

Lesson 25

God Saves Noah

God must judge sin, but God also shows mercy.



K-1st Lesson

Introduction

- Refer to the Seven C's Poster. We've learned about two C's of History so far, Creation and Corruption. Do you remember what the third C is called? We talked about it last time. *Catastrophe.*
- What is a catastrophe? *A huge disaster! A big, bad problem! A bad storm.*
- Who remembers the hand motion we learned for catastrophe? *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.*
- Refer to the Lesson 24 Flip Chart. What did God see when he looked at the world? What were the people like? *Wicked, evil, sinners.*
- What was God going to bring on the earth to punish sin? *A catastrophe. A worldwide flood.*

God was going to judge the people in the world for their sin by bringing a catastrophe. He would send a flood of water over the whole earth to punish sin.

God spoke to a man named Noah and told him about his plan to destroy every living thing on the earth.

- Who remembers why God chose Noah? *He loved and obeyed God.*

Who Was on the Ark?

Out of all the people on earth who were disobedient to God, Noah was one who loved God and wanted to obey him. And God rewarded Noah's obedience by showing him mercy and saving him and his family from the flood.

But first, God gave Noah a big job to do.

- Do you remember what that job was? *Build the ark.*

God told Noah to build an ark, a huge boat—like a ship. Then God would send two of every kind of animal to

the ark. Noah obeyed God and built the ark exactly how God told him to.

- Let's find out more about this. Who has the Bible? Please bring it up. *Have the student with the Bible bring it up.*

Genesis 7:7

Listen carefully so you can answer some questions. Read Genesis 7:7 emphasizing who went on the ark.

- We know Noah went into the ark, but who else went in with him? *Noah's wife, his sons, and his sons' wives.*
- Noah, his wife, his sons, and their wives went into the ark. How many people is that? *Count the people in the picture on the Flip Chart. Eight people.*

Genesis 7:8–9

God told Noah to build a really big boat. It was as big as a ship! Now, you don't need a boat that big just for eight people, right? God told Noah to put something else on the ark. Listen to this next part. Read Genesis 7:8–9.

- What else went into the ark? *Animals.*
- How many of each animal came to the ark? *Allow discussion.*
- This says the animals went into the ark two by two. AND there were seven pairs of some special animals like chickens, deer, and cattle. God called these animals clean animals. Noah could use these as offerings to God and for food after the flood was over.
- Why was it important for animals to be on the ark? Remember, all the other animals on earth would die in the flood! *Allow discussion.*

God knew that the earth would need animals again after the flood. So he sent two of every kind of land animal, a male (daddy) and a female (mommy). This was so all the animals could have babies after the flood was over, and soon there would be animals all around the world again.

- Do you think Noah had to put fish or whales on the ark? *No. They could swim.*

Most of the sea creatures would be fine in the water during the flood because they could swim. Only the land animals and birds were on the ark with Noah's family.

- Why do you think birds had to be on the ark if they could fly? *Allow discussion.*

The flood would cover the entire world! All the trees and bird nests would be destroyed by all that water. The birds would have nothing to eat and nowhere to live. And they probably wouldn't be able to fly in the

powerful rain and storm that was about to come. So God brought the birds to the ark so they would be safe, too.

- What about dinosaurs? Did they go on the ark? *Allow discussion.*

Dinosaurs were land animals, so they had to be on the ark, too.

Some people don't believe dinosaurs were on the ark because they were so big! But God probably brought young dinosaurs to the ark. Then they wouldn't be too big. That makes sense, right?

The Flood

God told Noah and his family to get on the ark. And God brought all the animals he wanted on the ark. Then God did something else.

Genesis 7:16

Listen to what God did next! Read Genesis 7:16 emphasizing "and the Lord shut him in."

- What did God do after everyone and everything was loaded on the ark? *The Lord shut him in.*

That's right! The Bible says the Lord shut the door. And now he would start the flood. The rain came! It rained and rained. And water even came up from underneath the ground! The ark rose higher and higher—up, up, up—it floated on top of the water. The Bible says the water came up so high, it even covered the mountains!

Let's act this out! First, we need to set up some mountains. Set up chairs as mountains. Second, it started to rain. Where does rain come from? From the sky, right? Everyone come and help me hold this blue sheet, which is our floodwater. Direct students to hold edges of sheet.

Hold it up high and pretend it's rain coming down. Gradually lower the sheet to the ground.

The Bible also says that water came up from beneath the ground. Start out with the sheet on the ground and gradually raise it up. Now it's really getting stormy! Shake sheet to make waves.

With the rain from above and water from below, the floodwater rose higher and higher until it covered the mountains! Gradually raise the sheet and hold it above the chairs.

And what was floating on top of the floodwater? The ark! If available, place a toy boat or object to represent the ark on the sheet.

And God kept Noah, his family, and the animals safe in the ark. Direct students to move away from the chairs and place the sheet back on the ground. Have students return to seats.

- Did the flood come on the earth just like God said it would? *Yes!*

- Who remembers why God had to flood the whole earth? *Because of sin.*

That's right. The people were evil and wicked. They were sinners. God is just, so he must punish sin. And this catastrophe was their punishment.

Genesis 7:21

This wasn't a fun time. It was a very serious punishment. The Bible tells us what died on the earth during the flood. Listen to this verse. Read Genesis 7:21.

- Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Who did God save in the flood? *Noah, his family, and two of every kind of land animal and bird.*

- Did God really destroy all the living things on the earth just like he said he would do? *Yes.*

Yes! All of God's words are true! And the Bible tells us that Noah obeyed God. He built the ark. God showed Noah and his family mercy when he saved them along with some of the animals and birds.

- What does the Bible say happened to everything and everyone not on the ark? *They all died.*

It's a very sad thing, but it's true. The Bible always teaches us about God. And we've learned something important about him. God is just, and he must punish sin. But God is also merciful, and he showed his mercy to Noah and his family.

- Did Noah do ALL that God commanded him? *Yes.*

Yes, he did. Noah had faith in God. Noah believed God would do what he said, and obeyed God. God rewarded Noah's obedience by keeping him and his family safe.

- Why did God have to destroy the world with the flood? Do you remember? *Because of sin.*

- What is sin? *Allow students to answer. Doing something bad, disobeying God.*

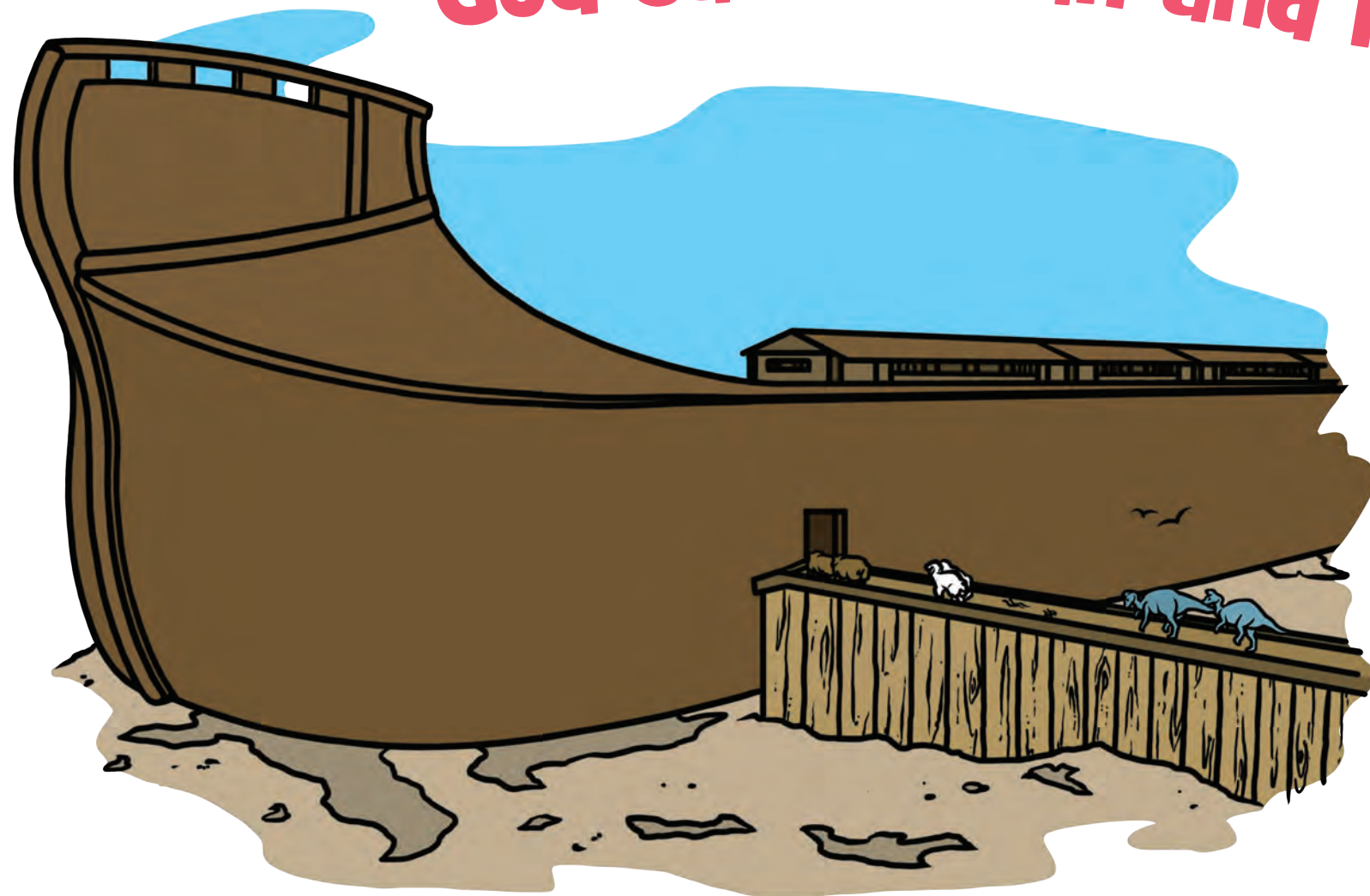
Remember, the Bible says we all sin. Everyone! And God must punish all sin. Even yours and even mine! But God has shown mercy to us by sending someone to save us from the punishment of our sin.

- Who is that? *Jesus.*

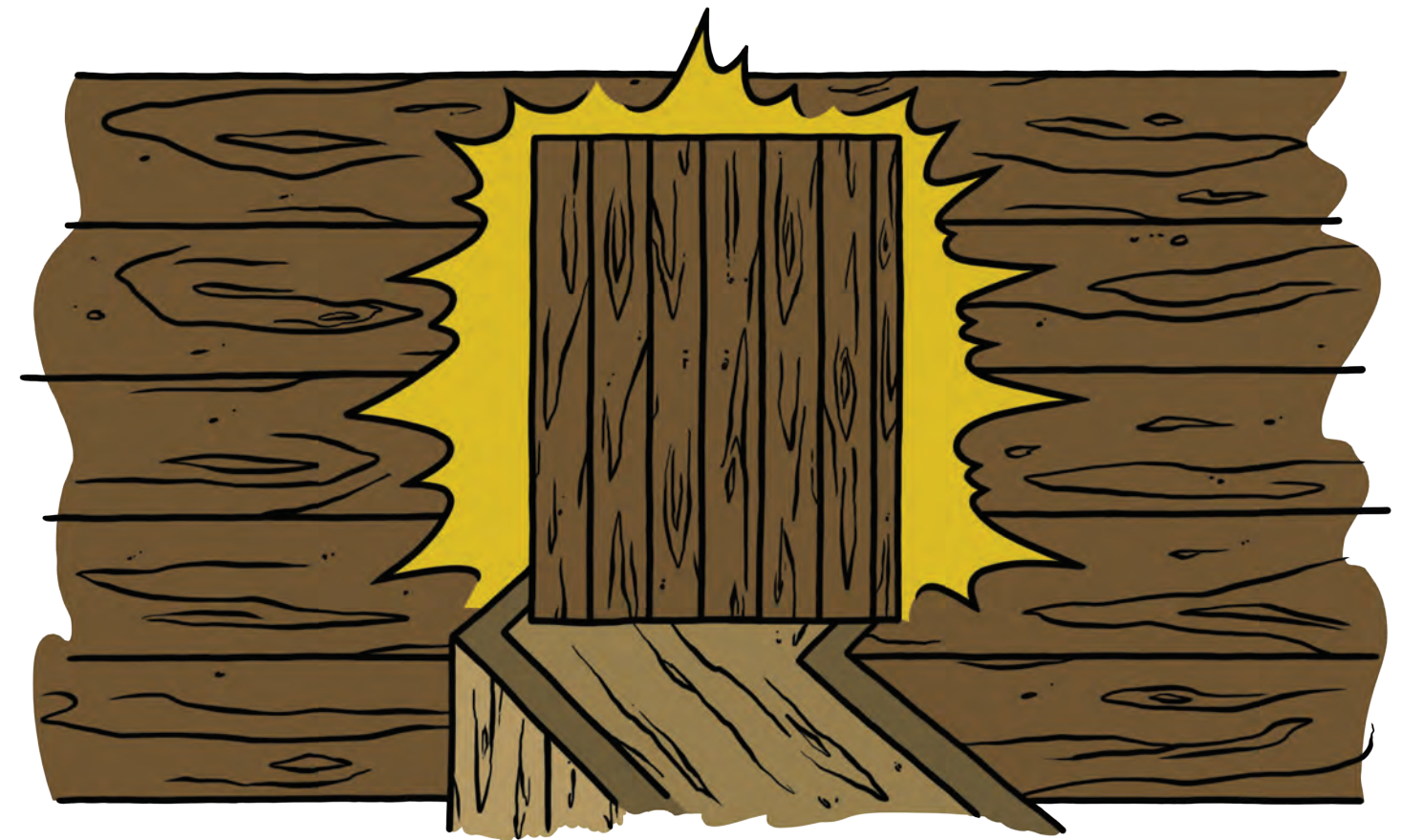
Yes. Only Jesus can save us from our sin. He died on the cross to take the punishment for us. We must turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus. When we do that, God promises that one day we will live with him in heaven forever.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game.

God saved Noah and his family from the flood.



1 Entering the ark



2 God closed the door



3 God sent the flood



4 Safe in the ark