



LESSON 1
NOAH

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Honors Righteousness

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 6–9

GOD'S BIG STORY: Sin in the world increases so greatly God chooses to destroy the world in a flood. till, He remains faithful and honors righteousness by saving Noah and his family and establishing a covenant promise with them.

WORD OF WONDER: So I want you to realize that the LORD your God is God. He is the faithful God. He keeps his covenant for all time to come. He keeps it with those who love him and obey his commandments. He shows them his love. —Deuteronomy 7:9

CURIOSITY

BELIEF

FAITH

- Welcome Question: Who is someone who always knows the right thing to do?
- Curiosity Questions
- Interactive Game: Head, Shoulders, Knees, Cup!
- Declaring God's Wonder
- Prayer of Invitation
- Worship: Here with Me, House of the Lord
- God's Big Story
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- Responding in Worship: Reckless Love
- Blessing Your Kids



INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

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SCRIPTURE: Genesis 6–9

WORD OF WONDER: Deuteronomy 7:9

Do you ever have moments where you realize that unless you step up, no one else will? Sometimes it's simple—in my home with my three kids, I often realize the sock on the floor will stay there forever unless I decide to take care of it. Or there are bigger things—a parent needs care, and you are the one available to help. Or it's Saturday night, and you get called to fill in for kids' ministry on Sunday.

I wonder if this is how Noah felt when he received God's instructions to build the ark. Out of all people on earth, God chose him for a monumental task that probably felt confusing and undesirable. But Noah was righteous, so he obeyed. God had seen in him the desire to do what is right—and because of this, Noah and his family were saved from the flood.

Living righteously isn't always fun, and it may not even seem rewarding at the time. The tasks God gives us often involve serving and giving of ourselves. And yet, as we do what God asks us to do, He honors us. He allows us to become more like Him, to grow in faith and good works.

So, whatever task God has called you to today, do it with a joyful heart, grateful that God honors righteousness.

—Denise Morris Snyder

Spiritual Formation Pastor

Contributor to Wonder Ink

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

“[Noah] was without blame among the people of his time. He walked faithfully with God” (Genesis 6:9). Noah’s righteousness is evident in his trust of God throughout the flood story, and God honors him for it. Noah sounds like the Hebrew word for comfort or rest.

WHAT?

The world was full of violence and evil. God regretted making human beings and decided to destroy with a flood all life except for Noah’s family and the animals in his care. God faithfully delivered creation by keeping them all safe on the ark and establishing a covenant with Noah after the flood.

WHERE?

Noah and his family most likely lived somewhere in Mesopotamia, which comes from the Greek word meaning “in the midst of the rivers.” This usually implies the Tigris and Euphrates river valley. They landed on Mount Ararat (Genesis 8:4), which is in modern-day Turkey.

WHEN?

Genesis 6–9 comes shortly after the story of the first murder in Genesis 4. By Genesis 6, sin has corrupted the earth and filled it with violence. God has seen the worst of what humanity can be living under the reign of sin and has become greatly distressed by it.

CONNECTING TO GOD’S BIG STORY

Noah walked with God, and God honored his righteousness by delivering creation from total destruction. In much the same way, Abraham walked with God. God honored his righteousness with the promise that would lead to Jesus, who delivers us from the power of death and makes all things new.

Large Group

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

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As kids arrive...

Around 20 minutes before service begins, display series theme loop.
Play high-energy music in the background.

LG Leader walks around the room on mic and greets kids by name as they enter the room. Be sure to move to their level and introduce yourself to any new friends. Welcome kids by name and greet them with enthusiasm. Be extra intentional about hearing and responding to what they say.

SLIDE: SERIES THEME LOOP

Welcome Question

Consider using a **30 or 2:00 Countdown** to let leaders and kids know it's almost time to begin!

At Your Start Time...

SLIDE: WELCOME QUESTION

At service start time, draw kids' attention to the Welcome Question board:

Welcome Question: **Who is someone who always knows the right thing to do?**



Encourage kids to be creative as they share their answers with one another. They might share about a person they know or a character from a book or movie. If kids prefer, they can draw a picture answering the question. Invite small group leaders to begin.

"Doing the right thing isn't always easy, but when we do, we show through our actions we trust God. Today, we are going to learn about a man God honored and respected because he made right choices and trusted God.

SLIDE: WONDER TRUTH

Today's Wonder Truth is **GOD HONORS RIGHTEOUSNESS.**"

Small Group

Introduce small group time. While kids are in small group, consider sitting in the groups for a few minutes each. Engage and interact as is appropriate.

Countdown

After about 15 minutes of small group, give a 5 minute warning and begin the countdown.

VIDEO: COUNTDOWN

"Hey everyone! Welcome to our Large Group Worship time! My name is _____ and I'm excited to take this time to worship God, review what we just read, and talk about ways we can respond to what we are learning about God! I have a little game for us first today!"

Interactive Game: Head, Shoulders, Knees, Cup!

SUPPLIES: plastic disposable cups (1 per 2 kids)

SLIDE: HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES, CUP!

Gather kids in front of you.

For this activity, have kids pair up with partners. If you have a very large group, divide the group into an even number of teams (at least eight) and send one representative from each team to the stage area or front of the room to compete while their teammates cheer them on.



Explain to kids the rules of the game. Kids will compete against their partners. They will face each other, set a cup on the floor between them, and bend over so their heads are nearly touching each other. The leader will call out different parts of the body, such as "head" or "shoulders." With both hands, kids will touch the part of the body called while remaining in the bent-over position. They will continue listening to the leader and tapping the different parts of their bodies until the leader calls, "Cup!" Once the leader says this word, kids will reach down for the cup on the floor between them. The kid who grabs the cup first is the winner. The other kid will sit down. The winners will find new partners, and the game will continue. Continue playing until there is one pair remaining. Encourage eliminated kids to cheer for those competing.

Leader Tip: For Younger Kids. You may modify this game by having younger kids stand up facing each other with their hands crossed over their chests, instead of bending over with heads nearly touching, until the leader calls, "Cup!" In addition, leaders can limit the body parts to two, such as only head and shoulders.

"You all did a great job playing that game! Now, it may have been tempting to reach down and grab the cup before you heard the word "cup" called, but that wouldn't have been the right way to play. Many of you continued to play the right way over and over again because it was the right thing to do, even if you didn't win every time. We will hear today in God's big story about a man named Noah who continued to do what was right, even though those around him didn't. Noah believed in God and showed through his right actions that he trusted Him. We can do what is right too, and we have the Holy Spirit to help us. We can trust that God is always faithful to us—He sees our righteousness and honors it.

SLIDE: WONDER TRUTH

Today's Wonder Truth is **GOD HONORS RIGHTEOUSNESS.**



Declaring God's Wonder

SLIDE: DECLARATION

Read each line boldly and invite kids to repeat after you.

Thank You, God, that You are good! (Kids repeat.)

You made me on purpose, for a purpose. (Kids repeat.)

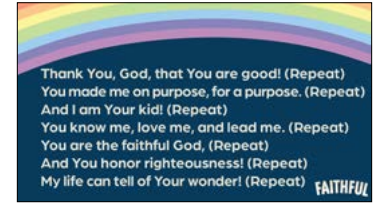
And I am Your kid! (Kids repeat.)

You know me, love me, and lead me. (Kids repeat.)

You are the faithful God, (Kids repeat.)

And You honor righteousness! (Kids repeat.)

My life can tell of Your wonder! (Kids repeat.)



Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use your own words, with this prayer as a guide if needed **Father God, thank You for this time to learn about You from Your Word. We pray Your Holy Spirit will guide our hearts and minds to understand Your great love for us. Help us to see that You know what's best for us and You honor the righteousness of Your people. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Worship

Consider sharing some about the songs you are going to sing. What they mean, why we sing them, why they are meaningful and important to you!

"We're going to stand and sing together! One way that we show love to God is to worship through song! So stand up, sing loud, and join in the motions with us. God loves to hear us sing praises to Him! Let's stand together and sing!"

WORSHIP VIDEOS: HERE WITH ME, HOUSE OF THE LORD

God's Big Story

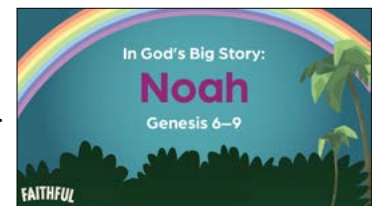
SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid)

SLIDE: TITLE

Explain to kids that the book of Genesis is in the Old Testament of the Bible. The book of Genesis tells us the true stories about how God made the world and began a relationship with humankind.

"Let's start by watching part of God's big story directly from the Bible. Afterward, we will watch and experience more of the story!"

VIDEO: GODS BIG STORY



LESSON 1 NOAH

EXPERIENCE IT! SCRIPT

SUPPLIES: someone to control the lights, something on your stage to represent a boat, name tag with Noah's name on it. Before beginning, select 5-6 volunteers to be Noah and his family. Have them sit on the side of the stage opposite from the boat while you begin. Designate one volunteer to be Noah and put the name tag on them.

start with lights out "In the beginning, there was nothing, just darkness that covered the earth. God created everything that exists. lights on

He created day and night, water and land, plants and animals. God created everything and He said that it was good! God made people in His own image to reflect what God is like when we love each other and care for His creation. God created a man named Adam and a woman named Eve.

Adam and Eve enjoyed God's company, and everything was very good. God had provided Adam and Eve with everything they needed to spread His goodness and bring order to all God had made, but instead, Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and sin entered the world. Sin is the wrong things we do that separate us from God. Sin became part of all people and all things. Creation had taken a wonky turn.

As Adam and Eve's family grew, so did the amount of sin in the world. Many years and generations passed, and God saw how sinful and mean people had become. They hurt each other and did not love God. God was very sad. God said, "I created human beings, but I will wipe them out" (Genesis 6:7).

However, God's love for us is unending, and He remained faithful to humans. God chose the one bright spot He could find in the ugliness of the world. go over to "Noah" and bring him to the middle of the stage. His name was Noah. Noah was a righteous man who made right choices and showed through his actions that he trusted God. God honored Noah because he was righteous.

take "Noah" over to the boat and instruct him to pretend to build a boat.

God told Noah to build a giant boat called an ark. God gave Noah specific instructions for building the ark. God told Noah He was going to make it rain for 40 days and 40 nights. God also told Noah to gather every kind of animal onto the ark—one male and one female of some kinds and seven pairs of others.

Noah was faithful to God and did "everything the LORD commanded him to do" (Genesis 7:5).

take Noah's family to the boat. lights out or very dim

It got very dark and dangerous outside. On that day, Noah, his wife, his sons, and his sons' families boarded the ark. Then it started raining. Hard!

SLIDE: THUNDER

Cover your heads, friends—it's raining! The bottom of the oceans burst open, and the skies began to pour like giant waterfalls. All the animals and birds sheltered in their places on the ark, just as safe as if Noah had tucked them into bed. Then "the LORD shut [Noah] in" the ark to keep him safe (Genesis 7:16).

The waters reached 20 feet higher than any mountain tops, and everything that wasn't in the ark was destroyed. The waters flooded the earth for 150 days. But God remembered Noah's family and the animals on the ark. He "sent a wind to sweep over the earth." Move your arms back and forth like a strong wind, friends! "And the waters began to go down" (Genesis 8:1).

The ark eventually came to rest on dry land, and Noah, his family, and all the animals came out of the ark. Everybody, come out of the ark onto dry land! Noah and his family worshiped God.

God was pleased to see Noah worshiping Him and blessed Noah and his sons, telling them, "Have children so that there are many of you. Fill the earth" (Genesis 9:1). God gave them the job of taking care of the earth and all the animals. Pretend you're doing something to take care of the earth, friends. It was the same job God had given Adam and Eve years before.

SLIDE: RAINBOW

Then God made an unbreakable promise—a covenant—with Noah and his family that He would never again destroy the earth with a flood, and He put a rainbow in the sky as a reminder of His promise. Point at the rainbow, friends! Pause as kids strike a pose and someone snaps a photo.

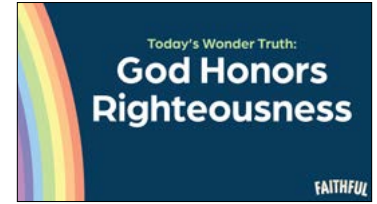
Noah showed his righteousness when He obeyed and trusted God by building the ark, when he believed God would take care of them in the ark, and when he worshiped God once they were on dry land. And God honored Noah and his family by saving them and blessing them. God honors righteousness."

Connecting the Wonder Truth

SLIDE: WONDER TRUTH

Pose the following question to kids to help them connect the Wonder Truth to God's big story:

"Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD HONORS RIGHTEOUSNESS**. Where did you see our Wonder Truth in the story? Allow kids to answer freely.



The Bible tells us "[Noah] walked faithfully with God" (Genesis 6:9), and we know God honored his righteousness. Yet, even Noah sinned, or did wrong things. Many years later, God sent His Son, Jesus, to earth. Jesus lived a perfect life. He never sinned, and He was completely righteous. Jesus took on the punishment of our sin, dying on the cross and then rising from the grave, so our sins can be forgiven! Now through Jesus we, too, can be considered righteous!"

Responding in Worship

SLIDE: RESPONDING IN WORSHIP

Talk about ways we can respond to what we are learning with next steps such as tithing, prayer, asking questions, and worship. Encourage kids to ask their SG leaders any questions they were wondering during the lesson.

***Introduce this next song and invite kids to respond and participate in worship. See the "Worship Posture Tutorial" on the RBKids Resource Page.

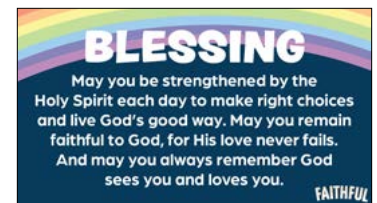


WORSHIP VIDEO: RECKLESS LOVE

Blessing Your Kids

Speak a blessing over your kids as a group or as individuals. Use your own words, with this blessing as a guide if needed.

Blessing: May you be strengthened by the Holy Spirit each day to make right choices and live God's good way. May you remain faithful to God, for His love never fails. And may you always remember God sees you and loves you.



Large Group or Small Group

Create space for God to remind kids they are known, loved, led, and their lives can tell of God's wonder.

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Honors Righteousness

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 6–9

WORD OF WONDER: Deuteronomy 7:9

Responding in Worship: Remembering and Thanksgiving

SUPPLIES: pens, markers, colored pencils

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Responding in Worship Slide, Righteousness Journal Sheet (1 per kid), [Faithful Elementary Spotify playlist](#) (optional)

Ahead of time, print a copy of the Righteousness Journal Sheet for each kid.

Gather kids together. Display the Responding in Worship Slide. Pass out a Righteousness Journal Sheet to each kid, and have a supply of pens, markers, and colored pencils readily accessible for all kids.

Today we've talked about how Noah made right choices even when everyone else around him chose not to follow God. God remembered Noah and honored his righteousness by protecting him from the flood and blessing his family.

There are many other examples of God's faithfulness and goodness to those who follow Him, some from our own lives! We're going to take some time to think of examples of when God has seen someone's right choices and honored that person's trust in Him. On your journal page, you're either going to write or draw a picture about a time God remembered and took care of someone who followed Him. You may use an example from your own life, someone else's life, or an example from the Bible. Take a few minutes to reflect, and then we'll talk about your examples. You may want to consider giving a few examples to get kids' thinking going.

Give kids a few minutes to reflect and write or draw their examples. As they are working, consider playing music from the [Faithful Elementary Spotify playlist](#). After a few minutes, ask for volunteers to share their reflections. You may also share your own story of God's faithfulness!

Wow! Our God is so good, isn't He? Thank you for sharing your examples of God's faithfulness to His people. We know sometimes life isn't easy. Sometimes people will encourage us to follow their example instead of the example of Jesus. It's tempting to follow the crowd, but we can have faith we are not alone. God gave us His Holy Spirit to help us trust Him and make right choices. God



wants us to live His way, not because He wants to burden us with rules, but because He knows His way is the best way. God loves us! He always remembers us because He is faithful, and God honors righteousness.

Let's take some time to praise God for His faithfulness to us. Play "10,000 Reasons" or another song from the [Faithful Elementary Spotify playlist](#) and worship together as a large group.

Make It Inclusive!

Some kids are not comfortable with loud music or stage lights. Consider your environment and help kids who need a little more care worship in a way that's comfortable for them, such as with headphones or a little off to the side of the group where they can move more freely.