

# NOAH BUILT THE ARK



## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

### LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God is still at work in His creation and cares what happens in it.

### SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

Genesis 6:9–9:17

### SUGGESTED FOR THE WEEK OF

July 18

### UNIT VERSE

You, LORD, are the only God. You created the heavens, the highest heavens with all their stars, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them.

*Nehemiah 9:6 (CSB)*

### WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE

You, LORD, are the only God. You created the heavens, the highest heavens with all their stars, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them.

*Nehemiah 9:6 (CSB)*

Insurance companies sometimes disqualify coverage for damage that happens through an “act of God.” They identify such acts as tornados, hurricanes, earthquakes—any catastrophe that affects a wide segment of the population. But why do people limit “acts of God” to the bad things? Isn’t it even more of an indication of God at work when neighbors help after a tornado, when architects create buildings that withstand hurricanes and earthquakes, or when scientists develop medicines that alleviate or cure common ailments and diseases?

God, our Creator, continues to be active in the world, bringing His love and goodness to places we do not expect. God did not just create the universe and leave it to operate on its own. God works throughout His creation.

God brought goodness to and through a man named Noah. Despite misbehavior all around, Noah chose to be a righteous, blameless man who walked with God. Maybe Noah did not feel like he was doing anything special—and we know he was not perfect—but day after day he chose to do what was right in God’s sight. That’s a BIG deal!

God chose to save Noah and his family. Noah was 600 years old when the flood came. Noah had a challenging assignment before and after the flood! Do you ever wonder how Noah and his family kept predators from eating some of the animals? How did Noah keep everything clean? How did they feed all of the animals?

Noah, his family, and all the animals were on the ark for over a year. They exited the ark to experience God’s faithful blessing. (Genesis 1:28; 9:1-2)

What faithful blessings has God presented to you? How do you know God is still at work in your life and cares what happens to you?

Read Nehemiah 9:6 to your kids to remind them that God is the only God, and He cares what happens to them.



## PRACTICE BIBLE SKILLS

- › Remind the group that they are learning more about the first five Old Testament books, the books of Law.
  - › Invite a volunteer to say the books in order.
  - › Explain that there are pieces from five different puzzles on the table or floor. The kids will work together to put the pieces together.
  - › At your signal, kids may begin to put the “Books of Law Puzzles” together. Time the kids to see how long it takes them to finish the puzzles.
  - › When the kids finish, guide them to tape each puzzle together.
  - › As the kids work, lead volunteers to tell one thing about each book.
  - › Briefly discuss the information about the books.
  - › Challenge the group to say the books and find them in their Bibles.
- › Pack Item 15: “Books of Law Puzzles”—Cut apart the pieces and scramble the pieces of all 5 puzzles together. Place the scrambled pieces facedown on a table or on the floor.
  - › rolls of clear tape
  - › timer or smartphone



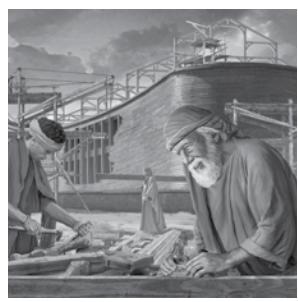
## INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY

- › Lead kids to find partners and sit in chairs side by side.
  - › Set your timer for 60 seconds.
  - › When time starts, the partners will stand simultaneously, switch chairs, and sit down simultaneously. They will count the number of switches they can perform in one minute.
  - › Congratulate the team that completes the most switches.
  - › Guide kids to estimate how many switches they could complete in an hour, a day, and a month. Suggest that during today’s Bible story, kids consider how Noah’s family passed the hours, days, and months while they were shut together in the ark!
- › timer or smartphone
  - › **Option:** “Noah Built the Ark” coloring page (Printables)



## MISSIONS EMPHASIS

- › Show the video “10:12 Sports Part 2” or tell the missions story.
  - › Display the “10:12 Sports Photos” and discuss things the players are learning about Jesus. (*that Jesus loves them, that Jesus wants the best for them, that Jesus is more important than football*)
  - › Say: “In sports, players learn to trust their coach. They trust that the coach wants what is best for the team. When we choose to follow Jesus, we learn to have faith and trust in Him. He loves us and always does what is best for us.”
  - › Invite a volunteer to pray that the players in the 10:12 Sports ministry will choose to trust in Jesus.
- › Videos
  - › Printables: “Unit 2 Missions: Baltimore, Maryland”—Print the missions story and the “10:12 Sports Photos.”



- › Pack Items 10, 11: “Unit 2 Banner,” “Unit 2 Verse”
- › Teaching Picture 7
- › Music
- › Videos
- › small bottles of bubbles and wands (1 per person or just 1 bottle and wand)



## STUDY THE BIBLE

### 1. BIBLE STORY

- › Lead the kids to sing “God of Everything.”
- › Ask: “Have you ever been in a weather event that felt scary at the time?”
- › Allow kids to briefly share their experiences. Then comment that sometimes things in the world around us can seem frightening. It is good to know that God created the world and is in charge of all creation.
- › Invite kids to listen carefully to a Bible story about a huge weather event.
- › Open the Bible to Genesis 6 and tell the Bible story.

#### **BIBLE STORY: NOAH BUILT THE ARK**

Noah was a good man who obeyed and honored God. The rest of the people did not obey God. They did many wrong things and had evil and sinful thoughts.

God told Noah, “Because the people are evil, I have decided to put an end to everything on earth. Make an ark for you and your family. Use gopher wood to build an ark 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high. Put a door in the side of the ark. Cover the entire ark with sticky pitch to make it waterproof. Take your family on the ark. Take seven pairs of every clean animal and one pair of every unclean animal. Also, pack food for all of you.”

Noah carefully obeyed God’s instructions. Two of each animal came to Noah and entered the ark, just as God had commanded. When Noah’s family and the animals were on the ark, God safely shut them in, and the rain began. Rain fell for 40 days and 40 nights. The earth was flooded, and water covered everything, even the tops of the highest mountains. For 150 days the floodwater rose higher and higher. After the flooding God caused a wind to pass over the earth, and the water began to go down.

Everyone inside the ark was safe. After the water went down, the ark landed safely on a mountain. Noah waited 40 days and then opened the window and sent out a raven. The raven flew back and forth until the waters dried up.

Then Noah sent out a dove, but she came back to the ark because she could not find a dry place to rest. After seven more days, Noah sent out the dove again. This time, she came back with an olive leaf in her beak. A week later, Noah sent out the dove again, and this time she did not return. The water that covered the earth had dried up.

When it was time, God told Noah and his family to come out of the ark. Noah built an altar, and he and his family worshiped God. God promised that He would never again destroy every living thing on the earth with floodwaters. He placed a rainbow in the sky as a sign of His promise.

— BASED ON GENESIS 6:9–9:17

## 2. REVIEW

- › Display the Teaching Picture and lead the kids to discuss what the people were like before God flooded the earth. (*They did many wrong things and had evil and sinful thoughts.*)
- › Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 6:5-7.
- › Explain that God had created people to have a relationship with Him, but now He regretted even making them.
- › Enlist a volunteer to read Genesis 6:8.
- › Ask: “What is a word or phrase that describes Noah?” (*righteous, walked with God, found favor with God*)
- › Mention that God planned to destroy the people because of their sin, but God would save Noah and his family.
- › Lead volunteers to retell the rest of the story, including God’s promise after the flood.
- › **Option:** Show the “Notebook Bible Story” video.

## 3. LIFE ACTION

- › State that the story of Noah and the ark is one of the best-known stories in the Bible. Ask: “What does the story teach us about God?” (*Answers will vary but should include that God is powerful, God doesn’t like sin, God keeps His promises, and God is in charge of all creation.*)
- › Explain that this Bible story is one of the ways we know for sure that God is still at work in His creation. He cares what happens to the world and the people in it. We also can learn that God is a rescuer. He rescued Noah and his family.
- › Say: “God is still working out His plan through creation.” Remind kids that God’s plan of rescue later included sending Jesus so that people who trust in Him can be saved forever from the consequences of sin.
- › **Option:** Show the “Mooseberry Life Application” video.

## 4. UNIT VERSE

- › Refer to the “Unit 2 Verse” and lead kids to review Nehemiah 9:6.
- › Guide kids to create a large circle.
- › If you have one bottle of bubbles per person, direct each person to blow a large bubble. When someone releases a bubble, he will attempt to say the entire verse before the bubble bursts.
- › If you use only one bottle of bubbles for the group, let kids take turns blowing bubbles while the rest of the group tries to say the verse before the bubble bursts.
- › Collect the bottles and wands.
- › Invite kids to pray silently, using this prompt: “God, because You created heaven and earth, You can ...”

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

- › What were the people like before God flooded the earth? (*The people did many wrong things and had evil and sinful thoughts.*)
- › How was Noah different than the other people? (*Noah was a good man who obeyed and honored God.*)
- › How did God tell Noah to build the ark? (*Use gopher wood. Make it 450 feet long by 75 feet wide by 45 feet high. Make it waterproof.*)
- › How long did it rain? (*40 days and 40 nights*)
- › What did the dove bring back to the ark? (*an olive branch*)
- › What did Noah and his family do when they left the ark? (*They built an altar and worshiped God.*)
- › What did God place in the sky as a sign of His promise to never flood the earth again? (*a rainbow*)



## LIVE IT OUT

### CHOICE 1

- › Pack Items 11, 16: “Unit 2 Verse,” “Star Pattern”
- › Kids Activity Pages
- › pencils
- › various colors of heavyweight paper
- › scissors
- › paper clips
- › yarn
- › masking tape

### CHOICE 2

- › Pack Item 17: “Animal Cards”
- › masking tape
- › elastic headbands
- › timer or smartphone

**Teaching Tip:** Save the “Animal Cards” for use in the next session.

### CHOICE 1

#### UNIT VERSE BANNERS

- › Give each person a Kids Activity Page.
- › Encourage the kids to complete the “Nighttime Sky” activity.
- › Distribute copies of the “Star Pattern.”
- › Set out scissors, paper clips, and yarn.
- › Lead kids to get partners or form small groups of three kids.
- › Challenge partners to work together to write the words or phrases of the Unit Verse on the star shapes, a few words for each star.
- › Instruct partners to cut out the stars and then work together to put the verse in order.
- › Guide each set of partners to clip their stars to a long string of yarn to make a banner.
- › Allow partners to hang their star banners around the room.
- › Invite kids to find and read Psalm 147:3-5.
- › Explain that both Nehemiah 9:6 and Psalm 147:3-5 remind us of God’s great power. It is more than we can know or understand.
- › Lead the kids to look at their banners and say Nehemiah 9:6.

### CHOICE 2

#### ANIMAL HEADBANDS GAME

- › Invite kids to play a headband game.
- › Instruct a volunteer to place an “Animal Card” on his forehead without looking at it. He may use a piece of tape to stick the card to his forehead, place the card into an elastic headband, or simply hold it on his forehead.
- › Explain that the cards are types of animals.
- › Set a timer for three minutes and adjust the time if needed.
- › Lead the volunteer with the card to ask the group questions to determine the animal.
- › The kids will answer “Yes” or “No” to the player’s questions, and the player must guess the animal before time runs out.
- › Guide the child to choose the next player after he guesses the image on his card.
- › Play until kids guess all of the cards.
- › As the game ends, challenge kids to imagine what the ark must have been like with all the animals on it.
- › Allow someone to read Genesis 6:20.
- › Explain that Noah did not have to go out and find the animals and bring them to the ark. The animals came to him. This is another reminder that God is in charge of all creation.

**CHOICE 3****RAIN IN A JAR**

- » Invite the kids to perform an experiment to make rain in a jar.
- » Lead kids to sit at a table in groups of three or four.
- » Give each group a clear jar, a pitcher of water, a can of shaving cream, a spoon, and some blue food color in a squirt bottle or dropper.
- » Instruct the group members in each group to take turns following these steps:
  - Fill the jar about three-fourths full of water. Explain that the water represents air.
  - Squirt a layer of shaving cream to cover the top of the water in the jar. This represents the clouds.
  - Use the spoon to spread the shaving cream evenly on top of the water so that the shaving cream is flat.
  - Slowly squeeze drops of blue food color onto the shaving cream. The blue drops represent the moisture in the clouds. When the clouds get too heavy, the moisture falls as rain.
- » Remark that God planned every part of His creation, including when the rain will fall from the skies.
- » Read Genesis 8:22. Remind the group that this verse is God's promise. As long as the world remains, the seasons of the year and days and nights will continue as God created them.

**WRAP UP**

- » As kids leave, give them a high five. Remind them that God cares about all creation, including them!
- » Give kids One Conversation pages.

**CHOICE 3**

- » plastic tablecloth
- » large glass jars (1 per small group)
- » small pitchers of water (1 per small group)
- » shaving cream (1 can per small group)
- » plastic spoons
- » blue food color in squirt jars or droppers, enough to share between groups

**Teaching Tip:**

Individuals can work alone or small groups of kids can work together to make "Rain in a Jar."