# STORIES OF FAITH

#### WALKING WITH GOD - THE STORY OF NOAH

Esther Grant

### PREPARATION AND PRAYER

Father God, thank you that you are a God who is willing to walk with your creation. Thank you that you want a relationship with us and are with us through all the seasons of life. Thank you for the promise that you will never turn your back on us. Help us to understand this more fully today. Amen

#### PART 1: WALKING WITH GOD

In Genesis 6:5-22 we read about a man called Noah and the way his life was totally disrupted by God's instruction to build an Ark. God describes His anguish with the state of the world and how this broke His heart. Noah stands out as a man of integrity in his community. God described the world as evil which is defined as anything that contradicts the holy nature of God. These contradictions are those thoughts and actions that diminish our belief in and reliance on God.

READ AS A GROUP: Genesis 6:5-22 with each person reading a few verses at

### FOR DISCUSSION

- Discuss the ways that this story relates to the world we live in today.
- Noah swims against the tide. What does this look like for us?

#### PART 2: WALKING WITH GOD

Noah is described as a man who "walked with God". God trusted him with what was a life changing task. Estimates vary in how long the ark took to build but range between 55-75 years. For us, the story challenges us to persist and not give up on the things that God has asked us to do.

#### FOR DISCUSSION

- Has God ever asked you to do something that is beyond what you felt capable of doing?
- If you don't have a sense of what God wants to invite you into is that a prayer you're willing to pray?

### PART 3: DISCOMFORT ZONE

On Sunday Esther described how God so often calls us into the discomfort zone because it's in these times that we become especially reliant on God.

## **PRAY IN PAIRS**

- With another person in the group, share one aspect of your faith journey that is in your discomfort zone.
- Once you've both shared, pray for each other.