

Lesson 24

Catastrophe: The Flood

God is holy. God must judge sin.

Studying God's Word

Lesson Time

Have the students assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.

Bring your stuffed animal, Bible, Flip Chart, and any items you prepared for this lesson.

Prayer

This prayer time is designed to help the students begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to encourage them to pray.

We start our Bible lesson with prayer. Turn to the Prayer Page in the Flip Chart. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there.

Today let's say prayers of supplication—and ask God to help us.

I'll start. Dear God, thank you for letting us pray to you about things that are important to us. Please . . . (insert personal prayer here).

Pass a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—around the circle, giving all the students an opportunity to pray, or choose a volunteer to stand beside you and pray.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll answer our Bible Truth questions.

I love you prayers—Adoration
I'm sorry prayers—Confession
Thank you prayers—Thanksgiving
Please prayers—Supplication

Bible Truths

These four questions will be repeated each week to help the students learn foundational truths.

Where do you learn how to love and obey God? In the Bible.
Where is God? God is everywhere.
Can you see God? No. I cannot see God, but he always sees me.
Does God know all things? Yes. Nothing can be hidden from God.

Bible Pass Around

Before Bible Pass Around, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible. Hold up Bible. God's Word is true, and we can trust what it says. But where should we look? One of you will help me with that. We're going to play Bible Pass Around. Whoever ends up with the Bible must hold it very carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me, and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about today! Here's what we're going to do. I want everyone to count with me up to the number choose a number. (You may also choose to recite the books of the Bible, sing one of the lesson songs, or recite the memory verse as you do this activity.) We'll start right here. Hand the Bible to the first student. As we say each number (or word), you must carefully pass the Bible to the person beside you. Remember, we don't want to drop it or tear it. Then when we get to the last number (or word), whoever has the Bible will hold on to it until we are ready for it in our lesson. Are you ready? Let's begin. Begin the lesson when finished with Bible Pass Around.

K-1st Lesson continues next.

Pre-K Lesson

K-1st Lesson

Pre-K Lesson

Review

Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Refer to the Seven C's Poster. How many of you remember when we talked about the Seven C's of History? Show of hands.

Today we are going to talk about one of those C's!

The first C tells us about creation. Who created everything? God.

Yes! The second C is Corruption. What came into God's perfect creation and corrupted it? Sin.

That's right. God created everything perfect and very good. He placed Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, but they sinned.

Refer to the Lesson 23 Flip Chart. Ever since then, all people are born with sinful hearts.

What Is a Catastrophe?

So we have learned about Creation and Corruption. That brings us to the third C—Catastrophe!

Can you say catastrophe? Have the children repeat it after you a few times.

A catastrophe is a big, bad problem! It's a huge disaster! I'm going to show you a special hand motion for the word "catastrophe." It looks like

this. Put your hands in front of you with right hand higher. Turn right hand out with palm open and left hand palm up. Move both hands up and right as you rotate them. Make a sad/surprised face. We make a sad face because bad things happen in a catastrophe. Practice the hand motion several times with students while repeating the word.

I want you to listen for the word “catastrophe” as we talk about our lesson. Every time you hear me say catastrophe, make the motion we just learned, okay? Here we go. You may cue the students by making the motion when you say the word or pausing after you say it.

The catastrophe we are going to hear about today was a really huge and terrible storm. It was the biggest catastrophe that ever happened on earth. Praise students who hear “catastrophe” and remember to do the motion.

How many of you have seen a thunder and lightning storm? Are any of you afraid of storms? They have lots of wind and rain. Sometimes the electricity even goes off. Has that happened to any of you? Allow discussion.

Here are some pictures of terrible storms. Sometimes they can be pretty scary. Show children pictures of storms, lightning, tornadoes, big waves, etc.

But who do you think was in control of this catastrophe ? I’ll give you a hint. He is all-powerful and in control of everything. Who is that? God.

Yes. God is always in control of everything. Even this huge storm that caused the flood of water that covered the whole world and killed almost everything on earth!

God Punishes Sin

God had a reason for bringing this catastrophe on the earth. The Bible says God looked at the earth and saw that the people were evil. God knew that their hearts were wicked.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Look at these men on the Flip Chart. They look really mean, like they’re going to hurt somebody. And it looks like they stole something, too. The people did not love or obey God, and they were always sinning against God.

We’ve learned that everyone is born with sin in their heart, and that sin makes God sad. God knew what was in the hearts of all the people that were on the earth, and he was very sorry that he had made people because they were so full of sin.

Remember, God has to punish sin because he is holy and just. So he was going to send a catastrophe that would destroy everyone and everything on the earth—all the people and all the animals! He was going to wipe out everything because of the sin and wickedness. That sounds pretty terrible, doesn’t it?

Genesis 6:8

Who has the Bible? Please bring it up. Make this a special time as the student brings the Bible and opens it to where the sticky note is. Show the students where the book is in your Bible. Let them look at it. Carry it around your circle. There was someone who lived through this catastrophe. Let's look and see who that was. Read Genesis 6:8. Who is this verse about? Noah.

As you teach, refer often to the Lesson Flip Chart to keep the children engaged.

Refer to the Flip Chart. Yes. God showed Noah special favor; he promised to save Noah because he loved and obeyed God.

God Shows Mercy

Why did God have to destroy the world with the flood? Because of sin.

Right. God was going to punish the sin on the earth with a huge storm and a great, big flood of water! It was going to be a great catastrophe.

But because Noah loved and obeyed God, God showed him mercy and promised to save him from the punishment that was going to destroy the earth.

Genesis 6:14

But in order for Noah to be safe from the flood, he had to obey. God gave him a very big job to do! Listen to this verse. Read Genesis 6:14.

Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word!

What was the job God told Noah to do? Make an ark.

That's right. Noah was told to build an ark for himself—a huge boat, or ship. God told Noah to bring his wife and sons and their wives onto the ark as well. God made a way for Noah to be saved from the punishment he would bring on the world—the catastrophe that was coming.

But what if Noah built the ark and just stood outside? Would that keep him safe from all the water? No!

What would Noah have to do to be saved from the flood? Get on the ark. Go into the ark.

Right. Noah and his family would have to go through the door of the ark to get inside and be saved from the catastrophe.

John 10:9

Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse page. Now this is a picture of something else in the Bible. Our memory verse tells us about it. Let's say the verse together. It's something that Jesus said. Recite John 10:9 together.

What did Jesus call himself? The door.
Right. What does this verse say would happen to anyone who enters by him? He will be what? He will be saved.

Just like God showed mercy to Noah, God has also shown mercy to us. He made a way for Noah to walk through the door of the ark and be safe from the flood. God also made a way for us to be saved from the punishment of sin. When we put our trust in Jesus and believe in him, it's like we're walking through the door to be saved.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game below.

K-1st Lesson

Review

Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Refer to the Seven C's of History Poster. How many of you remember when we talked about the Seven C's of History? Show of hands.

Today we are going to talk about another one of those C's!

First, which C tells us about God's perfect world and how he created everything in it? Creation.

Yes! And what was the second C, Corruption, about? Sin came into the creation.

That's right. God created everything perfect and very good. Then he placed Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. But when they sinned, the whole creation was ruined—we call that Corruption.

Refer to the Lesson 23 Flip Chart. Ever since then, all people are born with sinful hearts.

What Is a Catastrophe?

So we have learned about Creation and Corruption. That brings us to the third C—Catastrophe!

Can you say catastrophe? Have the children repeat it after you a few times.

A catastrophe is a big, bad problem! It's a huge disaster! I'm going to show you a special hand motion for the word "catastrophe." It looks like this. Put your hands in front of you with right hand higher. Turn right hand out with palm open and left hand palm up. Move both hands up and right as you rotate them. Make a sad/surprised face. We make a sad face because bad things happen in a catastrophe. Practice the hand motion several times with students while repeating the word.

I want you to listen for the word “catastrophe” as we continue with our lesson. Every time you hear it, make the motion we learned, okay? Here we go. You may cue the students by making the motion when you say the word or pausing after you say it.

The catastrophe we are going to read about in the Bible had to do with the weather. It was the biggest catastrophe that ever happened on earth. Praise students who hear “catastrophe” and remember to do the motion. How many of you have seen a thunder and lightning storm? Are any of you afraid of storms? They have lots of wind and rain. Sometimes the electricity even goes off. Has that happened to any of you? Allow discussion.

Here are some pictures of storms. Sometimes they can be pretty scary. Show children pictures of storms, lightning, tornadoes, big waves, etc.

The catastrophe we are going to hear about today was a really terrible storm. It caused a huge flood of water that covered the whole world and killed almost everything on earth!

But who do you think was in control of this catastrophe? I’ll give you a hint. He is all-powerful and in control of everything. Who is that? God.

Yes. We’ve learned that God is omnipotent and that he’s always in control of everything. And God had a reason for bringing this catastrophe on the world.

God Punishes Sin

The Bible tells us all about this catastrophe. You see, God wants us to know about it and remember why it happened.

Who has the Bible? Please bring it up. Make this a special time as the student brings the Bible and opens it to where the sticky note is. Show the students where the book is in your Bible. Let them look at it. Carry it around your circle.

Genesis 6:5

We’re going to look in Genesis today. Listen carefully as I read. Read Genesis 6:5 from your Bible.

What did God see? The wickedness of man.

Right. The Bible says God saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth. Wickedness is another word for sin. There was so much sin on the earth, and God could see it all!

What is sin? Disobeying God.

Yes. Sin is anything we do or think or say that is disobedient to God. And God hates sin because he is holy.

As you teach, refer often to the Lesson Flip Chart to keep the children engaged.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. The Bible says the people were evil. God knew that their hearts were wicked. Look at these men on the Flip Chart. They look really mean, like they're going to hurt somebody. And it looks like they stole something, too. The people did not love or obey God, and they were always sinning against God.

Genesis 6:6

Let's find out how the sin of the people made God feel. Read Genesis 6:6 emphasizing "grieved him to his heart."

God saw so much sin in the people. How did that make God feel? Sad. Sorry. Grieved.

We've learned that everyone is born with sin in their heart, and that sin makes God sad. God knew what was in the hearts of all the people that were on the earth, and he was very sorry that he had made people because they were so full of sin.

Genesis 6:7

God has to punish sin because he is holy. Listen to what God said he was going to do to punish the sin in the world. Read Genesis 6:7.

Wow! What was God going to do to man and animals? Blot them out. Destroy them.

Yes. God was going to send a catastrophe that would destroy everyone and everything on the earth—all the people and all the animals! He was going to wipe out everything because of the sin and wickedness. That sounds pretty terrible, doesn't it?

Genesis 6:8

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. But someone named Noah lived through this catastrophe. Does anyone know about Noah? Or what he built? Allow discussion.

Let's look and see what God's Word has to say about Noah. Read Genesis 6:8.

Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word!

What did Noah find in the eyes of the Lord? Favor.

Yes. God gave Noah special favor because he loved and obeyed God.

God Shows Mercy

God told Noah that he was going to bring a catastrophe—a flood of water that would cover the whole world. This flood would destroy everything and everyone

on the earth. But God was going to save Noah and his family.

Remind students of the hand motion for catastrophe and practice again if necessary.

Why did God have to destroy the world with the flood? Because of sin.

Right. God was going to punish the sin on the earth with a huge storm and a great, big flood! It was going to be a great catastrophe.

Sin makes God sad, and God must judge, or punish, sin. When we talk about God judging sin, we say God is just. But because Noah loved and obeyed God, God showed him mercy and promised to save him from the punishment that was going to destroy the earth.

Genesis 6:14

But in order for Noah to be safe from the flood, he had to obey. God gave him a very big job to do! Listen to this verse. Read Genesis 6:14.

What was the job God told Noah to do? Make an ark.

That's right. Noah was told to build an ark for himself—a huge boat, or ship. God told Noah to bring his wife and sons and their wives onto the ark as well.

But what if Noah built the ark and just stood outside? Would that keep him safe? No!

What would Noah have to do to be saved from all the water? Get on the ark. Go into the ark.

Right. Noah and his family would have to go through the door of the ark to get inside in order to be saved from the catastrophe.

John 10:9

Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse page. Now this is a picture of something else in the Bible. Our memory verse tells us about it. It's something that Jesus said. Let's say it together. Recite John 10:9 together.

What did Jesus call himself? The door.

Right. What would happen to anyone who enters by him? He will be saved.

Just like God showed mercy to Noah, God has also shown mercy to sinners, including you and me. He made a way for Noah to walk through the door of the ark and be safe from the flood. God also made a way for us to be saved from the punishment of sin. When we put our trust in Jesus and believe in him, it's like we're walking through the door to be saved.

Lesson Review

We all learn best with review and repetition! We encourage you to play a lesson review game.

Basket Toss

Students give the correct answer and toss the beanbags to see how many points they can collect for their team. Each basket has greater points.

Materials

- Review Questions
- Two beanbags
- Three laundry baskets or boxes
- Masking tape

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use masking tape to make a tossing line. Bring in three laundry baskets or boxes. Set the baskets in a line, making each one a little farther away from the tossing line. Label the baskets with 5, 10, and 25 points so the farther away it is the higher the score.

Divide the class into two or more teams depending on size. Have the teams line up at the tossing line. Take turns asking the first students in line from each team a review question. When a student answers correctly, he will have a chance to toss a beanbag into a basket then go to the end of the line. If the beanbag misses, there are no points scored. If someone does not answer correctly, he may ask his teammates for help. Keep track of the scores for each team on the board. Continue until all the questions have been answered. Repeat questions if necessary.

Board Game

Teams will answer questions and make their way to the finish on the Game Board.

Materials

- Review Questions
- Game Board (provided in the Teacher Kit)
- Dice, numbered cards, or spinner
- Buttons or other small items as game pieces for each team

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Divide the class into teams.

Team members will take turns answering the review questions. If they answer correctly, they will roll the dice, spin, or draw a numbered card and move that number of spaces on the Game Board. Follow the directions on the spaces to move ahead, fall back, or switch places with another team. If someone does not know or does not answer correctly, he may ask his teammates for help.

Alternate between teams as long as time permits, repeating questions if necessary. The first team to make it all the way to the Finish wins.

Bible Baseball

Students will answer questions and run the bases!

Materials

Review Questions
Three chairs set out for bases
Optional: gift wrap tube and a large balloon

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Set out chairs as bases. Have the students line up by the home base area facing you (at the pitcher's mound). Each student up to "bat" will have a chance to answer a review question. If he can answer it correctly, let him run the bases. If he can't answer correctly, give the answer and ask him to go to the end of the line and try again.

You may want the students to sit on the chair at each base while they wait to run to the next base or have them run all the way around and return to the line. Repeat the questions until all the students have run around the bases.

For some added fun, you can use a gift wrap tube as a bat and toss a large balloon for students to hit after they answer each question.

Bowling

What do you do with extra water bottles and softballs? Go bowling, of course. Students will answer questions then bowl for points.

Materials

Review Questions
Six to ten empty water bottles
Softball or other small playground ball
Masking tape
Optional: dried corn or beans

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. If available, pour a small amount of dried corn or beans into the bottom of each water bottle (to add weight) and tighten the lid. Set out the bottles on one end of the room. Use masking tape to form a "lane" from the bottles to where the students will line up across the room.

Divide students into teams. Have students line up. Ask the first student a review question. If he answers correctly, let him roll the ball down the lane toward the bottles. Each bottle that is knocked down is worth 1 point. A strike (knocking down all the bottles) is worth 20 points. Take turns asking questions of each team. If a student gives an incorrect answer or does not know the answer, he can ask his teammates for help. Keep track of scores.

Goofy Golf

Hit the sock with the noodle? Teams must work together to answer the questions and putt to get a hole-in-one in this crazy golf game!

Materials

- Review Questions
- Swimming noodles or rolled up newspapers
- Rolled up socks
- Masking tape
- Ten sheets of paper
- Markers

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use the markers to number sheets of paper 1–10 (use more or less depending on class size and time). Tape down the sheets of paper around the room in a random pattern to form a golf course. You may want to add chairs as obstacles in the path.

Divide the class into teams. Give each team a rolled up sock and a swimming noodle. Ask the first student a review question from the lesson. If he answers correctly, allow him to use the noodle to drive the rolled up sock toward the first sheet of paper labeled #1. Continue with the next team. Take turns allowing team members to answer questions and continue putting the socks along the course to each hole, continuing from where the last teammate left off. The sock must touch or roll over the sheet of paper to consider it in the hole. The first team to reach the tenth hole wins.

Toss for It

How many points? Toss for it! Students answer the questions and toss the beanbag to earn points for their team.

Materials

- Review Questions
- A deck of numbered cards, or numbers and “wild” written on index cards
- One beanbag
- Masking tape
- Two baskets or containers for cards

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Place several rows of numbered cards facedown with a few inches between them to form a grid pattern (make sure to put several wild cards or Jokers down, too). Use the masking tape to make a tossing line several feet from the cards.

Divide students into teams and have them line up behind the tossing line. Ask the first student a review question. If he gives the correct answer, have him toss the beanbag onto a card. Turn the card over to reveal the points he receives for his team. Face cards or word cards are 10 points each. Wild or Jokers are also 10—plus another turn. All other cards are face value.

Have the student pick up his card and put it in the team's basket to be counted at the end of the game. Next team's turn. If a student gives an incorrect answer, he should go to the end of the line. Give the answer and repeat that question later. Continue taking turns until all the questions have been answered. Add more cards to the grid if necessary.

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Bible Version

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