

# Noah's Lesson

Week of Sep. 9 - 15, 2019

## Introduction

This week's lesson is a sort of re-creation story. Out of the chaos of the flood, God brings order and blesses Noah and his sons. As God said to Adam and Eve, so God tells them to be fruitful and fill the earth. God establishes a covenant of hope and healing. Many years later, in the chaos of darkness of the Garden Tomb, God once again fulfilled his Promise. Jesus is the new Noah who built an arc with the wood of his cross. There is endless room in his heart.

## Lesson

**9** Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth. **2** The fear and dread of you will fall on all the beasts of the earth, and on all the birds in the sky, on every creature that moves along the ground, and on all the fish in the sea; they are given into your hands. **3** Everything that lives and moves about will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.

**4** "But you must not eat meat that has its lifeblood still in it. **5** And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each human being, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of another human being. **6** "Whoever sheds human blood, by humans shall their blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made mankind. **7** As for you, be fruitful and increase in number; multiply on the earth and increase upon it."

**8** Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: **9** "I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you **10** and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature

on earth. **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.”

**12** And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: **13** I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. **14** Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, **15** I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. **16** Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.”

**17** So God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth.”

## Questions

1. God blessed Noah and his descendants. Have you been blessed by God? How has your family been blessed by God?
2. Noah’s family had been on the ark, floating on an earth-destroying flood. Have you ever been in the path of a flood? How did you feel? What gave you hope?
3. God made a commitment to Noah. What kind of commitment have you made to God?
4. How does God communicate with people today? What can you do to ensure that you hear God’s voice?
5. God made a visible sign to establish and remember his commitment to Noah. The sign was the rainbow. When you see a rainbow, does it create a connection for you with God? Does the appearance of a rainbow inspire your faith in God?

6. The God of all creation committed to a permanent covenant relationship with Noah, Noah's descendants and with all humanity. Does that covenant relationship, the promise of God, make a difference in your life today?

## **Prayer**

Lord God, life can be filled with hopelessness and tumult and yet the sun shining through the rain creates the beauty of the rainbow. Please shine through me; shine through my circumstances and show me your glory and your promises in the midst of life's storms. Thank you for rainbows. In Jesus' name, Amen.