

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. Still, He remains faithful and honors righteousness by saving Noah and his family and establishing a covenant promise with them.

MEMORY VERSE : 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 Large Group or Small Group

An object lesson, experiment, or activity that sparks curiosity, encourages exploration, and gets kids thinking about the wonder of God.

- Welcome Question: Who is someone who always knows the right thing to do?
- Free Play
- Countdown
- Curiosity Questions
- Declaring God's Wonder

**BELIEF Large Group**

A deep and interactive dive into Scripture that guides kids into knowing God more deeply, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

- Prayer of Invitation
- God's Big Story: Hear It, Watch It, Experience It!
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- Memory Verse: [Deuteronomy 7:9](#)

FAITH Small Group

An intentional conversation that helps kids see the wonder of God's story and how it connects to their own, emboldening their faith and fostering a deeper understanding of their place in God's kingdom.

- Discussion Questions for Younger and Older Kids
- Small Group Prayer Time
- Blessing

EXTRA TIME Large Group or Small Group

An interactive activity to keep kids engaged during pick up time and to reinforce what they've learned.

- Head, Shoulders, Knees, CUP!

INVITATION

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

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 two 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.

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

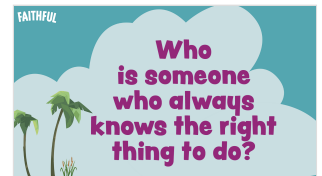
Noah walked with God, and God honored his righteousness by delivering creation from total destruction. In much the same way, Abraham walked with God. God honored his righteousness with the promise that would lead to Jesus, who delivers us from the power of death and makes all things new.

Large Group or Small Group

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

Welcome Question

The following question will be written on the whiteboard: “Who is someone who always knows the right thing to do?”



As kids arrive ...

Warmly welcome kids by name. Show them the [Welcome Question](#). 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 you have younger kids, be sure to read the question for them.

Free Play

Tables will be set with games, toys, and activities for kids to play until the lesson begins. This is a great opportunity to get to know kids and build relationship with them.

This is also a great time for a bathroom reminder!

Countdown Video

Play the [countdown video](#) provided and then show it every week 5 minutes before your official start time to signify clean up time. As the toys are put away, gather kids in the floor, benches, or chairs and countdown the final 10 seconds together.



Curiosity Questions

At your start time ...

Enthusiastically welcome kids as you start your time together. Call on several kids to share their answers to the Welcome Question: **Who is someone who always knows the right thing to do?**

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. But first, it's time to be curious. Pose the following "I'm curious" questions. Say "I'm curious ..." before each question and give kids a chance to think about and answer each one. After each question, consider having kids share their ideas with a neighbor before you call on one or two of them to share with the group.

I'm curious ...

- **Do you find it easy or difficult to do the right thing when the people around you are not? Explain your thoughts.**
- **How would you explain what righteousness is to a friend?**

Affirm kids for sharing their thoughts. Then add on to what they've shared by explaining that righteousness is choosing the right way or showing through actions that God is the creator and source of all that is good.

Declaring God's Wonder

SUPPLIES: Noah Declaration Slide

Display the [Noah Declaration Slide](#). 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.)

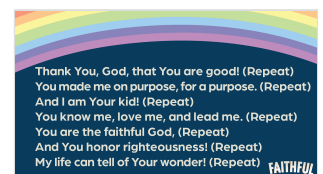
And I am Your kid! (Kids repeat.)

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.)



Large Group

Guide kids into knowing God, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Honors Righteousness

SCRIPTURE: [Genesis 6–9](#)

MEMORY VERSE : [Deuteronomy 7:9](#)

Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: **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.**

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid), [Noah Title Slide](#), [Noah God's Big Story Video](#)

Display the [Noah Title Slide](#).

- View [Noah God's Big Story Video](#)
- Use the following Noah Experience It! Script

FOR OLDER KIDS: Invite kids to open their Bibles to [Genesis chapter 6](#). 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 reading part of God's big story directly from the Bible. Afterward, we will watch and experience more of the story!

Select four volunteers to read today's Bible passage. One volunteer will read [Genesis 6:5–8, 14](#); the next will read [7:4, 13–17, 24](#); another volunteer will read [8:1, 13](#); and the last volunteer will read [9:8–13](#).

Consider inviting the four readers to stand in order on the stage area as they read. If your group does not have strong readers, consider having a leader read these verses instead. Then do one or both of the following:

- View [Noah God's Big Story Video](#)
- Use the following Noah Experience It! Script

Watch God's Big Story

Watch the [Noah God's Big Story!](#)



LESSON 1 NOAH

EXPERIENCE IT! SCRIPT

SUPPLIES: camera or phone with camera functionality

Gather kids and explain that you'll be asking them to create scenes that show what's happening at different points in God's big story today. They'll have just a few seconds to strike a pose or do an action before you or another leader takes a photo capturing their dramatic interpretation of the story.

Leader Tip: Even if you have a small group of kids, it will be difficult to get every child in every photo. Be sure you get each kid in at least one or two photos. Kids will be looking for themselves if you choose to display the photos or show the photos on screen the next time you meet together.

In the beginning, God created everything that exists. He created day and night, water and land, plants and animals. Animals like ____. Pause as kids strike an animal pose or action and someone snaps a photo. **God created everything! And 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. Show me your muscles, Adam.** Pause as kids strike a pose and someone snaps a photo. **And God created a woman named Eve. Show me your muscles too, Eve!** Pause as kids strike a pose and someone snaps a photo.

Adam and Eve enjoyed God's company, and everything was very good. God had provided Adam and Eve with everything they needed to enjoy and share 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. Look mean, people! Pause as kids strike a pose and someone snaps a photo. **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. His name was Noah. Wave at the camera, Noah! Pause as kids strike a pose and someone snaps a photo. **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.**

God told Noah to build a giant boat called an ark. God gave Noah specific instructions for building the ark. Noah, let's see you swing a hammer! Pause as kids strike a pose and someone snaps a photo. **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](#)).

Then it started raining. Hard! Cover your heads, friends—it's raining cats and dogs and alligators! Pause as kids strike a pose and someone snaps a photo. **The bottom of the oceans burst open, and the skies began to pour like giant waterfalls. It got very dangerous outside. On that day, Noah, his wife, his sons, and his sons' families boarded the ark. Climb aboard the ark, friends!** Pause as kids strike a pose and someone snaps a photo. **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 like you're a strong wind, friends! Pause as kids strike a pose and someone snaps a photo. **"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! Pause as kids strike a pose and someone snaps a photo. **Noah built an altar and worshiped God.**

God was pleased to see Noah worshipping 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. Pause as kids strike a pose and someone snaps a photo. It was the same job God had given Adam and Eve years before.

Then God made an unbreakable promise—called 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

SUPPLIES: Noah Wonder Truth Slide

Display the Noah Wonder Truth Slide.



Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD HONORS RIGHTEOUSNESS**.

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!

Memory Verse

SUPPLIES: Memory Verse slide

The Memory Verse for the Faithful series that we're in is **Deuteronomy 7:9**. Today we've learned how God sees us and honors our right actions as we follow Him. This verse tells us more about how God keeps His promises and shows His love to those who obey Him. Let's read the Memory Verse together!



Read the verse several together. Then write the following words on a whiteboard: *God*, *covenant*, *love*, and *commandments*. Have kids stand up and get ready to move as they learn the Memory Verse.

Our Memory Verse for this series has the following words. Read out loud the words on the whiteboard: *God*, *covenant*, *love*, and *commandments*. Explain that a covenant is an unbreakable promise.

Let's work together to come up with motions that show what these words mean. We'll use these motions to help us remember the Memory Verse. After your group comes up with motions, practice saying the verse out loud while incorporating them.

Small Group

Help kids see the wonder of God's story and how it connects to their own story.

Divide your group into smaller groups based on age. If your group is already small, stay together for this time.

WORD OF WONDER

Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

—Deuteronomy 7:9 (NIV)

Questions: Younger Kids

- **Why was God sad at this point in God's big story?**
- **How did God protect Noah?**
- **What is the covenant or promise God made to Noah?**
- **How do you think Noah felt as he built the ark? As the rain first started to fall? As he, his family, and all the animals came out of the ark many months later? Why?**
- **Is it easy or hard to always do the right thing? Why?**
- **How does it make you feel to know that God sees when you do what is right and that He honors you?**

It's not always easy to do the right thing, especially when those around us aren't. However, we learn from the story of Noah that God always sees when we are faithful to Him, and He will honor and respect righteousness. Let's pray and ask God's Holy Spirit to help us make right choices and live according to God's good ways.

Prayer Time: Younger Kids

Lead kids in prayer by encouraging them to share an area where they need God's help to do the right thing. Then you may say a prayer or ask for a volunteer to pray for the Holy Spirit to help each kid to trust that God's way is best and to make right choices. Close this prayer time by thanking God for seeing each of His children and for honoring righteousness.

WORD OF WONDER

Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

—Deuteronomy 7:9 (NIV)

Questions: Older Kids

- **How did God feel as this part of His big story began? Why did He feel that way?**
- **How did God honor Noah's righteousness?**
- **What is the covenant or promise God made to Noah?**
- **How do you think Noah felt as he built the ark? As the rain first started to fall? As he, his family, and all the animals came out of the ark many months later? Why?**
- **Have you ever been in a situation where you were the only person trying to do the right thing? What happened? How did you feel?**
- **How does it make you feel to know God sees when you trust and obey Him by doing the right thing?**

Doing the right thing can be difficult, especially when we feel like we are the only ones doing so. However, we saw in the story of Noah that God sees when we are faithful to Him, and He will honor and respect righteousness. Let's pray and thank God for honoring righteousness.

Prayer Time: Older Kids

Allow kids to find a partner and share an area where they need God's help to do the right thing. Encourage kids to pray for one another. When they are finished, close in prayer as a group, thanking God for being the faithful God who sees and honors righteousness.

Blessing Your Kids

Speak this blessing over your kids, as a large group or a small group.

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

Use the following activity to keep kids engaged during pick-up time and to re-inforce the lesson.

Interactive Game: Head, Shoulders, Knees, Cup!

SUPPLIES: plastic disposable cups (1 per 2 kids)

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 heard 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. Display the [Noah Wonder Truth Slide](#). **Today’s Wonder Truth is GOD HONORS RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

