

Summary Genesis 6-8 Adapted from Herbert Lockyer’s *All the Books and Chapters of the Bible*

This story describes the rapid digression of sin in humanity. Noah stands out as a saint among sinners. He was the only light in his crooked and perverse generation. Among the faithless, he alone was faithful. How beautifully grace is mingled with judgement. Sentence of destruction was pronounced upon the guilty, but the ark provided for Noah and his own. The wooden ark pictures and fully illustrates the work of Christ, a perfect shelter from the storm of God's rightful wrath. Obeying the divine command, Noah builds the ark, gathers the animals, and on the appointed day, went into the ark with his wife, three sons and three daughters in law.

In Genesis 6, the Lord observes the extent of human wickedness on the Earth. People thought evil, imagined evil, and acted evil. God felt sorry for ever creating them on the Earth and was heartbroken. He decided to wipe every living thing from the face of the Earth, but Noah found favor with the Lord. Noah was a husband, father, and righteous man. God tells Noah of his plan to destroy everything alive, gives specific instructions to build an ark, and explains who/what he could bring with him on the ark. Noah responded by doing exactly what God commanded.

Noah and his family board the ark and take with them seven pairs of every clean animal and one pair of every unclean animal to ensure their survival on Earth. Seven days later, the rain comes and stays for forty days. The Earth was completely flooded, and the only survivors were those on the ark.

God did not forget about Noah, his family, or the animals. He sent wind to blow across the earth, and the flood began to recede. A little over a year had passed, and the earth was finally dry. God told Noah and his family to leave the ark and release the animals, so they did. Noah built an altar to God. He selected clean animals and birds from every species and offered them as burnt offerings on the altar. God smelled the sweet fragrance and promised to never curse the ground or destroy all living things ever again.

**40 Days to Breakthrough: Destruction & Deliverance**

Lesson 1 Discussion Questions

* If your house was about to be washed away in a flood, what three things would you quickly grab?
* Looking at Genesis 6:1-5, what do you find most disturbing about the description of human corruption? Why? What does this passage reveal about the idea that human natures is essentially good?
* There is a lot of death in this story and God really comes down hard on his people. Why did God choose to destroy the people that he created? How does God show grace and mercy in the story of Noah?
* Why do you think God chose Noah?
* From Genesis 6:8-9, what do we learn about Noah's character? Did Noah become that way because of God's favor? Or did Noah somehow earn God's favor?
* What do you think was Noah's biggest obstacle in building the ark? How does Noah persevere when the going gets tough?
* How does it make you feel to know that God is ultimately in control of everything on the Earth?
* Noah lived in a time of great corruption and sin, but he didn't give in and try to fit in or be liked by his peers. Instead, he stood apart and was judged and mocked. In our schools and workplaces, are you trying to fit in or stand apart?
* In case of a flood, why would God choose you?
* How does God's promise in Noah's situation help in overcoming the obstacles you are facing in your own life?
* Take a few minutes of silence to listen as you ask God this question: "Where is one place you want me to step out in faith, Lord?" Share with the group what you heard in the silence or what you felt about this question.