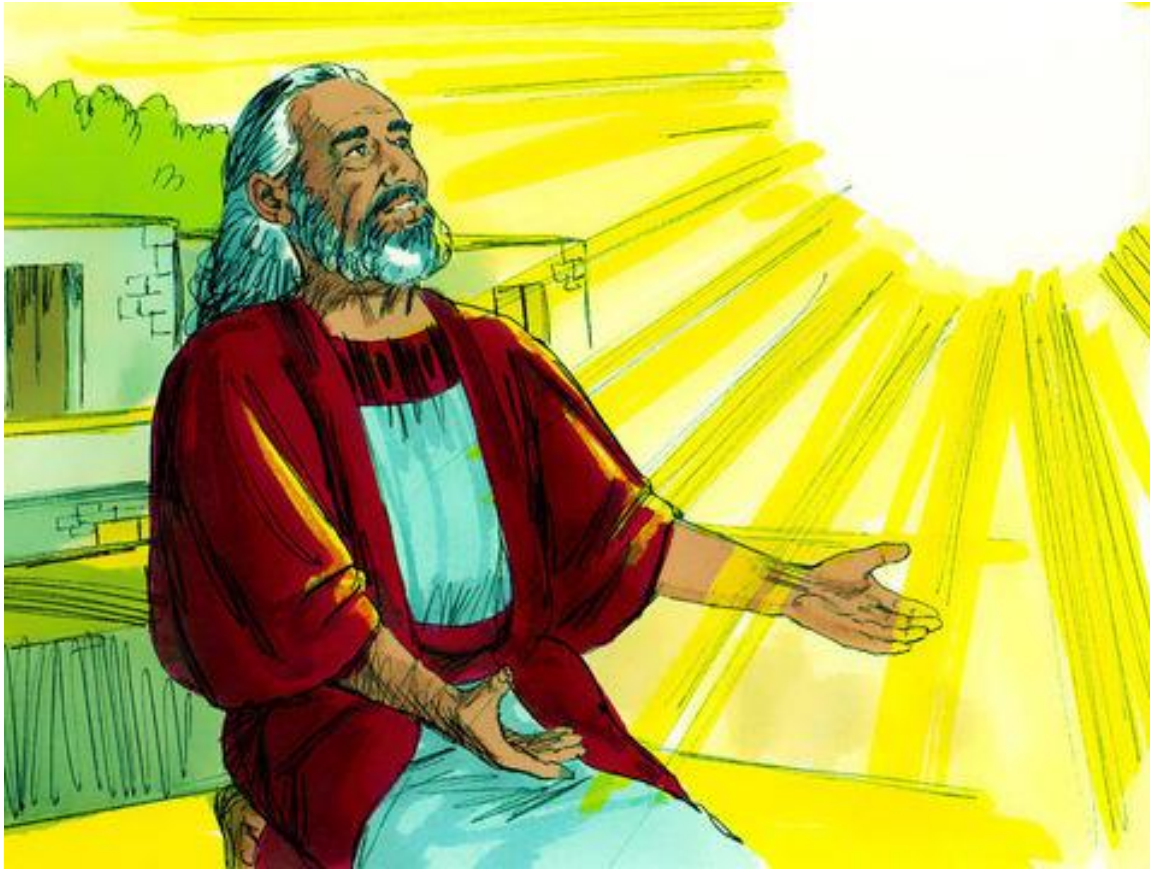


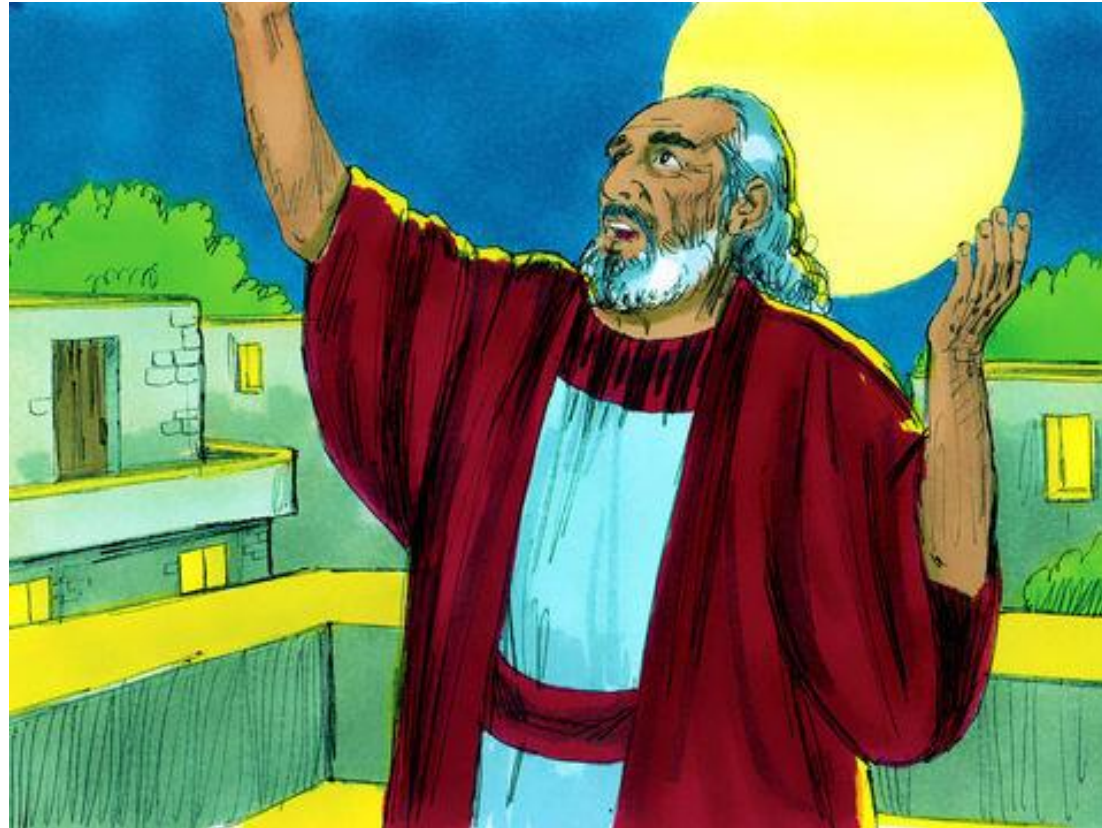
Bad Times

The Bible tells us that after Adam and Eve left the Garden of Eden, they started a family. Just as God had said, life was hard. The world was ruined because of Adam and Eve's disobedience. Sin had come into the world. Pain, sadness, and death were now part of the world. Adam and Eve had to work to find food, they felt pain and sadness, and eventually they had children. Time would go on and people would continue to disobey God. The Bible tells us in Genesis 6 that the world was full of terrible, evil people except for one man and his family.

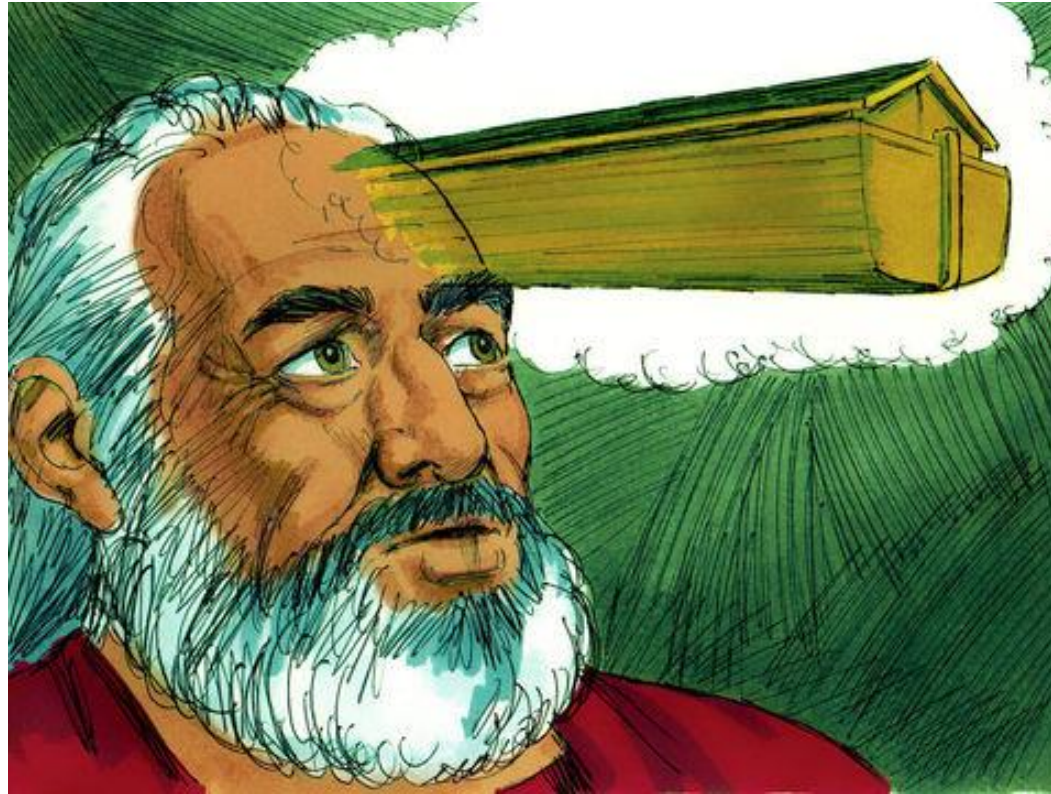


Noah

The man's name was Noah. The Bible says, "Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord." That means God loved him. The Bible also tells us that Noah was a righteous man. And that means he did the right things. He lived in a way that was pleasing to God.



Noah was the only person in the whole world who loved God. Every other person who was alive was wicked. They did such bad things and they were so mean. The Bible says the Lord saw how bad the people were who lived on the earth and He was sad. God does not like it when people do bad things. And it wasn't just what the people did! God looked deep into their hearts and He could see that they were mean and bad all the time. God looked at righteous Noah and saw that he loved Him and obeyed Him. So, God made a decision and He told Noah all about it.



Warning – A Flood Is Coming

God said to Noah, “People have made the earth full of violence. So, I will destroy all people on the earth. Build an ark (or big boat). Make rooms in it and cover it inside and outside with tar so water can’t get in. I want you to build the boat this big: 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high.” Noah listened very carefully to God’s words. God told Noah to put a roof on the boat, but to make a door on the side of it with a window at the top. God gave Noah all he needed to build the ark. God had a plan to save Noah from being destroyed.

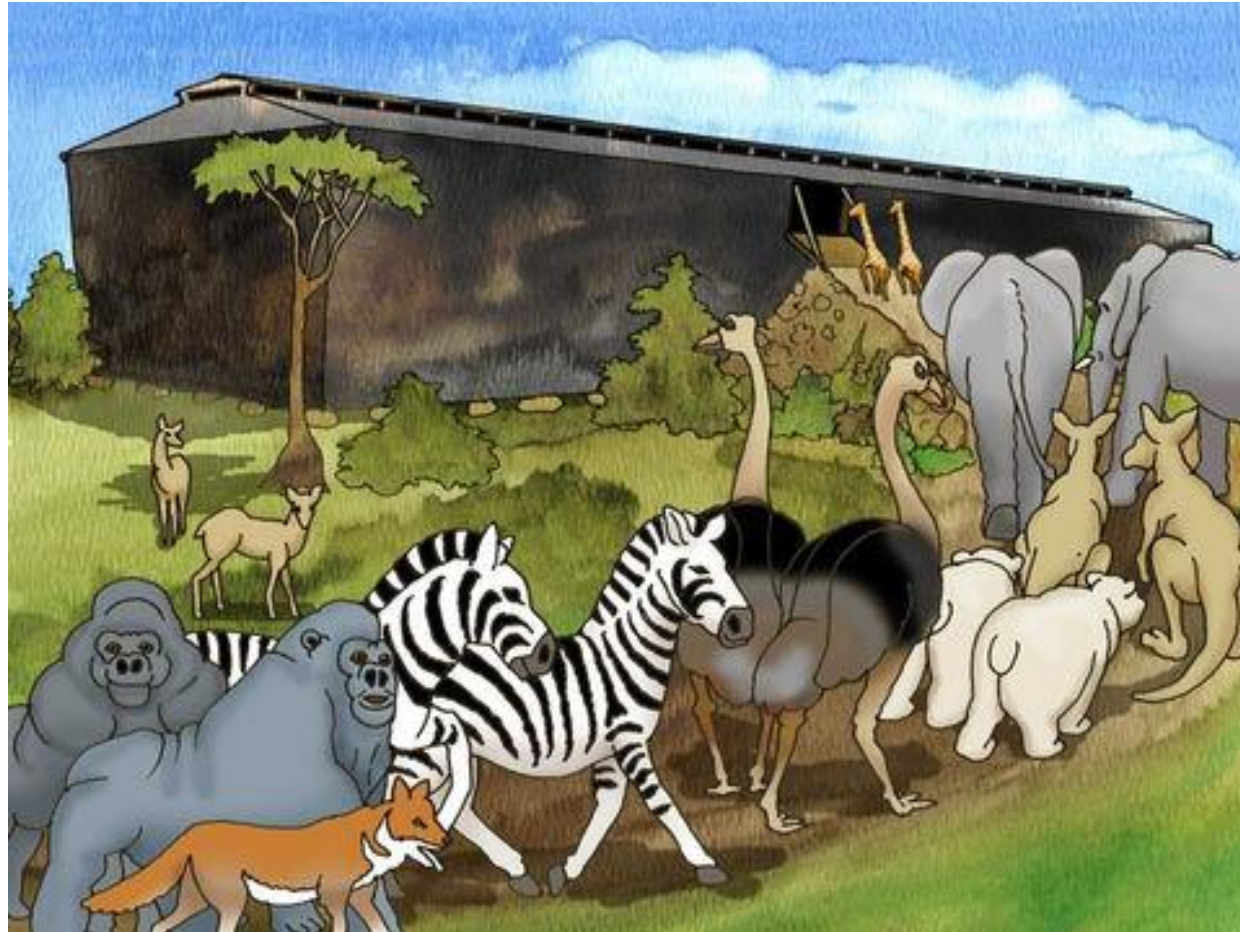


Then God told Noah how He would destroy the earth. God said, "I will bring a flood of water on the earth." A flood is when it starts to rain and keeps raining for a long time. When there's a flood the water comes down so fast and instead of sinking into the dirt, the water rises and rises and gets higher and higher. When there's a flood, water covers everything. God was saying He was going to send a flood to cover the whole world, but not righteous Noah. God made him a promise that Noah would enter the ark and be safe.

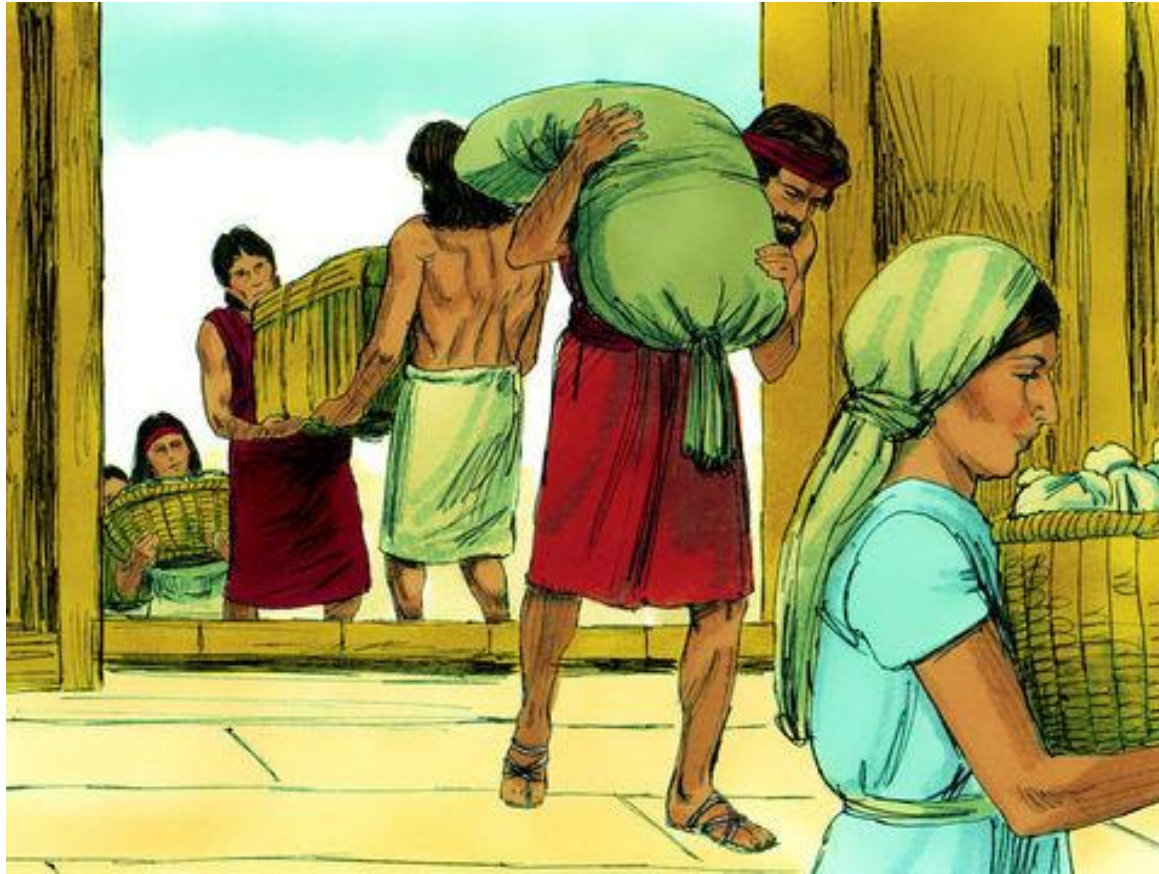


Noah's Family

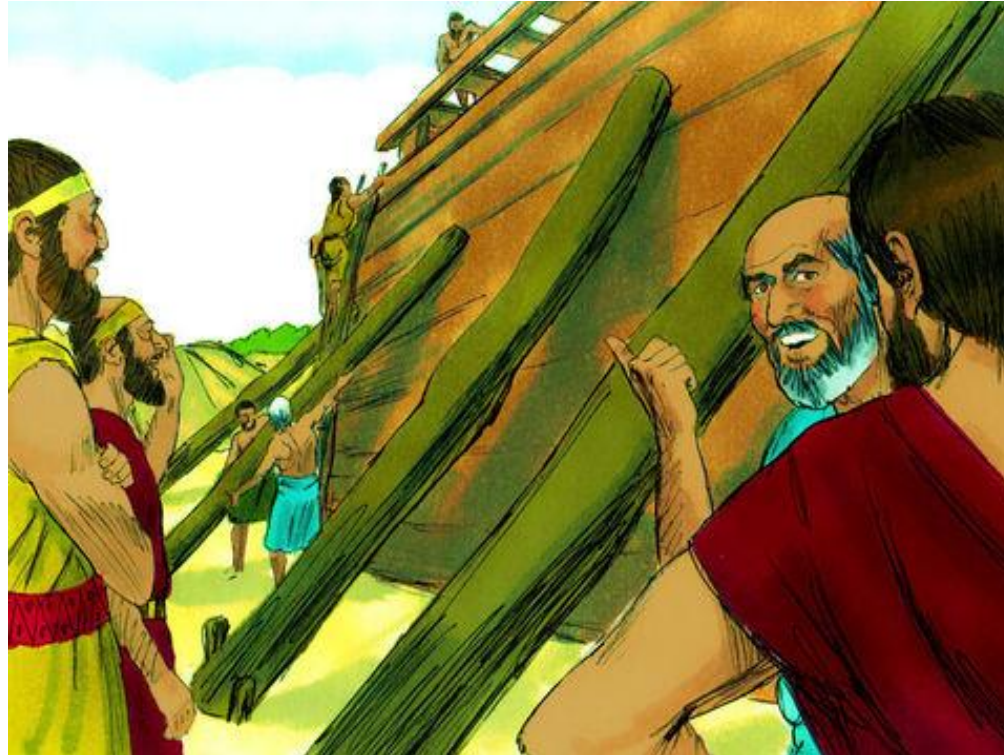
Noah was not the only person that was going on the Ark though. Noah had a wife and three sons, and his sons were married, so they had wives too. God wanted them to go into the Ark. But it was not just Noah and his family on the Ark; no, God had more guests for the boat.



God told Noah to bring two of all the living creatures into the ark with him; two of every kind of bird and every kind of creature that moves along the ground. That means – two lions, two elephants, two bears, two monkeys, two giraffes, and two of every other animal and bird that was living on the earth. God told Noah to bring a girl and a boy of every animal. God wanted all the animals to be on the ark with Noah.



And then you know what else God said, “You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and put it away on the ark. Take food for you and for them.” That would be a lot of animals and a lot of food as well! God’s plan was to keep Noah, his family, and the animals safe and dry in the ark while the flood was outside.



Noah Builds and Preaches

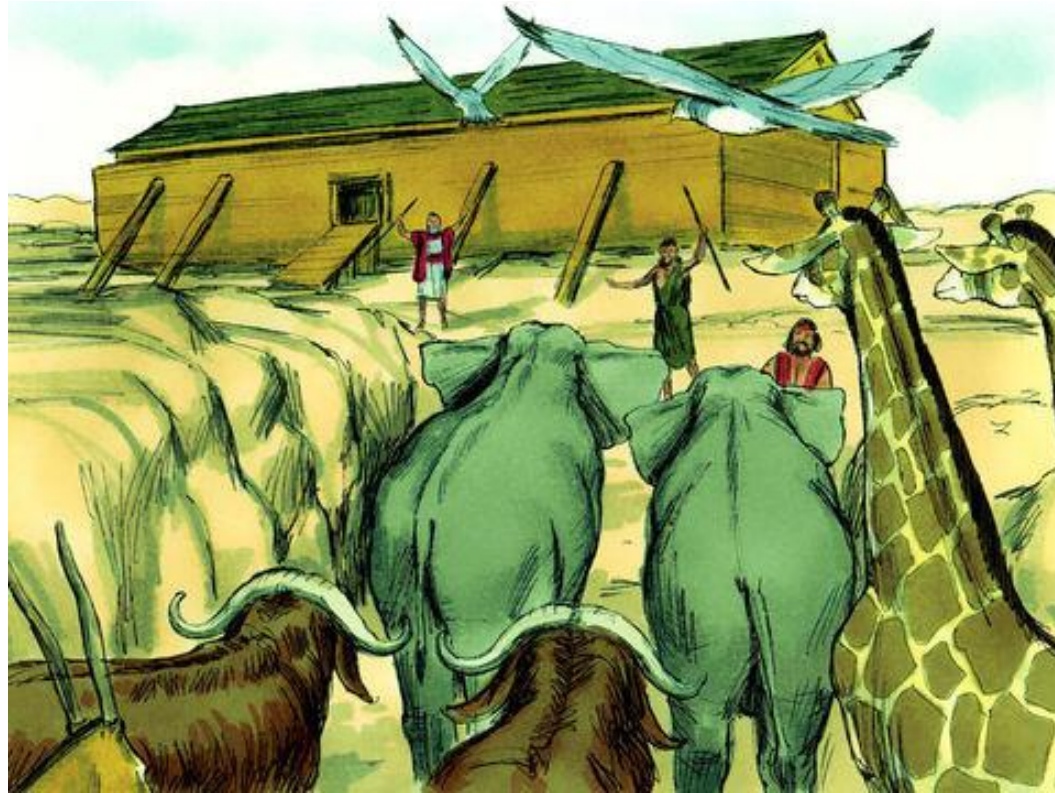
The Bible says Noah did everything just as God had commanded him. He cut down the trees and made them into boards. He hammered them together. He put tar on the boat so the water could not get in. Noah built the boat just as God instructed. It took Noah more than 100 years to build the Ark! It was very hard work. The Bible also tells us Noah preached to the people that came to watch him build the boat. He would tell the crowds about the coming flood and that they could be saved if they would obey God. But no one listened to Noah. People laughed at Noah. They thought he was silly because he was building such a big boat. Noah trusted God and obeyed Him.

Noah kept building the Ark!

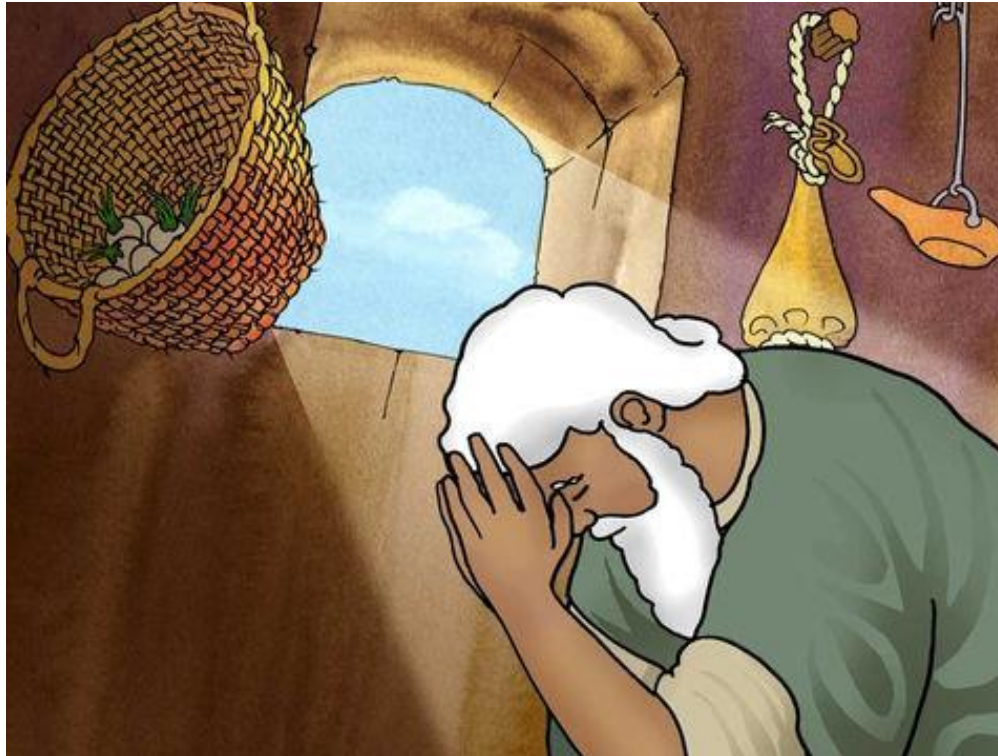


All Aboard!

Then the day came when God said to Noah, "It's time for everyone to go into the ark. In seven days I will send rain. It will rain for forty days and forty nights. Every living thing on the whole earth will be destroyed." Forty days and forty nights of rain is a very long time! Once again, Noah obeyed God. Noah and his wife entered the ark. Noah had three sons. Their names were Shem, Ham and Japheth. Noah's sons went inside the ark and their wives came too. Eight people entered the ark that day.



Not only was Noah's family on the Ark, but all the animals, birds, and creepy-crawling things were too. God had told Noah, "Take two of every creature that are alive on the earth and every bird – a girl and a boy of each animal!" All those animals had to go on the ark with Noah and his family. God made sure all those animals, birds, and creepy-crawling things made it on the boat. Noah did not have to find the animals or catch them. No, God did all the work. The Bible even says, "pairs of all the creatures came to Noah." God created all things, and He can do miraculous things like this! Lions, elephants, horses, dogs, lizards, and eagles – they were all on the boat!



God Shuts the Door

God had brought the animals and birds to Noah. Now Noah and his family, and all the animals were together inside the ark. The Bible tells us that Noah was 600 years old when he went into the ark. Now Noah and the animals were all aboard, and so they waited on God for what was next. Noah and his family patiently waited for God. The door to the Ark was wide-open. It was very big and very heavy. There was no way Noah could close it. As they waited, the door suddenly started to creak and began closing. And finally, the door was shut. God had shut the door. God did for Noah and his family what they could not do. Inside they were safe from the rain and the flood to come.

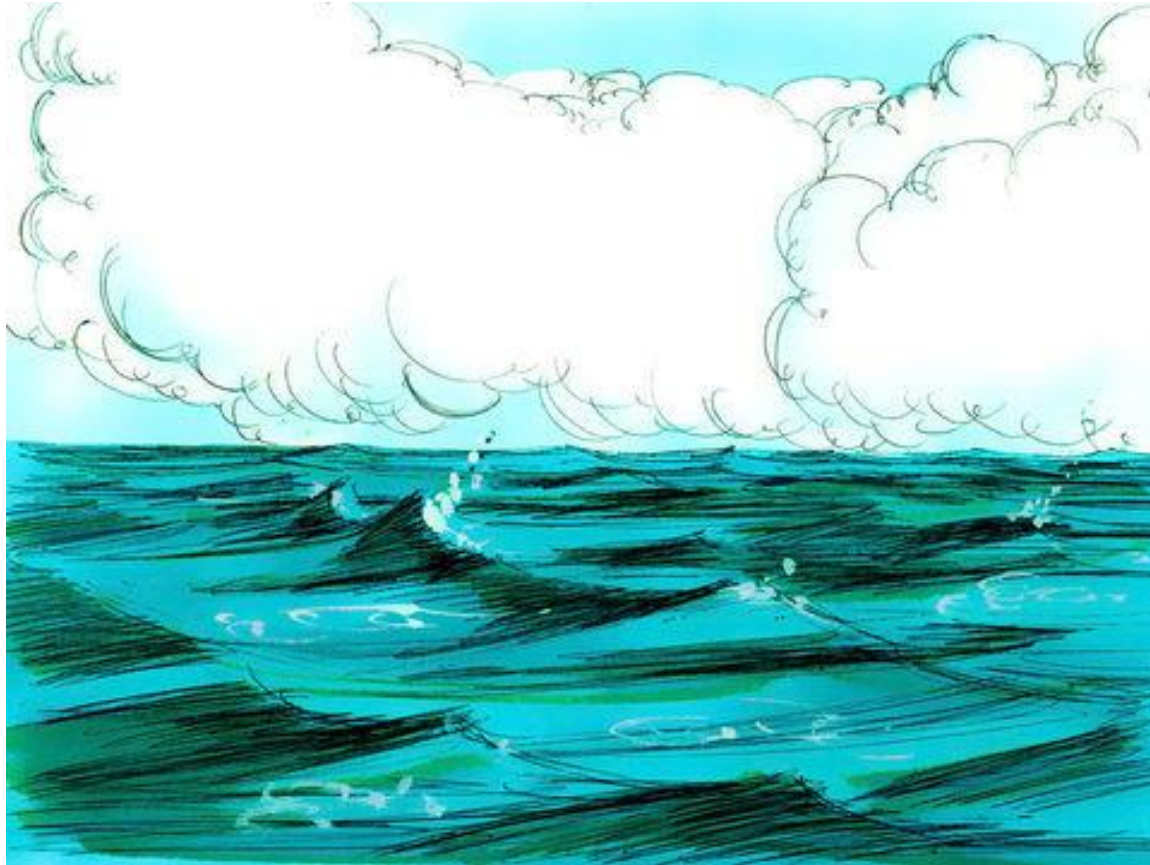


The Flood

Noah and his family waited for seven days for it to rain. Then on day seven, drops of water began to fall from the sky. More and more water came down, it came down harder and harder. It was starting to rain. The Bible says the springs of the great deep burst forth and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. That means water came up from the earth and water came down from the sky. It had never rained like that before and it has never rained like that since.



The rain fell on the earth for forty days and forty nights just like God had told Noah. The water started to rise and soon the Ark was lifted by the water. The ark began to rock back and forth on the water. The water had finally risen so high the whole Earth was covered. Tops of trees, tops of mountains were covered by the flood. Just as God had said, everything that was alive on the earth was destroyed. There were no more animals, no more people. Only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark were safe. For forty days and forty nights it rained. For forty days and forty nights, Noah and his family took care of the animals. They fed them, cleaned up after them, and made sure they were okay. But after forty days, the rain stopped. But water still covered the whole earth, in fact the Bible says it covered the whole earth for 150 days!



God Remembers Noah

The Bible says, “God remembered Noah. So, He sent a wind over the earth.” God’s in control of the rain, the Earth, and the wind. He created them all. The wind started to make the water go down slowly. And that meant that the ark started to go down too.



One day the ark went “BUMP!” The ark had hit something, and it was not moving any more. The ark was sitting on a mountain. The mountain’s name was Mount Ararat. It just sat there.



The Raven and the Dove

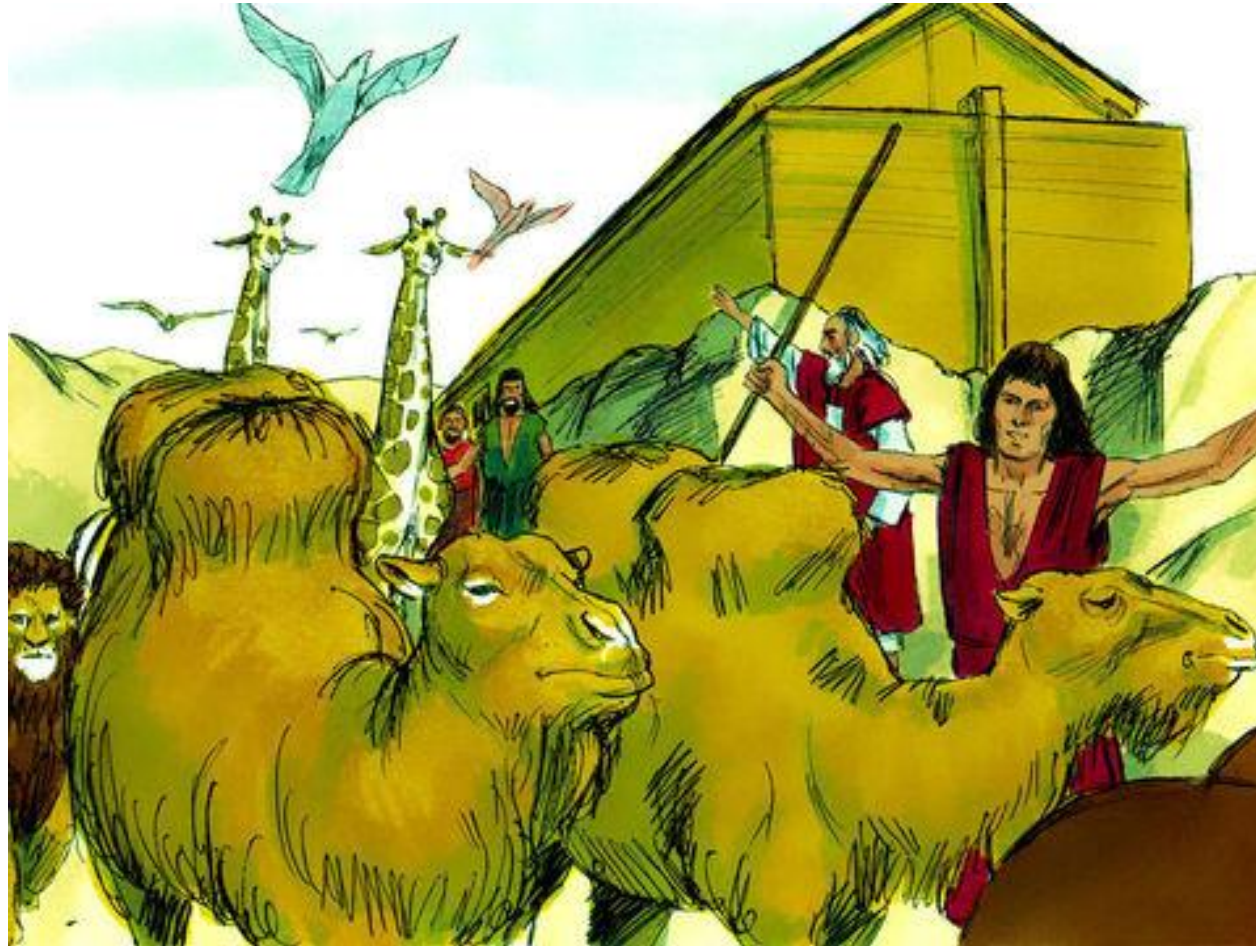
God told Noah to take a bird called a raven and let it go out of the window. Noah did just as God instructed. The raven flew off. Eventually the raven came back. The bird could not find a place to rest or stay. This meant the water was still too high and all the mountains and trees were still covered by the water.



Soon after, Noah took another bird, a white dove, and let it go out of the window just like the raven. Noah waited and waited to see what the dove would do. But just like the raven, the dove came back because it could not find any dry place to land. The water was still too high.



Noah had been inside that ark with his family and the animals for more than one whole year! It had been a very long time to be in one place for that long of a time. Especially since it was inside with lots of animals. The Bible tells us seven more days went by and then Noah sent the dove out again. Noah waited and waited for the bird. This time when the dove came back it had something in its little beak. Noah looked and saw a twig from an olive tree. The water was finally going down further and further! The tops of the trees were showing. Seven more days went by and then Noah sent out the white dove again. Except this time the dove did not come back. The dove had found a place to land and make a nest. The Earth was dry enough and safe enough for the dove to live. This meant that it was time to leave the Ark.

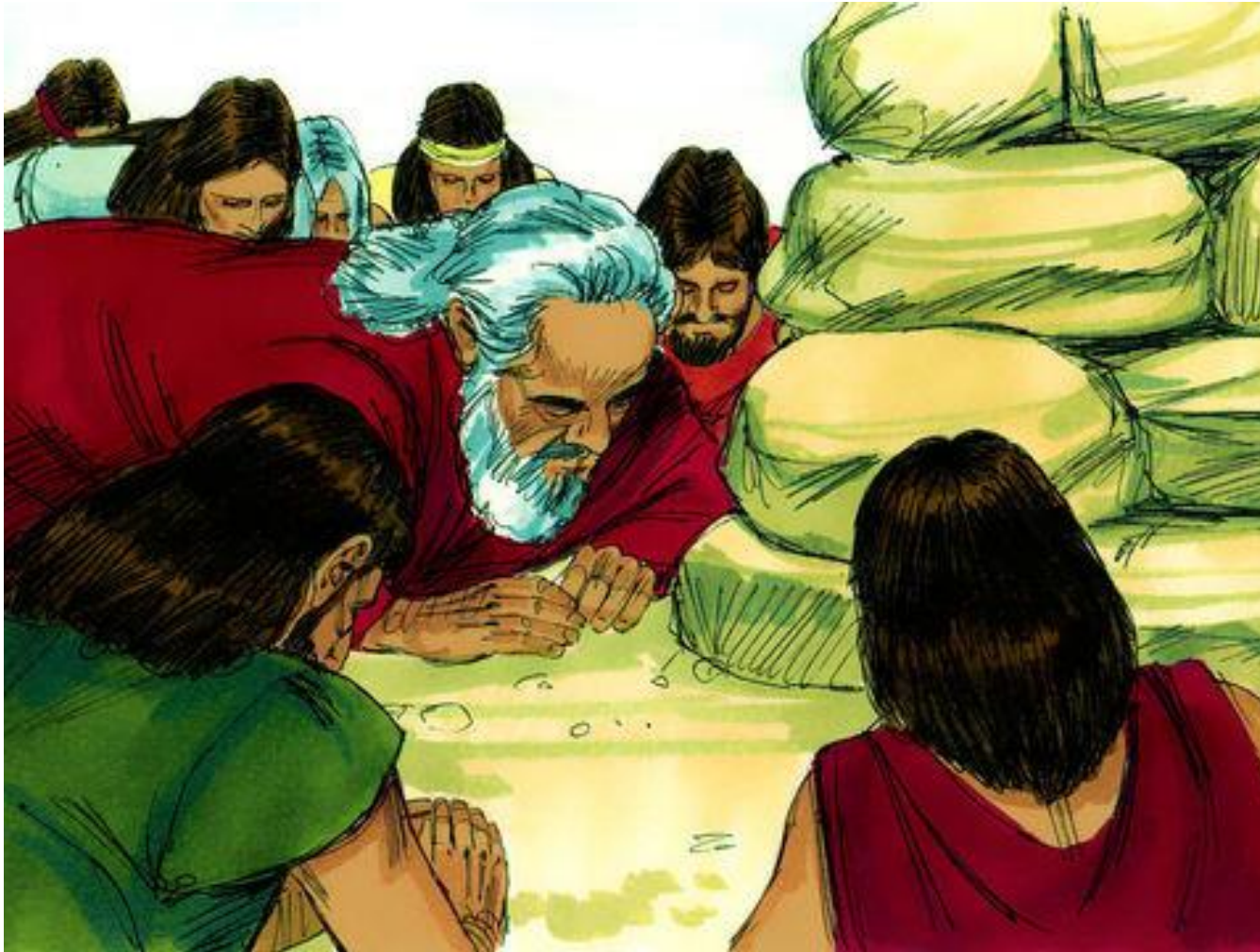


Dry Ground

God said to Noah, "Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives and bring out all the birds and animals that are with you." And Noah, his family, and all the animals came out of the Ark and onto dry land.



Once Noah and his family were on dry land, he wanted to praise and worship God for saving them.



The Bible says Noah built an altar to the Lord and made a sacrifice to God.
God was pleased with Noah and his trust and obedience to Him.



God's Promise

Then God made Noah a promise. "I will make my covenant with you and your family forever." A covenant is a promise of blessing – of good things to come. God promised, "Never again will there be a flood that destroys the earth. This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you. I have put my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind." God put a rainbow in the sky so we will remember His promise forever. God promised that He would never send a flood to destroy the Earth again. Whenever you see a rainbow, you can remember God's promise to us. And God always keeps His promises.

Questions for Review

Have children answer “yes,” if the sentence is true, or “no” if the sentence is false along with the right answer.

- Adam and Eve left the Garden of Eden. (Yes)
- Sin did not really make the world all that bad. (No! Sin had ruined the whole world.)
- God saw that everyone was terrible and wicked except for Noah. (Yes)
- God told Noah to build a big boat called an Ark because a flood was coming. (Yes)
- Only Noah and his family went on the Ark, nothing else. (No! Animals and birds went on the ark too.)
- Noah closed the door to the Ark. (No! Only God closed the door to the Ark.)
- It rained for forty days and forty nights. (Yes)
- Noah sent out a moose to find dry land. (No! Noah sent out a raven and a dove to find it.)
- The second time Noah sent the dove out, it did not come back. (Yes. It found dry land.)
- Noah worshipped God after he got off the boat for saving him. (Yes)
- God put a rainbow in the sky as a promise never to flood the world again. (Yes)

Scripture Memory and Hand Motions for Summer:

“The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.” Exodus 14:14

- **The Lord** (point upwards)
- **Will fight** (punch the air or shadow box)
- **For you; you** (point towards audience)
- **Need only to be still.** (stand completely still or frozen)

