

General Church Education



Noah Builds an Ark

Genesis 6:5-22

Lesson 4

Jacob's Ladder Religion Lessons

Introductory Level: The Lord Is Our
Heavenly Father

For ages 5-6 years

Noah Builds an Ark

Genesis 6:5-22

OVERVIEW OF THE STORY

Although the early people became terribly selfish and were destroyed by the flood, the few who still tried to worship and obey the Lord were saved.

CONCEPTS FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

- ❖ Evil arose when people abused their God-given faculties of freedom and rationality (our ability to distinguish between good and evil).
- ❖ These early people disobeyed the Lord and used reasoning, not to understand what is good and true, but to justify doing whatever they desired.
- ❖ We, too, must beware of thinking we know better than the Lord or we will become more and more selfish and natural minded.
- ❖ Noah stands for the remnant of good people on earth who still looked to the Lord and tried to obey Him. From these people, a new period of the church on earth or connection with the Lord could be formed.
- ❖ The ark in which Noah and his family rode out the flood represents the kind of mind and character we need to get us through temptation. It is a mind formed by obeying the Lord and living by His Word.

NOAH BUILDS AN ARK

IMPORTANT IDEAS FOR CHILDREN

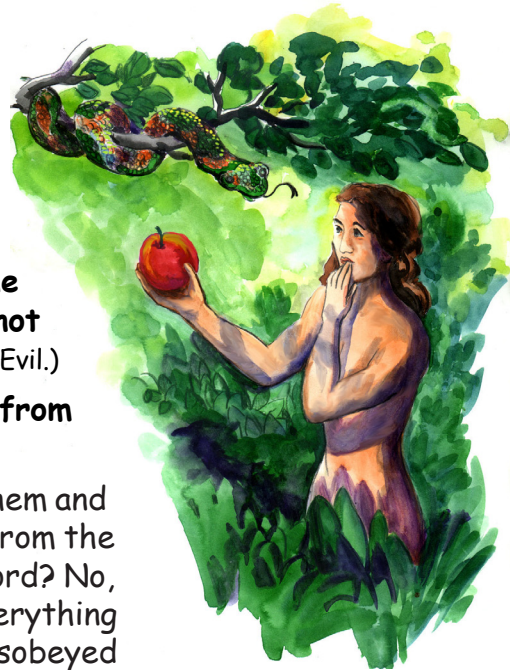
The Lord had to punish the evil people who were taking over the world.

The flood destroyed the evil people and all their evil and false ideas.

Because Noah followed the Lord, he and his family were saved.

LET'S REMEMBER:

- ♦ Do you remember the beautiful garden where the Lord put the first people? What was the name of it? (Eden.)
- ♦ Why were Adam and Eve happy there? (They had everything they needed.)
- ♦ Do you remember the name of the one tree that the Lord told Adam and Eve not to eat from? (Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.)
- ♦ What animal told them they could eat from it? (Serpent.)



The fruit on this tree looked good to them and they ate it. They thought they could hide from the Lord. Can anyone hide anything from the Lord? No, He always knows everything we do and everything we think also. Because the first people disobeyed the Lord, they had to leave the beautiful garden.

OUR STORY FOR TODAY:

The people who came after Adam and Eve became worse and worse. It is easy to continue to disobey once you start acting selfishly. The people fought and hurt each other all the time. Many, many years later, when the people became so bad, the Lord had to destroy them. He sent a great flood on the earth. However, there were a few people who still wanted to be good. This was the family of a man named Noah. They tried to obey the Lord, so He saved them. Let's read the story of Noah and see what the Lord told him to do.



Read **Genesis 6:5-14**.

What was the name of the man who still tried to obey the Lord? (Noah.) He had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth. What did the Lord tell Noah to build so they would be safe? (An ark.) An ark is a container where you keep something safe. This was to be a very big ark, wasn't it? There would even be rooms inside it. What did the Lord tell Noah to make the ark from? (Gopherwood.) The ark was covered inside and outside with pitch. Pitch is a black sticky substance like tar that would keep water out.



The Lord told Noah exactly how to build the ark. He gave him measurements in cubits because at this time people used their bodies to measure things. They did not have rulers yet. A cubit is the distance from a man's elbow to the tip of his middle finger. Let's see where Noah was to put the door and window.



Read **Genesis 6:15-16**.

Where was the window? (Above or on the top of the ark.) Where was the door? (In the side.) How many decks or levels would be in the ark? (Three.) Then the Lord told Noah why he was making this special ark.



Read **Genesis 6:17-18**.



What was the Lord going to send on the earth? (A flood.) Yes, there would be a great flood like there had never been before or since. It would destroy everything on the earth—all the evil people and their selfish ideas. The ark that the Lord told Noah to make was like a boat that would float on the water and keep everything inside safe from harm.

The Lord made a covenant with Noah. A covenant is a two-way agreement. The Lord promised to bless and take care of Noah and his family and Noah promised to obey the Lord. Let's see what else would go into the ark.



Read **Genesis 6:19-22**.

Who was to go into the ark? (Noah and his wife, his three sons and their wives.) What else would go into the ark? (Two of every kind of animal and all the food.) Do you think that this ark will save the people and animals? Yes, the ark floated above the waters and kept everything inside safe.



After the flood was over and the water went down, Noah and his family and all the animals came out of the ark onto dry ground. Noah was very thankful to the Lord for saving him and his family. They took some stones and piled them on top of each other to make an altar. They worshiped the Lord and thanked Him. People back then often built an altar to mark the place where something very special had happened. The Lord promised He would never again send a flood on the earth to destroy everything.

WHAT DID WE LEARN TODAY?

- ♦ **What was the name of the man who still wanted to obey the Lord when all others around him were so selfish? (Noah.)**
- ♦ **What was the Lord going to send on the earth to destroy all the selfishness? (A great flood.)**
- ♦ **What did the Lord tell Noah to build so he and his family would be safe from the flood? (An ark.)**
- ♦ **What else went into the ark with Noah and his family? (Two of every kind of animal and all the food.)**
- ♦ **After the flood, what did Noah build to worship and thank the Lord for saving all of them? (Altar.)**

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ACTIVITIES



Recitation: Learn the recitation by heart and earn an award. Awards are on the last page of this lesson.

Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."



Project choices:

Matthew 22:37-40

- Noah's Ark project
- Color a picture of Noah's ark



Songs:

- Love Him, Thank Him*—Listen or download at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-love-him-thank-him/>
- Noah*—Listen or download at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-noah/>



Additional Activities:

- ❖ A cubit was the length of a man's arm from the elbow to the middle fingertip. Measure several objects in child-sized cubits, for example large pieces of furniture. If children are enthusiastic, measure out the size of the ark together using the measurements in verse 15. Be sure to use regular cubits (18-22 inches) to measure the ark.
- ❖ Use beeswax, play dough or clay to make an ark, people and animals to retell the story.
- ❖ Play with a boat in a tub of water.

Noah's Ark

This project helps children understand what Noah's ark was like.

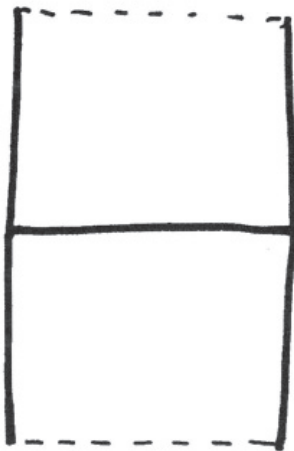
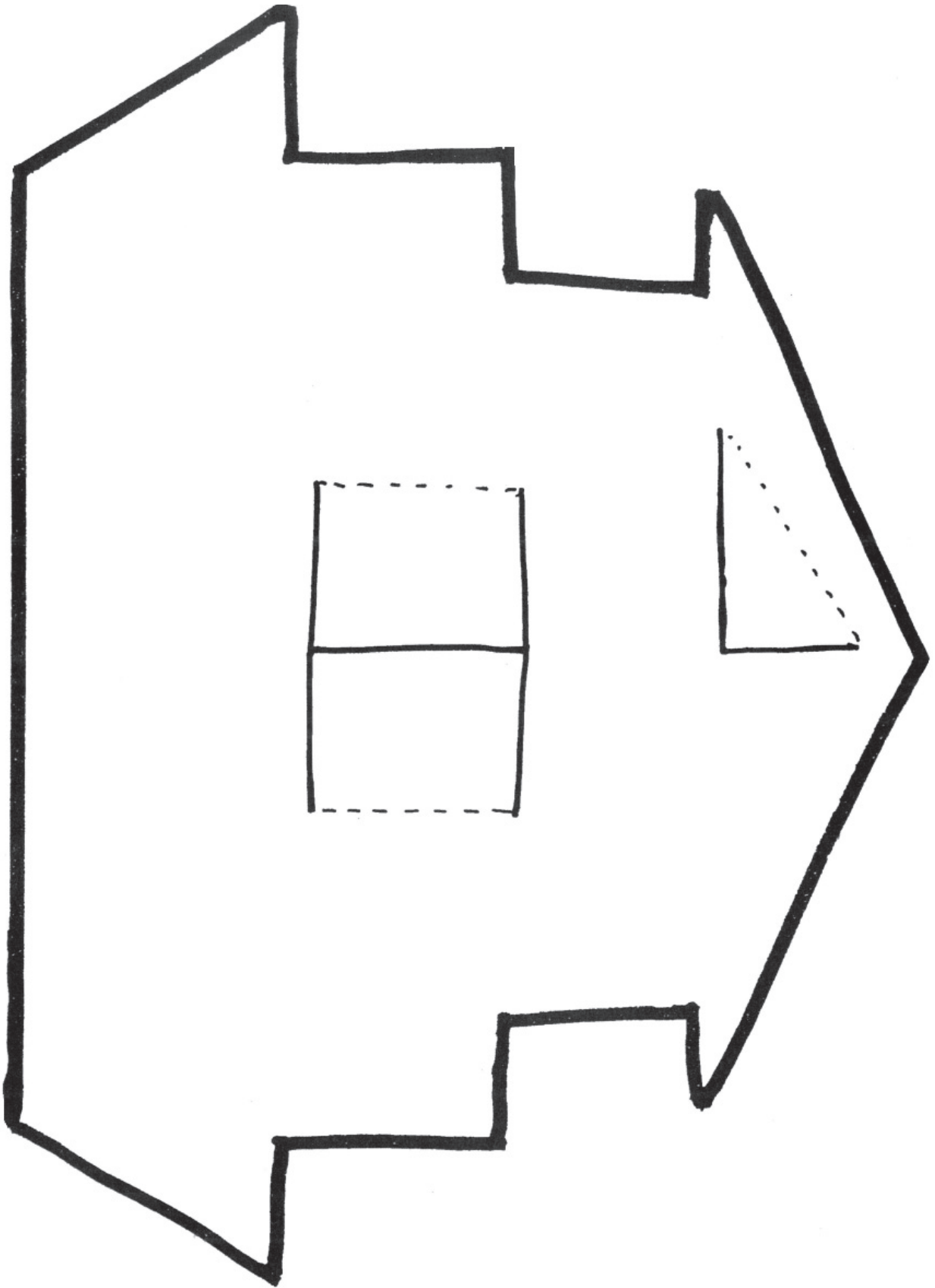
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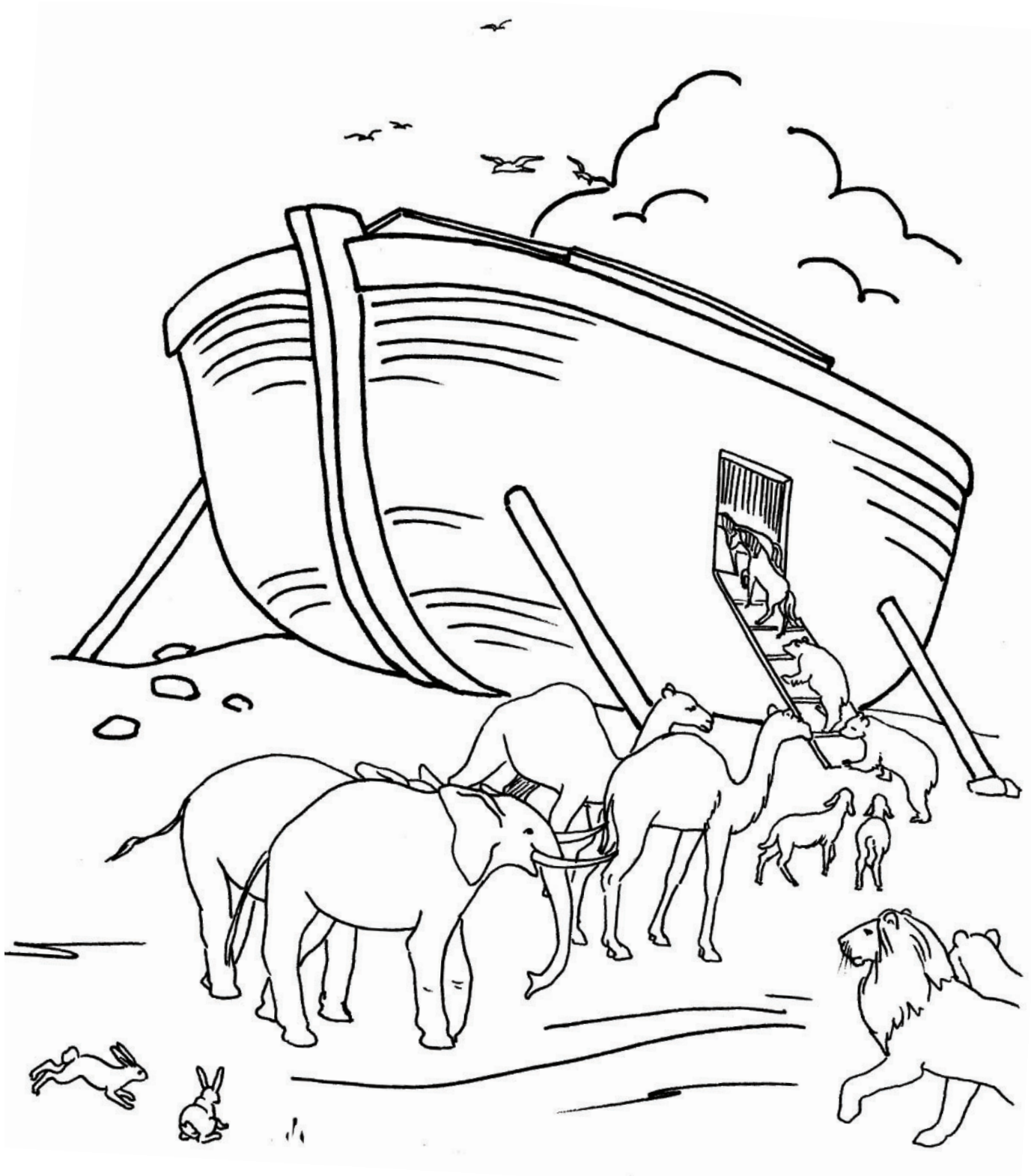
1 printed page
1 piece of white construction paper
crayons or markers
scissors
1/2 piece of blue construction paper
glue



Project instructions:

1. Color the ark brown since it was made of wood.
2. Carefully cut the solid lines on the windows and fold back the flaps along the dotted lines.
3. Glue the ark page onto the white construction paper, being careful not to get glue near the windows.
4. Using crayons or markers, draw Noah and his wife looking out of the small top window on the white paper. Then draw some animals that will show when the large window opens.
5. Tear the blue construction paper in random shapes, and glue them at the bottom of the boat to show the water.





Recitation Award: Noah Builds an Ark

Purchase a wide colorful ribbon. Attach each recitation award to the ribbon as it is learned. Multiple copies of the award are provided for classes.

