him ridiculed the idea and mocked him for building an ark. Reasons for rules can help us in our obedience, but even when we don’t have a reason or are skeptical of it, we should still be quick to obey. Especially in our relationship with God, we should exercise the same extreme obedience to His commands as Noah did.

Ask the class, “**What are some Biblical commandments you understand?**”. Talk through the many intuitive commandments given by God. We are to become Christians in order to participate in the covenant of Jesus Christ. We should treat others the way we want to be treated, which makes inherent sense. Etc.

Ask, “**What are some commandments you don’t understand?**”. They may bring up modern controversial issues despite clear Biblical command. Or maybe commandments that they personally would like ignore, like abstaining from drugs and alcohol, or other temptations. To the best of your ability, help them understand the reasoning given to us in scripture around these issues, and the importance of obeying God’s word even without full understanding of His intent.



Genesis and the Church

Every part of the Old Testament foreshadows the coming of the Church and God's redemptive plan, including the Book of Genesis. Use this lesson and Biblical account to help your class understand the nature of God's Church and His plan for it.

There is a clear connection between this account and the redeeming process of baptism. Just as the waters cleansed the world from sin, the waters of baptism cleanse Christians from sin as they enter the Church. Just like the ark was the vessel of salvation for Noah and his family, the Church is our current vessel. In the Church, Christians are united, and our ability to persevere through the storms of life is amplified. The Church is tasked with being the people of God and multiplying, just like Noah and his family. In many ways we can look to Noah to further understand our current position as the Lord's Church.