## Noah and the Ark

You know, boys and girls, the Bible tells us about a time when God made something special for someone He loved a whole lot. When we open our Bibles to the book of Genesis (open your Bible) we read that a very long, long time ago God made a very beautiful world for you and me. He made a bright sun to keep us warm. He made big trees to give us apples and peaches, and oranges. And He gave us flowers of all different colors to make our world pretty. When God was finished making the world, He looked at it and said, "It is good!" He liked the world He had made for us and knew that we would be very happy living in it. All we had to do was always FOLLOW HIS DIRECTIONS. But soon after God made the world, people started doing things THEIR way instead of GOD'S WAY. They no longer tried to follow God's directions. They lied to each other and often got into fights. They got jealous, angry, and mean instead of sharing or being kind. When God looked at His beautiful world He was SAD instead of HAPPY!

So He searched and searched for someone—anyone---who FOLLOWED HIS DIRECTIONS. God looked everywhere for a GOOD man. He looked in the cornfields where the farmers worked. He looked by the wells where the shepherds brought their sheep for a drink of water. And He looked on the lakes where the fishermen were busy trying to catch fish for their dinner. But, no matter where God looked, He saw mommies and daddies and children who were very naughty.

But then God saw a man named Noah! Can you say that name with me? Noah.

Noah was married and had three sons—Shem, Ham, and Japeth.

When these boys were growing up, they were probably a lot like some of you boys. They loved to play tag, collect tiny bugs, and watch the bunny rabbits hop through the forest. But Shem, Ham and Japeth were also very different from you, too. They learned how to be shepherds. They learned how to pick olives from the olive trees. And they learned how to grind wheat into flour for bread.

Noah and his family were GOOD people. They were DIFFERENT from all their neighbors. Noah taught his Family to love God with all their hearts. He taught his family how to build altars and worship God. He taught them to always FOLLOW GOD'S DIRECTION.

God saw that Noah was a good man and God had a very special plan for his life. One day God spoke to Noah.

"Noah, Noah," God began.

"Yes, Lord," answered Noah.

"Noah," God said again, "I need your help." "My help?" wondered Noah.

"What can I do for a great God like you?"

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perfect world. The only way I can get rid of this
dirtiness is to cover the world with a flood of
water. But I need help with my plan."

"I will help you, God!" answered Noah.

"Just tell me what to do!"

"You and your sons are to build an ark!" God commanded "A what?" wondered Noah.

"An ark," said God again, "a great big, giant--size box—a box that will float when the flood

comes, a box that is big enough to hold people and animals. I will tell you how to build it." "Yes, God," answered Noah. "I will obey! I will go and get my hammer and saw right now!" Now boys and girls, Noah did not know what an ark was. He had never even seen it rain, and he did not know what a flood was either. But Noah FOLLOWED GOD'S DIRECTION anyway! Day after day for about 100 years, Noah and his three sons worked on the ark. Noah got old! His back ached! His hands were sore!

But he did not stop!

Noah's sons got old too! Their beards became long and gray! Their legs were tired! But they did not stop either. Even though the neighbors

laughed at their big box, the men kept on sawing. Even though their friends said that they were foolish to think there could ever be a flood, the men kept on chopping.

Finally it happened! The ark was finished! Noah and his sons stood back and smiled at the huge box. They had done their best to follow the first part of the plan they had learned from God. Now they must wait to learn what they must do next.

One morning Noah and his three sons—Shem, Ham and Japeth—looked at the great big ark they had finished building,. They knew that they had done their best.

Then once again, God talked to Noah, He told him to gather food for the ark—food that would last a long time. Then God told Noah to fill the rooms in the ark with animals. He told Noah to pick a mommy and daddy from every kind of animal on the whole earth and bring it to the ark. He also told Noah to find seven of every kind of bird and bring them to the ark too.

"Whew! That's a lot of animals!" he probably thought to himself. But Noah did not say "no" to God. Instead Noah obeyed God's words at once. Once the animals and food were on the ark, it was time for the families to go inside too. So, Noah, Shem, Ham and Japeth and their wives walked into the ark. Noah asked the people to come onto the ark one last time, but they refused to come along.

They thought that Noah was crazy. So sadly, Noah and his family enter the ark and left all of their friends behind. When they had enter the big ark God closed the door tightly.

Then it happened, DRIP, DROP, DRIP, DROP it began to rain. Rain fell for forty days and forty nights. The waters rose higher and higher and higher until even the mountains were covered. Every living creature on earth was drowned, every bird, every beast, and every creeping thing, every man, woman and child. Only Noah and his family and the creatures with them remained alive.

At last God caused a wind to blow over the earth. The rain stopped and the waters became quiet. Finally, after a hundred and fifty days the ark came to rest on the mountain of Ararat.

Slowly the waters went down.

One day Noah opened the window and sent out a dove to look for land. But she could not find a tree to perch on, so she flew back. Seven days passed and again the dove was sent out. This time she returned with a fresh green olive branch in her beak. That meant that the water was going down and that trees were once again growing on the earth.

Noah waited another seven days to be sure that the waters had gone from the earth. This time the dove went out and did not return. That meant that the waters had gone down and it was safe to leave the ark.

God spoke to Noah "Leave the ark, you and your family. And send out every living creature that they may multiply and raise their young upon the earth."

Slowly, God opened the big door and Noah went out, he and his wife and his sons and his sons' wives. And every bird, every beast and every creeping thing left the ark.

Then Noah built an altar to God and made offerings to Him and thanked Him.

God was pleased and promised never again to cause a flood to cover the earth. And then God made a rainbow appear in the sky as a reminder of his promise to never flood the entire earth again.

God blessed Noah and his sons and said "Go forth and have children so there will be people on the earth once more.

"Every living creature shall respect you. You shall be master over them and they will become food for you, just as I gave you the plants for food."

Noah was a good man. He always FOLLOWED GOD'S DIRECTIONS. Can you tell me where we would learn about God's Directions? In the Bible of course. We should always read our Bibles so that we know what God wants us to do, and how He wants us to live our lives.

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### Questions

- 1. What was the man's name in our story today? Noah
- 2. Was Noah a good man or an evil man? Good
- 3. God told Noah that the earth had become so wicked that He had decided to do something. What was God going to do? Cover the world with a flood
- 4. God had a special plan for Noah. What did God ask Noah to do? Build an ark
- 5. Did Noah know what an ark was? No
- 6. Was he going to do as God asked him to do? Yes
- 7. Noah had 3 sons, what were their names? Shem, Ham & Japeth
- 8. Were Noah's sons good men too? Yes
- 9. Did Shem, Ham and Japeth help their father build the ark? Yes
- 10. How long did Noah and his sons build on the ark? For 120 years
- 11. Do you think that Noah and his sons got tired of building the ark? Yes
- 12. So why do you think they kept building? Because they were following God's Directions
- 13. After the ark was finished, what did God tell Noah and his sons to do next? They were to gather food and put it on the ark. They were also to gather two of every animal (a mommy and a daddy) from the whole earth and bring them onto the ark. Plus they were to gather 7 of every bird and bring them onto the ark
- 14. Do you think fathering all those animals was hard work? No, it wasn't because the animals all came to Noah. He didn't have to go hunt them. But it probably was hard work to get them all in their cages or their stalls and feed them all
- 15. After all the animals and all the food were taken onto the ark, what went onto the ark next? People, Noah and his wife, Shem and his wife, Ham and his wife, and Japeth and his wife. There were 8 people on the ark
- 16. After everyone was on the ark, the doors shut tightly and then what happened? It started to rain
- 17. Did Noah shut the door or did God shut the door? God
- 18. How long did it rain? 40 days and 40 nights
- 19. After 150 days, the ark came to rest on mount Ararat. Noah opened the windows and sent a dove out. What happened to the dove? It could not find a place to land so it came back
- 20. A week later, Noah sent the dove out again what happened to the dove? It came back with an olive leaf in it's beak. Which meant that the water was drying up and the trees were growing again
- 21. After another 7 days, Noah sent the dove out one more time. What happened to the dive? It never came back which meant that the water had dried up
- 22. God made a covenant with Noah and as a sign of their covenant He hung something in the sky. What was it? A Rainbow

I WILL SEND RAIN ON THE EARTH FORTY DAYS AND NIGHTS GENESIS 7:4 I WILL SEND RAIN ON THE EARTH FORTY DAYS AND NIGHTS GENESIS 7:4 I WILL SEND RAIN ON THE EARTH FORTY DAYS AND NIGHTS GENESIS 7:4

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The animals came to Noah two by two.

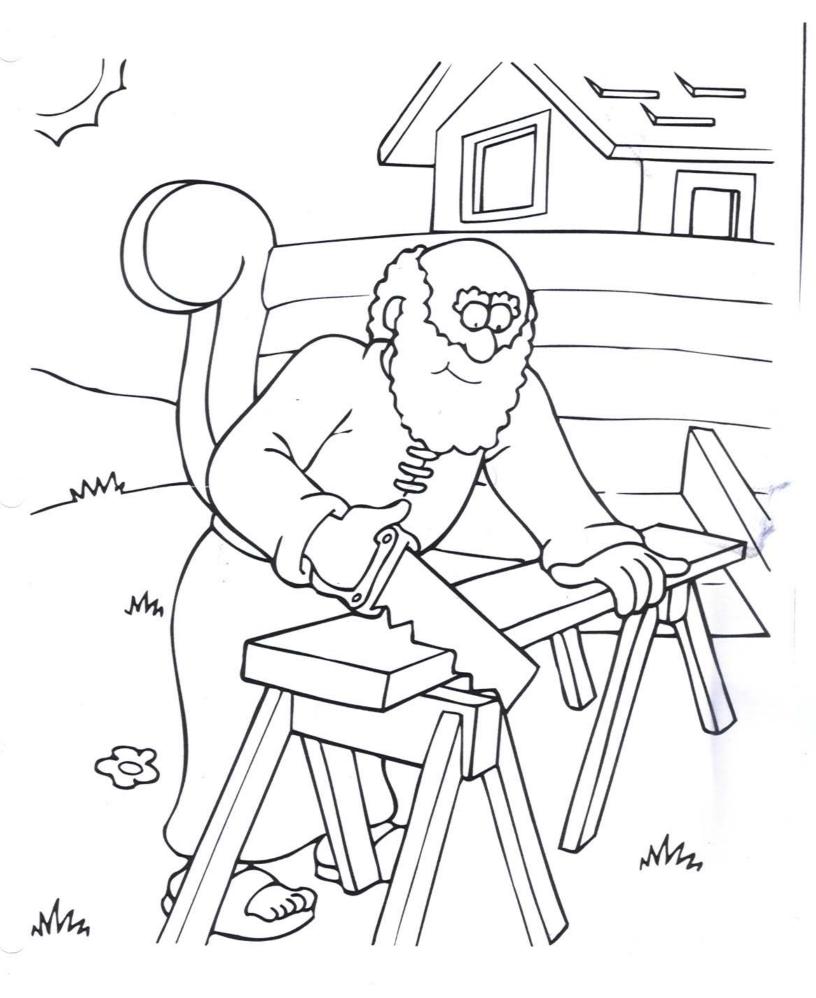
# NOAH



God told Noah to build a big boat.









Animals boarded Noah's ark two by two.

### Rain Stick

Prior to class:

Purchase one cardboard mailing tube for each child. rice, and 2" nails (smaller if tube is not 2" across)

Pound nails into cardboard tube-spiraling the nails up and down the tube. . When you look into the tube, you should see a maze of nails going every direction.

Roll masking tape around and around the tube. Don't be neat, you need it to be rough when it is done.

When you have put tape around the entire tube, Take your hands and rub them around the tube. Up and Down. This is where it will begin to look like an actual piece of wood.

Paint the tube black.

After it is dry, take green paint and just lightly feather it up and down the tube. This will give the tube a tree looking effect. (Note you can use a dark brown first and then a lighter brown on top instead of green. Or you can use a black with light brown on top.)

#### In class.

- 1. Have the children put glue on one cap and snap it onto the tube.
- 2. Pour about 1 1/2 cups of rice into the tube
- 3. Run glue around the other cap and snap it onto the tube
- 4. Place tape over both caps. This will keep the caps on until the glue has dried
- 5. Wrap a piece of string (hemp works well and is natural looking as well) around the tube, two or three times and tie a know. Make sure you leave a piece of string hanging about 8 inches on each end of the string
- 6. String beads along each string and tie in a knot at the ends
- 7. Stick a feather down through the beads so that the quill end is sticking in through the beads and the feather end is sticking out. Glue into place so it does not come out.
- 8. Turn the tube over and over to hear the rain sound.















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### Noah's Ark Book Mark

Cut out ark using craft foam or felt. Cut out center so that ark will have a hole in the center.

Draw lines onto the ark. This is easily done by first drawing several horizontal lines across the ark and then going back and adding offset vertical lines.

Add black dots to represent nails.

Punch a hole in the corner of the ark. Not to close to the edge because it will tear.

Glue verse to the back of the ark so that it can be read from the front. This can be made out of paper. Note: Make sure you cut your verse paper a little larger than the hole because you will need extra space to glue onto ark.

Take a 10" piece of string and fold in half. Place the folded end at the hold on the ark and pull the ends of the string through to form a knot. You will now have two strings extending from the ark.

Add ONE bead then an animal bead and then one more bead onto each string. After beads are attached, Tie the two strings together at the end.

NOTE: THERE SHOULD ONLY BE TWO BEADS AND ONE ANIMAL ON EACH STRING. SHOULD HAVE A BEAD THEN AN ANIMAL AND THEN THE SECOND BEAD. REPEAT FOR BOTH STRINGS AND THEN TIE TOGETHER.

