

Session 4

God still loves Noah

Children hear in the story of Noah that God is righteous. He sees people who are faithful to Him and He makes a clear plan to save His children.

Scripture: Genesis 7

Supplies:

- This story can be told with a felt board or with magnets against a metal background. Pictures of Noah and his family are at the end of this session.



Welcome

When the children arrive, whisper an animal into their ear. When everyone has arrived, explain that each one must make the sound of the animal you whispered to them. Now they must look for their friends who make the same sound so that the animal families can be together.

Give each child a picture of an animal. They get 2 minutes to find their animal friends (the one with the same picture). Don't lose the picture and sit next to your animal friends.



Worship

Settle down ritual: like the previous sessions



Word

Noah's story: Genesis 6:5–22

The Lord saw that mankind was bad. *(Place the picture of the earth with the cross through it on the board.)*

Everything that people thought about or planned to do, was filled with bad things. Then God regretted making people. He was very sad. One day He said: "I'm going to destroy everything on earth, the people I made, as well as the animals, all the wild animals, everything that crawls and everything that flies in the skies. *(Take the picture off the board.)* I am so sorry that I ever made people and animals."

One person was spared from all of this. It was Noah. God really loved Noah. *(Picture of Noah)*

You could only say nice things about Noah. He was a good man. He did the right things and lived close to God. Noah had 3 sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. *(Put Noah's sons on the board.)* In the eyes of God the earth was filled with bad and evil things. Everywhere there was corruption and lawlessness. *(Put the picture of the earth back on the board.)* God knew what was going on. He saw how people and animals got worse day by day. God called Noah aside *(move Noah apart)* and told him: "I have decided to destroy everything and everyone on earth. Just look how they are polluting everything with their violence and lawlessness. I am at the point where I want to destroy the whole earth. Now you must build a boat. Put lots of rooms on the inside. Make sure that you make everything waterproof. *(Put up the picture of the ark.)* You must build the ark like this: 135m long, the width must be 22.5m and the height must be 13.5m. Also make an arch at the top. Put a door on the side of the ark and divide the ark into bottom, middle, and top floors. I am going to let loose a huge flood. The water will destroy everything. All people and animals,

yes, everything will die. No one will survive this tragedy, but I will make an arrangement with you. When the water comes, you and your family must go into the ark. But you must take many animals with you. From everything that lives you must take two-by-two into the ark – a male and a female. From all the pure animals and the birds you must take seven pairs. *(The pure animals were the animals that people ate and used for offerings. That’s why Noah needed more of them.)* They must live you in the ark for a while. You must make sure there is enough food. You must take enough and store it in the ark so that the animals will have food to eat.”

Noah did this, just as God told him. *(Let the children bring two of each animal and put it on the board. Call the animals by their names. You can use pictures of animals from magazines, just make sure there are 2 of each.)* When everything was done, God told Noah: “Go into the ark with your family. From all the people on earth you live closest to me. Within 7 days I will send rain.”

Children reflect on the story:

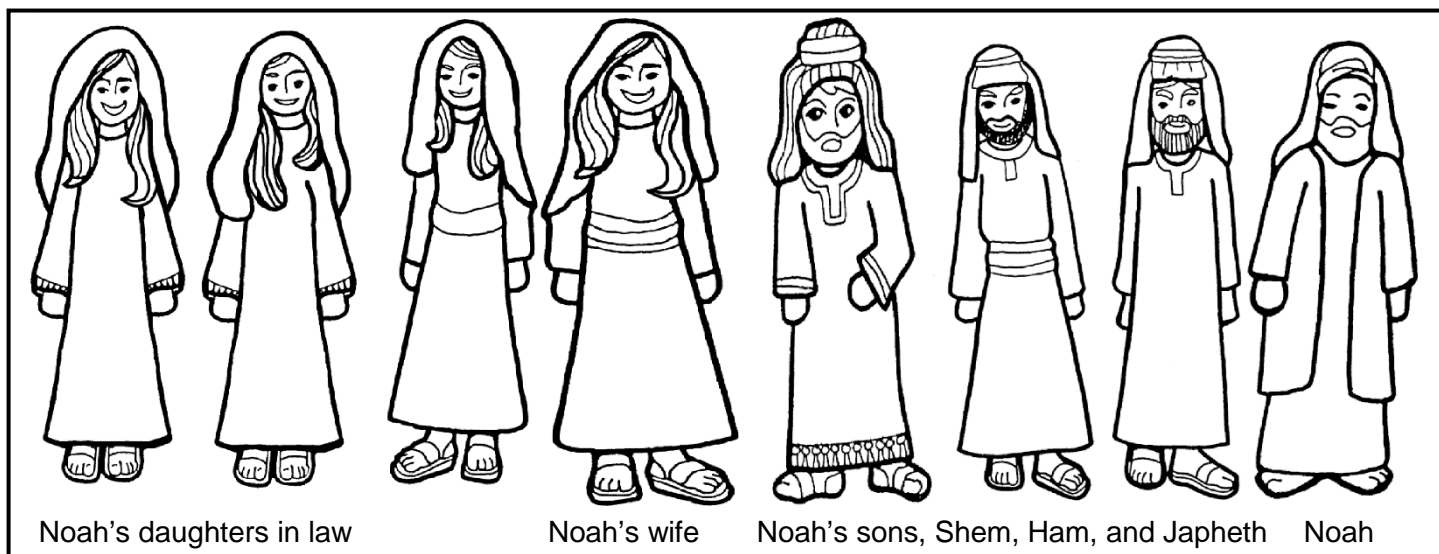
1. I wonder how Noah and his family managed to be the only family who did the right thing.
2. I wonder if it was easy for Noah to do exactly as God asked.
3. I wonder what the most important part of the story was for you.



Working and Playing

- Hand out the ark activity. It can be coloured, cut out and folded as a nice reminder of today’s story.
- Build a “box-ark” by gluing cardboard boxes together. Let the children colour the animals they received at the start of the session and glue them to the ark.
- Make extra copies of Noah, his family and the ark and make it available to the children to use when they retell the story.

Closing prayer to end the session



Noah’s daughters in law

Noah’s wife

Noah’s sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth

Noah

