



# 3

## Was the Flood Global?

### Key Themes

- God's Word is always our starting point
- God is all powerful

### Key Passages

- Genesis 7:19, 9:14–15

### Lesson Focus

- God promised never to flood the world again. He sent a rainbow.



## Lesson Overview



### Come On In

Children will play with play dough.



### Circle Time

**Prayer**—Using the prayer page of the Flip Chart, discuss prayer and give each child the opportunity to pray after determining what type of prayer you will offer today.

**God's Word**—The Flood covered the entire earth, lifting the Ark far above the mountains. After the Flood, God made a covenant never to destroy the earth again with a global Flood. He set the rainbow in the sky as a sign of His promise.

**Song**—Children move, clap, or march around the room while singing the song, “Noah and the Ark.”



### Activity 1: The Rainbow—God's Promise

Children will color The Rainbow—God's Promise coloring sheet.



### Activity 2: God Keeps His Promises

Children will help create a class rainbow to remind them that the Flood was global. It covered the whole earth. God promised never to flood the earth again. He sent a rainbow.



### Memory Verse Review/Snack

Children will review the memory verse while enjoying the snack for the day. You may want to use the snack as incentive to recite and/or repeat the memory verse.

# Lesson Preparation

## WHAT YOU WILL DO

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED



### FOR THE TEACHER

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.

- Student Take Home Sheets



### COME ON IN

- Set play dough at each child's seat before class begins.

- Play dough
- Cookie cutters



### CIRCLE TIME

- Bring a stuffed animal for prayer time.
- Bring pictures of mountains.
- Practice the songs on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.

- Stuffed animal for prayer time
- Pictures of mountains
- Lesson Flip Chart



### HE RAINBOW—GOD'S PROMISE

- Print one God's Promise coloring sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.

- The God's Promise coloring sheet for each student
- Crayons



### GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES

- Prepare a large poster board or newsprint with the outline of a rainbow and its seven bands.
- Use colored construction paper or crayons to indicate which color goes into each band.

- Rainbow poster board or newsprint
- Colored construction paper: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet
- Crayons



### MEMORY VERSE REVIEW/SNACK

- Prepare and bring snacks.

- Lesson Flip Chart for memory verse review
- Snacks



# Prepare to Share

## SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

To prepare your heart to teach God's precious word this week, read Genesis 7:17–24, 9:11–17.

We know that the Flood of Noah's day was global. However, this is a fact that is being denied frequently by secularists and some Christians. A clear look at Scripture and a steadfast commitment to biblical authority shows us the truth.

A simple reading of Genesis 7:19–20 will put an end to the discussion. "And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered. The waters prevailed fifteen cubits upward, and the mountains were covered." This does not mean that the Flood was merely 15 cubits deep—verse 20 explains that the Flood "prevailed" over the tops of the highest mountains to a depth of 15 cubits. (A cubit was a standard means of measurement at the time, which was determined by measuring from the elbow to the tip of the finger—generally resulting in 18 to 20 inches. Fifteen cubits may have been about 22 feet.) These facts about the Flood cannot be reconciled with the idea of a local flood. You cannot have a mountain-covering local flood that lasts over a year.

Then Genesis 7:21 reiterates the total destruction of this Flood on all the earth. "And all flesh died that moved on the earth: birds and cattle and beasts and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every man."

We learn in Genesis 9:11–17 that the rainbow was the sign that God used to promise He would never again flood the entire world: "the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh" (Genesis 9:15). If the Flood were not a global event, God would have repeatedly broken that promise whenever a local flood happened on earth after His promise to Noah.

As students and teachers of the Word of God we need to learn to use Scripture to interpret and confirm Scripture. In that light, let's take a look at a couple of New Testament passages that talk of this global Flood in definitive ways.

In warning of God's judgment on wickedness we see in 2 Peter 2:5 a reference to a global Flood that came upon the earth and spared only Noah and his family—"[God] did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly."

Jesus Christ Himself confirmed that He believed the Flood killed every person not on the Ark. He referred to this catastrophic Flood as He prepared His disciples for

the coming of the Son of Man: "And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man. They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all" (Luke 17:26–27). This reference to Noah is repeated in Matthew 24:37–39.

In summary, the following are reasons to be confident that the Bible is clear—the Flood of Noah's day was global.

- Confirmation of Scripture with Scripture—Jesus Christ and others in the New Testament referring to the Flood.
- The language used in Genesis 7:17–24 describes the Flood as global. For example, "all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered," "all flesh died that moved on the earth," "the waters prevailed on the earth," etc.
- The depth and duration of the Flood—15 cubits above the mountains; 371 days total.
- The rainbow covenant.

## APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

Because of the wide belief in evolutionary history, many people deny that Noah's Flood was a global catastrophe. They rely on the secular interpretation of geologic formations on the earth as truth. They look to man's ideas first to interpret rock layers, rather than looking to God's Word as the ultimate authority. It is true that the geological processes we see today are slow. But this in no way infers that this is the way it has *always* been.

Again, a clear reading of Genesis, as mentioned above, gives us an understanding of how catastrophic this Flood was. The depth of the water, the destruction recorded in Scripture, and the duration of the Flood are a few of the scriptural evidences given to us by God.

But what would we expect to see on the earth if this Flood were real? Wouldn't we expect to find billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the earth? Yes! And that *is* what we find. Take a look below at some evidences that confirm the reality of a global Flood.

1. Fossils of sea creatures atop high mountains. The global Flood covered the "high hills" Genesis says. At the end of the Flood, the rapidly moving continental plates rammed into each other, causing the formation of mountains. The floodwaters did not rise to cover present-day Mt. Everest, for example.

Rather, Mt. Everest was formed after the layers were deposited.

2. The sheer existence of the fossil record including fossil “graveyards”—exhibiting the rapid burial of plants and animals. These animals had to have been buried quickly or they would have rotted away, leaving no evidence to confirm this massive Flood.
  - Rock layers that have been discovered to stretch across continents—some with similar features that can be traced for thousands of miles. These layers indicate a rapid deposition that can be explained by the water devastation described in Genesis.
3. Rock layers that are “folded” or bent with no evidence of fracturing or breaking. These folds could only have been formed if these layers were laid down rapidly over one another while still wet and pliable—before solidifying into rock—discounting the idea that this would have taken millions of years.

Another important fact to remember when defending the reality of a global Flood is that the Bible seems to indicate that the landmasses of the earth were once all connected. In Genesis 1:9 we read, “Then God said, ‘Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear’; and it was so.”

You may have heard of *plate tectonics*. This term refers to the moving of the earth’s plates—or landmasses. These movements are still observed today though they are very slow. This observation has led secular scientists to suggest that the earth is billions of years old. However, many creationists believe that the breaking apart of the earth’s surface into the continents we know today is best understood in terms of the Flood of Noah’s day—a theory called *catastrophic plate tectonics*. This rapid movement of the plates would have been triggered when “all the fountains of the great deep were broken up” (Genesis 7:11).

More than all the physical evidence we can provide, Jesus Christ, our Creator, spoke of the Flood as real, literal history, and the words recorded in Genesis by God Himself cannot be disputed. Every word of His is true, and we are not to add to His words lest we be found liars (Proverbs 30:5–6).

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

God’s Word is the history book of the universe from beginning to end, and this global Flood is a major part of that history.

The only way we could know for sure whether this event really occurred and whether it were global or local is if there were an eyewitness record of what happened. And there is! The God of history moved men

by His Spirit to write His Word. In God’s Word, we are told that Noah’s Flood was a real event. The Flood lasted for 371 days and covered all the high hills under the whole heaven (Genesis 7:19).

But there is other information available to us. Did you know that stories about a worldwide Flood are found in historic records all over the world? There have been more than 200 of these stories documented, in practically all nations, from ancient Babylon onward. And they all have common threads weaving throughout them—mimicking the Flood of Noah. This cannot be discounted as “coincidence.” For if there never were a global Flood, where would these stories have come from?

Another historical verification lies in the writings of a well-known and respected first-century Jewish historian named Josephus. This man served as a governor of Galilee, fought against Rome in the first century, and was eventually captured. He was imprisoned in Rome and was ordered to write a history of the Jewish nation. In *The Revised Works of Josephus*, he writes, “When God gave the signal, and it began to rain, the water poured down forty entire days, till it became fifteen cubits higher than the earth; which was the reason why there was no greater number preserved, since they had no place to flee to.”

This statement from the famous historian confirms God’s Word, but also gives evidence that the Jewish population in the first century believed the Flood to be global and a real event.

To find out more on this topic, go to the Online Resource Page.



## BEFORE THE THRONE

Lord, as I prepare for this lesson, please guide me in wisdom and understanding so I will be equipped to clearly present your truth. The world is so determined to lie to our children and discount your Word. These children need to know that all of your Word is true and that the catastrophic Flood was global—just as your Word says. I pray, Lord, that these children will grow up to be mighty warriors for you, equipped to defend your Word against the secular lies. Help me to impress on these children that the Bible is our starting point when it comes to answering questions from the world. Move in their hearts to give them a love for your Word, confidence in the truth of it, and joy in discovering you through it.



## COME ON IN

As students arrive . . .

- They will play with play dough.

During this time you should be at the door welcoming the children as they come in and directing them to sit down at the tables and begin the activity. Have an aid/helper ready to engage the children with the activity.



## REVIEW

Using the Flip Chart, quickly review the previous lessons with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the lesson pages from the Flip Chart. Remind the children of each lesson's focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



## Circle Time

*In an orderly manner, have the children assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.*

*Bring your Bible, Flip Chart, stuffed animal, pictures of mountains, and anything else you have prepared for this lesson.*

### PRAYER

*This prayer time is designed to get children to begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to get them to understand they can pray. Use a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—or appropriate object to pass around the circle as each child gets his/her turn to pray. Only the child with the stuffed animal is allowed to pray or speak during this time. Using the same stuffed animal or other object all year will add continuity and structure to this time.*

*When children are seated you can begin. **We start our Bible Study with prayer. Let's pray.** Turn to the prayer page in the Flip Chart. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there. Then determine which type you want the children to pray today.*

- I love you prayers—Adoration
- I'm sorry prayers—Confession
- Thank you prayers—Thanksgiving
- Please prayers—Supplication

**Today let's say prayers of thanksgiving—and tell God how thankful we are to Him.**

*The prayers you begin with should be specific to your needs. This will model to the children that you believe God does care about all the details of your life and you pray to Him about these things. Your example will increase their own confidence in praying to God.*

➤ Prior to making your transition to circle time, we suggest you take time for restroom breaks and hand washing.

➤ Preschoolers need to move. This is a good opportunity to get them to move. Make an orderly transition to the circle time. You can have carpet squares if you want to sit on the floor, or help them to move their chairs into the circle.

I'll start. Dear God, I thank you for giving us your Word and for always keeping your promises.

*Pass the stuffed animal around the circle giving all the children an opportunity to say a prayer of thanks to God.*

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away and we'll get into God's Word.

## GOD'S WORD

*These first four questions will be repeated each week. The repetition of these questions will help to solidify these simple but foundational truths in the children's minds at a young age.*

**Before we begin, what is this?** *Hold up your Bible. The Bible!*

- ? **What is in this Bible?** *God's holy Word!*
- ? **What does the Bible tell us?** *Everything we need to know!*
- ? **And all God's Words in this Bible are what?** *True!*

We have been learning about Noah and the Flood for a few weeks now. God told Noah that He would destroy the earth with a Flood . . . and He did! God didn't just flood a small area like a road or a house. No. He covered all the earth with the Flood. Did you know that some people do not believe that God flooded the entire world? But we trust God's Word more than we trust what man says. God's Word is our starting point. All of God's words are . . . TRUE. God's Word says that the waters from Noah's Flood covered the mountains!

After the Flood had ended, God made a promise. God promised never to flood the world again. He sent a rainbow. Let's talk more about that!

Our picture has two sides today. We are going to look at this side first.

*Point to the global Flood side.*

Look at this massive flood. The entire earth was FLOODED!

- ? **Where are the mountains?** *Under the water.*

**Listen carefully to what God's true Word tells us.** *Read Genesis 7:19 slowly emphasizing that the water was above the high hills.*

*Refer to the Flip Chart. What can you see floating on the water? Noah's Ark.*

That's right! The Ark was floating on top of all the high hills and all the earth. God sent so much rain and water that the whole world was covered with water. Only Noah, his family, and the animals on the Ark survived the Flood. Remember God told Noah He was going to destroy the earth.

- ? **Why did God destroy the earth with a Flood?** *Because of sin.*

► Display the Flip Chart lesson page.

Genesis 7:19

That's right! God flooded the entire earth just as He said He would. This Flood was global! That means it covered the whole earth. Every city and every street. Every house and every building was covered. The Bible tells us this. And all of God's words are . . .TRUE!

? Look at the other side of the picture. What do you see? *Let the children answer.*

After the Flood had ended, God told Noah and his family to leave the Ark. This must have been a wonderful day for Noah, his family and all the animals. Then, God spoke to Noah after the Flood and made a promise.

Remember, the Flood destroyed every living thing that was on the earth.

*Point to the global Flood side of the picture.*

But, God promised NEVER to destroy the earth again with a Flood! God made a covenant!

? Can you say COVENANT? That means promise! *Have the children repeat the word.*

Listen to what God told Noah after he and his family got off the Ark. I am going to read right out of God's true Word. This is in the book of Genesis. Listen carefully! *Read Genesis 9:14–15 from your Bible. Read emphatically so they can answer the simple questions following.*

Genesis 9:14–15

? What did God say He would bring over the earth? *A cloud and a rainbow.*

Yes! God set the rainbow in the sky as the sign of this wonderful promise. Noah and his family looked up at the rainbow. God's promise was to Noah, his family, and all the animals.

? What was God's promise? Does anyone remember? What does the rainbow mean? *God will not send another flood like that. He will not flood the whole earth ever again.*

That's right! God made this promise forever. The rainbow should remind us that God will never destroy the world with a flood ever again.

## SONG

OK! Everybody up! Remember our Noah's Ark Song? Let's sing it together. It is really fun. *If you have time, sing the Seven C's song as well. The lyrics to both songs are on the Flip Chart song page and can also be found on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.*

OK. We learned about a very special promise God made. He promised never to flood the world again. He sent the rainbow to remind us of that promise. Let's quietly go back to our tables.

➤ Oversee an orderly way to get the children back to their seats especially if the chairs were moved for circle time.



# The Rainbow—God’s Promise

We are going to color our picture now. The rainbow is God’s promise never to destroy the earth again with a Flood.

## MATERIALS

- God’s Promise coloring sheet for each student
- Crayons

## INSTRUCTIONS

*Have the children color the picture. Reinforce the lesson points while the children are coloring. Ask questions. Engage them.*

## CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

? What can we remember the next time we see a rainbow in the clouds after it rains? *The rainbow is God’s promise never to destroy the earth again with a flood.*

Did you know that every time there is a rainbow in the sky, God sees it too? Did you know that when God sends us a rainbow in the sky He remembers the promise He made? God is faithful and will keep His promise. The rainbow is God’s promise never to destroy the earth again with a Flood.



# God Keeps His Promises

## MATERIALS

- Large poster board or newsprint paper with a rainbow outline. Indicate the proper color in each band of the rainbow by coloring or gluing the appropriate color at one end of the band. The colors of the rainbow from the top are red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet.
- Rainbow-colored construction paper (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet)—one sheet for each student
- Crayons

## INSTRUCTIONS

*Give each child a sheet of construction paper. Have the children take turns tearing a piece of the construction paper and coming to the rainbow to glue it into the proper “band.” The colors they have should match the colors you have already indicated on the large rainbow (see above).*

*You or your assistant can help them glue and determine where the color goes on the rainbow.*

*If this is too complicated, just pass out crayons and let them take turns coloring on the rainbow.*

You are going to help me make this rainbow beautiful. I will call on you one at a time to come up and glue a piece of your paper to the rainbow. When each of you does that, we’ll all say together “The Flood was global. It covered the whole earth. God will not flood the earth again. The rainbow is His promise!”

*You can change this up by having girls repeat the phrase if a girl is coloring the rainbow or boys repeat if it is a boy’s turn.*

## CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

What did we learn today? The Flood was global. It covered the whole earth. God will not flood the earth again. The rainbow is His promise!



## Memory Verse Review/Snack

**2 Peter 2:5** [God] did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people.

*Children will review the memory verse while enjoying the snack for the day. You may want to use the snack as incentive to recite and/or repeat the memory verse.*

*Use the Memory Verse page in the Flip Chart. Explain the verse to the children as you go over the verse together. Say the verse and point at each picture several times. Ask the children if anyone wants to try and say it on his/her own.*



## Applying God's Word

### WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

God sent a global Flood that covered all the high mountains. The Flood destroyed everything that was living. Only Noah and his family, eight people, and the animals on the Ark survived the catastrophe! When the Flood had ended, God made a very special promise. God promised never to destroy the earth again with a Flood. The rainbow is God's sign of that promise.

### GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

- ? Have you ever seen a rainbow in the sky? *Let the children answer.*
- ? What should it remind you of? *God will not flood the world again!*

The next time you see a rainbow in the sky, remember God put it there. When God sends us rainbows, He remembers the promise He made never to destroy the earth again with a flood. God wants us to know that He must judge sin. Trouble will come, but it will not come again in a global Flood. Salvation from God's judgment can only be found in Jesus.

➤ Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.



## Group Prayer Time

- Praise God for giving us His Word!
- Thank God for sending His Son Jesus!
- Thank God for teaching us great things through Noah's life.
- Praise God for salvation through His Son Jesus.

**Do you still have more time? Review the past quarters using the Flip Charts, add another coloring page, recite and review the current and past memory verses, sing more songs, bring out play dough. Keep the children occupied with intentional, God-centered activities until their parents come to pick them up.**

# Song Sheet

## NOAH AND THE ARK

*(To the tune of "London Bridge is Falling Down")*

The sins of man grew in God's sight;

*(London Bridge is falling down,)*

They loved sin more than God,

*(Falling down, falling down.)*

Because they loved sin more than God,

*(London Bridge is falling down,)*

God would judge them.

*(My fair lady!)*

Noah was a righteous man,

He loved God, obeyed His plan.

He built the Ark just like God said;

God showed mercy.

God brought the animals two by two,

They marched on board, dinosaurs too!

God shut the door, the rains began;

Noah's Flood.

Just like the Ark in ancient days,

God's Word says, "Jesus saves!"

Perfect salvation from the grave,

Christ, our Redeemer!

## SEVEN C'S OF HISTORY

*(To the tune of "This Old Man")*

**Creation**, God made it all.

*(This old man, he played one,)*

**Corruption**, sin made man fall.

*(He played knick-knack on my thumb;)*

There's **Catastrophe**,

*(With a knick-knack paddywhack,)*

A worldwide flood;

*(Give a dog a bone.)*

Dinosaurs buried in the mud.

*(This old man came rolling home.)*

Man disobeyed, **Confusion** came;

The way they talked, no longer the same.

It's the Seven C's of History.

In God's Word the truth we see.

Next, there's **Christ**, He came to give—

His life on the **Cross** that we might live.

**Consummation** is our final C,

The final C of History!

We'll look to the clouds and see Jesus come;

God is forever the victorious one.

It's the Seven C's of History.

In God's Word, the truth we see.