

Lesson 25

God Saves Noah

God must judge sin but will reward faith and obedience.

Studying God's Word

Introduction

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

Slide #3

Refer to Lesson 24 Theme Poster. Last week we started talking about the third C in the Seven C's of History. What is the third C? Catastrophe.

Right! And what was that great Catastrophe? Noah's flood.

Why did God bring that flood on the earth? Allow discussion. Because of the sin of the world.

According to the Bible, who sins? All men.

Refer to the Genesis . Yes. Since Adam and Eve, all people have been born with a sin nature. We don't naturally want to do what is right—but would rather do what is wrong. That includes all people—even Noah. But Noah found favor in God's eyes, so God showed mercy on him and his family. God provided the ark so Noah would not die in the flood.

We discussed God's mercy to sinners, too! How did God show mercy to sinners? Allow discussion. He sent Jesus.

What did Jesus do for sinners? Allow discussion. Died on the cross.

That's right. God showed his mercy when he made a way for Noah and his family to be saved from the worldwide flood. Noah believed God and walked through the door onto the ark.

God also shows us his perfect mercy in Jesus Christ! God loves sinners so much that he sent Jesus to die and take the punishment we deserve for our sins. Jesus is the door we must go through to get to God.

Slide #4

Show the Lesson Theme Posters. Today we're going to talk more about Noah. But before we get started, I'd like to give you a pop quiz! So scoot your chairs out a little bit so you can pop up.

Divide students into two teams for the Noah's Ark pop quiz.

I'm going to ask a question. If you know the answer, pop up from your chair. I'll call on the first person up. If you can give me the correct answer, you'll get a point for your team. If your answer is incorrect, someone on the other team will get a chance to answer for a point. Divide students into two teams (e.g., boys vs. girls). Keep track of points on the board as you continue with the following questions.

Here's the first question: What did God tell Noah to build to save him from the flood? An ark.

How many years did it take Noah to build the ark? About 50, 75, or 100 years? About 75 years.

What other people went into the ark with Noah? His family—his wife, sons, and their wives.

What are the two types of animals God said to take on the ark? Clean and unclean animals.

How many of each of the clean animals were put on the ark? Seven of each (seven pairs).

Where did Noah keep the whales? Not on the ark. They were in the water outside.

How old was Noah when the flood began? 100, 200, 400, or 600? 600 years old.

How long did it rain during the flood? 40 days and 40 nights.

Was the rain the only thing that caused the flood? No. Fountains of the great deep broke open.

What kind of bird helped Noah figure out when it was dry enough to get off the ark? A dove.

Great job! How many of you did not know all the answers? Show of hands.

That's okay if you didn't know them because we're going to learn about them today. There are a lot of details about the flood and the ark that many people don't know, and they get confused about what really happened. Many people find it hard to believe that there ever was an ark and a worldwide flood. But the Bible tells us everything we need to know. So if we pay attention to the details, it will make much more sense to us and help our faith grow in God's Word.

The Flood Begins

Pass out the Class Notes (PDF) to the students.

Let's read what God has told us in his Word about this major catastrophe that was about to begin.

Slide #5

Genesis 7:1

Turn to Genesis 7:1. We will start there. Will someone read that? Assign a reader.

Who called Noah into the ark? The Lord.

Why was God going to show mercy on Noah and save him? That is in the same verse. Noah was righteous before God.

We talked about that before. Noah had found favor, or grace, in God's eyes. Noah loved God and wanted to obey him. And God showed him mercy.

Slide #6

Genesis 7:2–3

Let's keep going. Will someone read Genesis 7:2–3 for us? Assign a reader.

What animals did God command Noah to take? Look in Genesis 7:2. Seven pairs of clean animals—male and female. Two each of unclean animals—male and female.

What is the difference between clean and unclean animals? Allow discussion.

Clean animals were the animals God would allow the people to use for sacrifice and for food after they got off the ark. They would be animals like cows, sheep, goats, and rams. The unclean animals were not acceptable as sacrifices to God, but God wanted to keep them on earth after the flood. So Noah brought only two each of those animals.

Look in Genesis 7:3. Why did God command Noah to bring a male and a female animal? So they would continue to live after the flood.

God knew that the earth would again need animals after the flood. So God sent males and females of each type of animal to the ark.

Speaking of the animals, the Bible tells us there were birds on the ark. Why would birds need to be on the ark if they could fly? Allow discussion.

The flood would cover the entire world! There would be no trees; bird nests would be destroyed; 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 birds had to be on the ark in order to survive.

But sea creatures and fish did not need to come on board. Sea creatures would be able to live through the flood because they live in the water.

Slide #7

Now look at your Class Notes (PDF). You will circle the correct answer from the choices below each question. Will someone read #1 for us? How many animals were with Noah on the ark? Assign a reader. D. Seven, two. Have students complete #1.

Slide #8

Slide #9

Genesis 7:4-7

The time was almost here. Noah knew which animals would be coming. Let's keep reading. Will someone read Genesis 7:4-7 for us? Assign a reader.

How long would it rain? Genesis 7:4. Forty days and forty nights.

What would be destroyed? Every living thing that God made.

What did Noah do? That is in Genesis 7:5. All that the Lord commanded him.

The Bible even tells us how old Noah was when this all finally happened.

Who can tell me how old he was? Genesis 7:6. 600 years old!

Who went on the ark with Noah? Genesis 7:7. Noah's wife, his sons, his sons' wives.

Only eight people would survive this worldwide flood. It would be a major catastrophe. Every person and every animal not on the ark would be destroyed.

Slide #10

Slide #11

Will someone read #2 on your Class Notes (PDF) now? What is the answer? Assign a reader. C. Destroyed. Have students complete #2. And what about #3? How many people would survive God's judgment? Assign a reader. D. Eight. Have students complete #3.

Slide #12

Genesis 7:11–12

The animals were ready. Noah was ready. It was time to board the ark. And God shut the door and started the flood. Will someone read Genesis 7:11–12 for us? Assign a reader.

God did two different things to start the flood. Look in Genesis 7:11. What were they? Allow discussion. The fountains of the great deep burst forth. The windows of heaven were opened.

So, what does that mean? Let's look at the first one. The fountains of the great deep burst forth. Any ideas what God did? Allow discussion.

The waters from beneath the ground sprang up out of the earth with incredible power and force!

What about the opening of the windows of heaven? What does that mean? Allow discussion.

It started raining! It was raining in a way we have never seen rain—even in the worst storm!

We can't even imagine it. God sent water from above and from below to cover the entire earth! This was the beginning of the worldwide flood! But God was in complete control of what was going on. God had warned the people—but their wickedness continued. God gave Noah instructions for the ark. God sent the animals to the ark. And finally, God started the rain from above and water sprang up from below. The flood had begun.

Slide #13

Before we move on, will someone read #4? Where did the water come from? Assign a reader. B. Below. Have students complete #4.

The Saved and the Lost

This was a major catastrophe—the water covered the entire world—it even covered the mountains! We should never take this lightly or think of it as a fairy tale or just a nice story about cute animals on a little boat. This flood was a very real and serious punishment from God.

Slide #14

Slide #15

Genesis 7:21–23

God wanted us to know how awful this judgment was. He described it in more detail in Genesis 7:21–23. Who will read that for us? Assign a

reader.

Okay. Go back to Genesis 7:21. What died in the flood? Birds, livestock (cattle), beasts, all swarming creatures, all mankind.

Right. Now notice it says "ALL." And it means all—every animal on the earth and every person, everyone who was not on the ark. The word for birds in verse 21 also includes other flying creatures.

God wants us to get this! Look in Genesis 7:22. What does it say died? Everything on dry land.

And just in case we didn't get it the first two times, look at Genesis 7:23. What did God destroy? Every living thing.

You are referring to land animals only. All sea creatures were not destroyed in the flood.

Yes. All living things were destroyed from the earth. Remember, the sea creatures could survive in the water. What is listed in Genesis 7:23? Man, animals, creeping things, birds.

And look there at the end of that verse. Who remained alive? Only Noah and those with him in the ark.

All of the animals and all the other people were left on the earth to die. God had shut the door of the ark, and it was too late for anyone else to be saved. Noah and his family were safe. And yet, it must have been very difficult for them—to imagine all the people and all the other animals scared and running. But they had nowhere to go. God's judgment was coming. The flood had begun.

Slide #16

Now take a look at #5 on your Class Notes (PDF). Along with ALL the people not on the ark, what kinds of animals died during the flood? Assign a reader. C. Birds, land animals. Have students complete #5.

Noah, his wife, their three sons, and their wives were the ONLY people who survived the flood. Only the animals God brought to the ark lived through it. Every other air-breathing, land animal and flying creature was destroyed. And every other person on earth died.

Now you may think this sounds so terrible that God wouldn't really do such a thing. But we need to remember that we serve a God who must be feared. He judged the entire earth because of the sin he saw. He had to do this because he hates sin—he is holy! And this doesn't look too good for us either because we are sinners, too.

Slide #17

Refer to Lesson 24 Theme Poster. But remember, God was merciful to Noah. He provided a way for him to be saved in the ark! And God also provides a way for sinners to be saved from eternal death.

What am I talking about? What has God provided us so we can be saved from his punishment of sin? Jesus.

Yes, God sent Jesus Christ, his Son, to die on the cross and be raised from the dead so that all who believe in him, trust him, and repent by turning

away from their sins can be saved from God's judgment.

The Flood Ends

The flood lasted a pretty long time from beginning to end. Someone take a look in Genesis 7:4 and tell us how long it rained. Forty days and forty nights.

That is a long time—longer than a month! The earth was covered with water. The Bible tells us that God stopped the rains, and a wind began to blow over the earth. But it was still 150 days before Noah saw any land—or mountains—out his window. How would Noah know when it was safe to come out of the ark? Well, God had a plan—of course! Let's read about it.

Slide #18

Slide #19

Genesis 8:6–9

Will someone read Genesis 8:6–9 for us? This will tell us how Noah knew when it was safe to come out. Assign a reader.

What did Noah do in Genesis 8:6? He opened the window.

What did he send out? A raven.

The Bible doesn't tell us what happened to the raven. But it didn't fly back to Noah.

So Noah tried again. Look in Genesis 8:8. He sent out another bird. What was it? A dove.

Why did Noah send the dove? What was he trying to find out? Look in Genesis 8:8 again. To see if the waters had subsided.

Yes. Noah had been in the ark for 150 days after the rain had stopped! And he wondered when he could let his family and all the animals out. He wondered if the water had gone down and if there was any land to live on. But it would be a while longer before he could leave.

That dove could not find a place to land. What did she do? Look in Genesis 8:9. The dove returned to the ark.

Slide #20

Slide #21

Genesis 8:10–12

The dove flew back to the ark. It wasn't time to leave the ark yet, so Noah waited. Someone read Genesis 8:10–12 for us. Let's see what he did next. Assign a reader.

In Genesis 8:10 what did he do again? Sent the dove out.

And what did the dove do? Returned to him.

This time was different though. What did the dove have? An olive leaf in her mouth.

The dove returned, and I'm sure Noah was happy to see that leaf. It meant that there was at least one tree nearby. But it still wasn't time. So

Noah waited longer.

Look in Genesis 8:12. What happened the third time Noah sent out the dove? The dove did not return.

Slide #22

Slide #23

Now take a look at #6 on your Class Notes (PDF). What bird did Noah send? Assign a reader. A. Dove. Have students complete #6.

And how about #7? What time did the dove not return? Assign a reader. C. Third. Have students complete #7.

The dove did not return to the ark the third time! It must have found a landing place. It was almost time to go! The Bible tells us that Noah still waited. The water was getting lower, and he was waiting to hear from the Lord.

Slide #24

Genesis 8:15–16

The day finally came. Will someone read Genesis 8:15–16 for us? Assign a reader.

Who spoke to Noah? God.

And what did God say? Go out of the ark.

It had been a very long time since Noah had boarded the ark and God shut the door. Noah had been on that boat for over a year with all those animals to take care of, waiting for the right time to get off. But finally it happened. The flood was over! The dove did not return, and the Lord told Noah he could safely leave the ark.

Slide #25

Slide #26

Someone read #8 on the Class Notes (PDF). How did Noah know it was finally time to get off the ark? Assign a reader. C. God told him it was time. Have students complete #8.

And the last one! How long had Noah been on the ark? Assign a reader. A. Year. Have students complete #9.

Application

Slide #27

Refer to the Lesson Theme Posters. The flood was certainly a terrible catastrophe. God destroyed every living person and animal on the earth except Noah's family of eight and the animals he brought to the ark.

Noah was a righteous man who obeyed and loved God. And God spared him and his family. As we've studied about this time in God's history, we've seen some different things about God.

Refer to the Attributes of God Poster. God must judge and punish sin because he is holy and just. And he cannot stand sin—any sin. But we've also clearly

seen God's mercy to Noah to save him. And we are reminded that God has also been merciful to all sinners by providing a way that we can escape God's just punishment through Jesus Christ, the Lord and Savior.

Don't be fooled by lies about God, Noah, the flood, sin, and judgment. When you see movies, read books, or look at pictures of the ark, you will see things that don't make sense when you know the true history of God's judgment.

Refer to the Seven C's of History Poster. So many people don't believe what the Bible says about the flood. But we have seen today that God's Word tells us exactly what happened. The Bible is true history—from the very first verse to the very last! We must believe all it says. We don't have the right to pick and choose what we want to believe just because we like it or don't like it.

God wants us to know his Word and learn from it. We can trust what it says because we can trust the holy and good God who wrote it.

Lesson Review

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

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.

Box Toss

Students will answer review questions then toss the beanbag at the holes in the box to gain points for their team.

Materials

- Review Questions
- Medium-sized cardboard box
- Scissors or knife
- Four beanbags
- Masking tape

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use scissors or a knife to cut two or three holes in the bottom of the box. Make sure they are large enough for a beanbag to easily pass through. Label each hole with a point number: 5, 10, and 15. Use masking tape to make a tossing line several feet away from the box.

Divide the class into teams. Have the teams line up behind the line across from the box. Give each team two beanbags. Alternate asking each team a review question. Students who answer correctly will toss the beanbags at the target holes in the box to earn points for their team. If they answer incorrectly, they may toss the beanbags for fun without the points counting. Students will go to the end of the line after tossing the beanbags. Keep score for both teams. Continue play until all questions have been answered correctly and students have all had a chance to toss the beanbags.

Draw Dice

Teams will answer questions and complete a simple drawing to win. Who will finish their drawing first?

Materials

- Review Questions
- One drawing area for each team (paper, white board, etc.)
- Pencils or white board markers
- One die

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Divide the class into two teams. Give each team a sheet of paper and a pencil, or divide the white board in half. Draw a mouse on the board as an example.

Ask the first team a question from the lesson. If they answer correctly, have them roll the die.

To begin drawing their mouse, each team must wait until they get a six. They will then draw the mouse's body on their paper or the board. After they have drawn the body, as they give correct answers to the questions, they can continue to draw the other parts of the mouse according to the numbers they roll.



They can draw according to the numbers below:

6 = body

5 = nose

4 = whiskers

3 = eyes

2 = ears

1 = tail

Continue giving each team a turn to answer a question and roll the die. Repeat the questions as necessary. The first team to finish their mouse wins.

You may choose to draw a simple object from the lesson, such as a crown, an open Bible, a fish, etc. Be sure to assign numbers (as above) to each part of the object to be drawn before the game begins.

Four in a Row

Students will answer questions and add a marker for their team onto the grid. Which team will be the first to get four in a row?

Materials

Review Questions

Masking tape

Red and black paper circles or other markers for each team

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use masking tape to make a 16-section grid on the floor. The grid should be four sections wide by four sections long. Each section should be equal in size. Use eight red circles and eight black circles cut from construction paper or other markers for the two teams.

Divide the students into two teams. Give each team eight markers. They will take turns answering the questions. If they answer correctly, they can put a marker in a square on the grid. The first team to get four markers in a row wins the game.

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.

Oh No

Not every roll of the dice will be good for the team. Answer the question, roll the dice, and be prepared to say, “Oh no!”

Materials

- Review Questions
- Two dice

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Divide the class into teams. Each team will take turns answering review questions. When a team answers correctly, have them roll the dice to determine their points. If a team does not answer correctly, give the answer and repeat the question later. Keep track of team scores.

Numbers aren't always a winner! If students roll:

- 2 or 3 that team gives 5 points away to the other team
- 4 or 5 that team takes 5 points from the other team
- 6–10 face value
- 11 subtract 10 points from the team score
- 12 double the team score

(Note: no team can have less than 0 points.)

Pick a Point

Answer the questions correctly to earn the right to pick a point.

Materials

- Review Questions
- Small paper strips
- Cup or basket

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Write various numbers in increments of 5 or 10 on strips of paper to use as point cards. Put the point cards into the cup or basket. Divide students into teams of 4–5 students each. Have each team take turns answering a review question. After each correct answer, let a member of the team draw a point card from the cup.

The number of points on the cards will vary, so the score will have nothing to do with how skilled one team might be. Keep track of each team's points. If time allows, repeat the questions!

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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