

DAY FOUR



Theme: Faith in God

Lesson: Story of Noah Genesis 6-9; Hebrews 11:1,7

Memory Verse: “The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him.” Nahum 1:7

Bible Point: Being faithful to God even when it’s hard.

Classroom

Use the same background scenery as day one (page 92). Enlarge the ark artwork (page 95), to place over the background scenery. Place animals around the room - stuffed animals, animal cut-outs (page 95) for the walls, etc. When the children enter the room, Noah should be asleep in the corner.

(5 Minutes)

Introduction

Teacher: Who did we learn about yesterday?

Children: Esther.

Teacher: What was the lesson we learned from Esther?

Children: That God will take care of us when we put others first.

Teacher: That’s right! Esther put her people’s safety before her own and because of that, God took care of them and took care of her as well.

Introduction continued

Teacher: Today we are going to learn about Noah. Noah was known for his great faith. Can anyone tell me what faith is?

Children: Believing in something you can't see.

Teacher: That's right! Did you know that the Bible says that faith is, "being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." (Hebrews 11:1). Noah was certain there was a great flood coming because he had faith in God.

Today, we are going to learn about Noah and the great faith that he had. God had Noah build a great big Ark, so he and his family could be saved from a flood. But, do you know what? It was years before the flood ever came, which gave all the people plenty of time to make fun of him. Do you know what? He's with us today. Let's just wake him up. He could tell you the story much better than I could. On the count of three, we are going shout his name, okay? READY? One! Two! Three! NOAH!

(15 Minutes)

LESSON

[Noah is napping in a rocking chair.]

Noah: *(Groggily)* Huh? Uh, WHAT? Oh, hello. When did all of you get here? Oh, you've been here awhile have you? Well, my hearing is not as good as it used to be. So, what are you here for?

Children: We're here to find out what building the ark was like!

Noah: Oh, that old story? I remember that as though it were yesterday. God was very displeased with the way people were acting, in fact, my family was the only family God saw fit to keep around. So, He decided that He was going to send a great big rainstorm to flood the earth. Well, God decided to keep me around by having me build this great big ark! Well, you wouldn't believe the kind of reaction this got from the people. Hmm. Were should I begin? *(Noah trails off with a misty, faraway look.)*

[Enter Young Noah carrying some wood and a hammer]

YN: Well, I guess this is as good a place as any to start building the ark.

[Young Noah begins working. Three taunters enter.]

T1: Hey, Noah whatcha doin?

YN: Me, oh, not much, I'm just building a boat.

T2: A boat! What in the world is a boat?

YN: Well, you see a boat is something that you get in to float on water.

Actors:

(YN)

Young Noah

(T1)

First Taunter

(T2)

Second Taunter

(T3)

Third Taunter

Make sure there is enough room for all of the children to watch. Also impress upon them the need to be quiet to hear what is being said.

This play can be done either as a puppet show or a live action skit.

Actors:

(YN)

Young Noah

(T1)

First Taunter

(T2)

Second Taunter

(T3)

Third Taunter

- T3:** That's the craziest thing I've ever heard! What do you need a boat for? I don't see any water!
- YN:** Well, there's going to be. In fact, God is going to send so much water that it is going to flood the whole earth! It's going to get so deep that all of the houses and even the mountains will be underwater. So, I'm building this ark to protect me and my family.
- T1:** Noah, you're crazy! You mean to tell me that you're going to build that thing big enough to hold your whole family!
- YN:** Yes, and also big enough to hold two of every animal!
- T2:** Two of every animal! You're crazier than we thought! Surely you're not going to put ALL the animals in there!
- YN:** God said to do it - so, that's what I'm doing!
- T1:** Noah, do you realize how dangerous some of those animals are? You're going to get yourself killed!
- YN:** God will take care of us.
- T3:** Hey, everyone come look at crazy Noah and his silly boat that's gonna save him from the big bad flood!

[All three taunters burst into laughter and make their way off stage. Back to older Noah sitting in the rocking chair.]

- Noah:** Those people didn't believe me when I told them God was gonna wipe them out if they didn't change their ways. Well, years and years went by and the rain never came - but I kept on building that ark just as God had instructed. Then, I started roundin' up all the animals. Boy - the people sure made fun of me for that.

[Enter Young Noah (made to look slightly older) and the taunters]

- T1:** Oh, man! Look at the old fool now! He's actually bringing the animals together!
- T2:** Look out for the tigers, Noah! They bite!
- T1:** Don't forget about the anteaters - we couldn't get by without them! HAHAAHAHAHAHAHAH!
- T2:** Yeah, Noah, and the butterflies! You can't forget about the pretty little butterflies!

[More laughter from the taunters]

- YN:** You are only going to get so many warnings. If you don't change your ways and join me, you're all going to have to face the flood alone.
- T3:** (To the others) Listen to him! After all these years, he's still putting his faith in God!
- YN:** You better believe it!

Actor's Note:

Be sure to speak loudly and clearly.

Clip Art:

Use the artwork on page 95 to help with set and prop design.

T1: Give it up, Noah!

[All three taunters burst into laughter and make their way off stage. Back to Noah sitting in the rocking chair.]

Noah: No matter how many times I tried to warn them, they never listened. **(Sighs)** There were times when I just wanted to give up! I had been working for 100 years and not a sign of this big flood God promised. My family became the laughing stock of the community. Nobody respected us or wanted anything to do with us, except to make fun. It was hard, but I never doubted God. I had faith that He would keep his promise.

[Enter Young Noah]

YN: Well, it's all finished and not a moment too soon. It looks as though it could rain anytime now! Shem, Ham, Japheth - It's time to load up!

[Enter the taunters, still laughing.]

T1: Oh, now this is too much! He is actually taking those animals into that big ole ark of his. It sure is going to get stinky in there! I'm glad we never listened to him! We'd be trapped in there, too!

T2: Crazy old man! I can't believe he actually believes all of that nonsense he's been spoutin' all these years! **(To himself)** Rain that will flood the earth - Gimmie a break!

[Have someone make the sound of thunder.]

T3: Um...hey, guys? Do you feel that?

[They leave yelling and covering their heads. Back to Noah sitting in the rocking chair.]

Noah: As many of you may know, God finally did send the rain. Yes, true to His word, He kept me and my family safe. To this day I'm so glad that I remained faithful. Remember: God always rewards those who remain faithful to Him. Well, that's the story. I hope you've all enjoyed it. Now it's about time for me to get back to my nap.

[Noah leans back in his chair, closes his eyes, and falls asleep.]

(5 - 10 Minutes)

Teacher:

Personalize your lesson by adding your own points and questions to the application.

Application

Teacher: Wasn't that a great story? Can anyone tell me what kind of person Noah was?

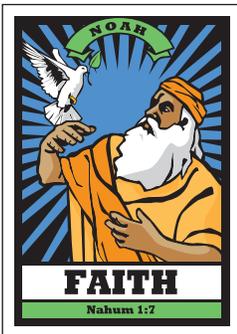
Children: Faithful.

Teacher: That's right! Hebrews 11:7 says, "By faith, Noah...prepared an ark." Noah built an ark even though he had no proof, other than God's word, that there would be a flood. He acted simply out of faith.

Application continued

Teacher:
If you need to fill additional time, sing songs with the children.

Songs to sing:
"God said to Noah."



To order, see page 130.

Teacher: Earlier, we discussed faith as believing in something we cannot see. I need a volunteer.

[Bring up a volunteer and blindfold them. Then with their back to you, instruct them to cross their arms, stand stiff as a board, and fall straight back. Be sure to be there to catch them before they fall too far.]

Teacher: How scary was it for you to fall backwards not being able to see who would catch you? It can be scary to trust in something we cannot see. Why did you fall backwards when you couldn't see me?

Child: Because, you said you would catch me.

Teacher: In the same way, Noah trusted that God was going to follow through on His promise. He had faith that God was going to protect his family.

Teacher: Who can tell me the story of Lightning Fist Luke?

Children: (Respond)

Teacher: Just like Roy had faith in Lightning Fist Luke, Noah had faith in God. He knew that God was in control and that He would take care of him.

Teacher: Does God always keep His word?

Children: Yes.

Teacher: That's right! God always keeps His word. Just like Noah, we should always remain faithful. How can we demonstrate our faith today?

Children: Invite others to VBS, worship, and Bible class. Tell others about Jesus.

Teacher: Great answers! Let's go over our memory verse one more time!

(End class with a prayer. Pray that God will help us to be faithful to Him and His Word.)

Have Noah come back and pass out his Bible trading cards!
To order your trading cards use the order form located on your "Christian Academy" CD.

Teacher:

The posted time for each section is only a suggestion based on a 25-30 minute class. You will want to adjust these times to accommodate your class period. Allow yourself 5-10 minutes to get to know the kids, learn names, and interact with them.