

Family Worship Guide

Week 6

Read

- **Genesis 8:1-9:7**

But God had Noah in mind... The Hebrew text uses the word *zakar*, which means "to remember." In English to "remember" means to mentally recall an incident or action, but in the Bible, and especially in reference to God, "to remember" signifies the commitment to act upon a previous covenant obligation (Gen 9:15, 16; Lev 26:42, 45; Dt 9:26; Ez 16:60; etc). In the seven "remembrance feasts" or holy days of obligation of the Sinai Covenant, the Israelites re-lived the Exodus experience and acted out their covenant obligations. For example in the Passover sacrifice and the Feast of Unleavened Bread they "remembered" the slaying of the lambs and kids that saved the firstborn of Israel from death the night of the first Passover and the eating of the sacrifice that night. But they didn't just remember; they re-lived and experienced the same acts of redemption and salvation' killing the Passover victims and eating its flesh in a sacred meal. Now God acts upon what He first promised Noah in (Genesis 6:18) when the word "covenant" was use for the first time in Scripture. Noah has done his part and now God will fulfill His part of the covenant with Noah.

- **Questions**

1. At the end of Genesis 7, the entire earth has been flooded, but Noah and his family were alive in the ark. The first verse of chapter 8 is the center of the story. What does Genesis 8:1 say and why is it important?

"But God remembered Noah." The story of the flood is about both judgment and salvation. Imagine how Noah and his family must have felt - alone, floating above the world. But they were not alone - God remembered them.

2. When the dove came back with the olive branch, what did that tell Noah?

Noah knew that the water had gone down enough so that olive trees were now visible. It was almost time to get off the ark! When the dove did not return seven days later, that was the sign that the time had come.

3. What was the first thing that Noah did after he got off the ark?

In Genesis 8:20, it says that he built an altar and gave thanks to God.

4. God rescued Noah, and Noah immediately thanked God. As a family, how well do we thank God when He takes care of us?

Have a discussion about how easy it is to pray for God to help you and be with you...but then forget to thank Him for His goodness to you. Talk together as a family about how you can help each other thank God right away when His blessings come.

5. A few minutes ago we talked about how when Noah was floating above the world, God remembered him. Have you ever felt like God forgot about you? Have you ever felt like He was very far away from you?

This is a good opportunity for parents to take the lead and talk about what it means to have faith, and struggle with having faith, during hard times.

6. Look at Genesis 9:12-16. There we find a promise that God made to Noah - a promise that He has kept every day since then. What was the promise and how do we know He made the promise?

God promised to never again flood the whole earth. God said that the rainbow would be the sign of His promise. When your family sees a rainbow - that is a great time to remind each other about God's judgment against sin, God saving Noah and his family, and God's promise to never again flood the whole earth.

Praise

- Praise God for giving us:
Himself
Grace and Mercy
Salvation
Our family
Our church family?
- What has God done in our family this week that we can give him praise?

Pray

Use the ACTS model (Example below.)

- ADORATION – “He is loving. He remembers us. He keeps His promises. Let’s begin our prayer time by worshipping God for these things.”
- CONFESSION – “Confess our wrongs”
- THANKSGIVING – How has God blessed you? ...
- SUPPLICATION – pray and ask God for His help with things we are concerned and anxious about. Let’s ask God for the things we need.”
- Pray that we will live obediently to God’s Word.
- Pray for your neighbors by name! Pray that God will bless them!
- Pray for our mission field in Nepal. Pray for the safety of our missionaries, Samson and Pricilla Retnaraj and John and Sangi Vanlal. Pray for the furthering of the Gospel to those that do not know!!

Memorize

Genesis 9:11: "I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth."

Digging Deeper

(Optional activities)

Kids Fun

Option 1

Supplies needed:

Glass of water, masking tape, flashlight

When was the last time you saw a rainbow? Do you remember where you were? Give people a chance to share. **Can anyone name all the colors in the rainbow?** ROYGBIV - Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, and Violet. **To begin our family worship time, I want to see if we can make our own rainbows. Do you think that is possible? What do you think we could use from around the house to make a rainbow?** See what ideas the family comes up with. Below are two ideas you can use. Good luck!

Idea #1: Get a glass and fill it with water. Put the glass of water on the edge of a counter. On the floor below the counter put a white piece of paper. Use the masking tape and put a piece of tape across the top and bottom of the flashlight. When you are done, rather than a circle of light, there will be a horizontal band of light - like a movie screen. Turn out the lights and shine the flashlight down through the water onto the paper on the floor. The flashlight should be above the glass of water, shining down through the water at an angle. With just the right angle, a small rainbow will appear on the paper.

We did a great job making a little rainbow. God made light, and all those colors are "inside" the light that we see. We can make little rainbows on pieces of paper, but only God can make rainbows that stretch from one end of the horizon to the other. God created the rainbow for a very special purpose. You see every time we see a rainbow God wants us to remember something important. In our family worship time we are going to discover what that is.

For Teens

1. When they got off the ark, Noah was quick to thank God for saving him and his family. He built an altar to worship God. Why do you think it is so easy for us to take God's blessings for granted and not give Him the thanks and praise He deserves? How could you become a more "thankful" person?