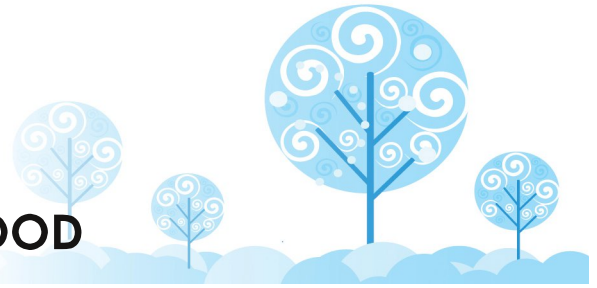


LESSON 4

NOAH'S ARK AND THE GREAT FLOOD



OBJECTIVES

1. To understand that our God keeps His promises.
2. To understand that God's salvation comes through one ark, which is True Jesus Church.
3. To dare to follow God's teachings when others aren't.

MEMORY VERSE

"Not a word failed of any good thing which the Lord had spoken to the house of Israel. All came to pass."

(Joshua 21:45)

PRAYER

1. Thank God for gathering us here so that we can worship and learn more about His words.
2. May God help us follow His teachings so that He will bless us.
3. Lord, please guide us during difficult times and give us more faith in Your promises.
4. May God help us focus on this lesson and apply its teachings to our lives.



Overview

1. Why God wanted to destroy His creation

- The wickedness of men
- God's grief

2. God's plan to save Noah

- The only righteous man
- The building of an ark
- Things to bring into the ark
- Noah's obedience

3. The Great Flood

4. God's prediction

- Noah's preparation
- The great destruction

5. After the flood

- Noah's preparation to come out
- God's covenant with Noah

6. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—Salvation, True Jesus Church, Water Baptism, and the Lord's Second Coming

7. Life Application

- God Keeps His Promises: The different promises of God and the uses in our daily lives.
- Dare to Follow God's Teachings: Following God's teachings.

8. Activity—Bible Bookmark



Background Knowledge for Teachers

The story of Noah's Ark is not just about the animals and the Great Flood. It's about righteousness and wickedness, punishment and protection, obedience to God, and, of course, the promise God made. As you teach, please keep this all in mind and make sure the students understand. Although this story may be very familiar to the students already, there's more depth to this lesson and more spiritual teachings to be learned compared to the lesson they may have had in E1 or Kindergarten.

God's Design and Measurements

"Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did." (Gen 6:22)

God created the universe according to His almighty power and wisdom. There are specific patterns for all creation. All structures that God commanded man to build had His exact dimensions, such as the Tabernacle erected by Moses (Ex 39:32, 42-43) or the Holy Temple built

by Solomon (1 Chr 28:11-19). All were constructed completely according to God's blueprint, which, allowed them to obtain God's favor and blessings. It is because of Noah's complete submission to God that he and his family could clench salvation. He built the ark precisely according to God's design and measurements, never realizing that the ark would become the most stable ship in the world and preserve the life of his entire family. Therefore, the True Church in the last days must conform perfectly to God's word, the Holy Bible, especially regarding the essential doctrine of salvation, which is irrevocable. God will measure us by His rod and standard (Rev 11:1) and judge us by His words (Jn 12:47-48).

Only One Ark

Although there were many people in Noah's generation, God commanded Noah to build only one Ark (Gen 6:14). Therefore, we must seek with all our hearts the True Church where we will find the original faith of the Apostolic times—The Perfect Gospel, the Holy Spirit, and miracles and wonders (Rom 15:17-19). We should bravely enter into this Ark of the last days to receive the salvation provided by God, to be born again of water and the Spirit (Jn 3:5), and to eventually be delivered to the heavenly kingdom when Jesus comes again.



Reaching Out to Your Students

Your students may not really understand what it means to have faith in God. Through experience, they have developed a sense of faith and trust in their parents. When most parents make promises to their children, much of the time these promises are fulfilled.

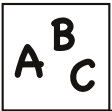
What your children may not know is that God is 100% reliable. He is in total control of everything around us. God has provided us a guarantee of His guidance. Though your students are young, there are still a lot of things they may rely on God for: the curing of illnesses, protection from the dark and the unknown, and guidance through all school experiences. They probably do not realize the many ways in which they can turn to God, but with some discussion, you can point to many possibilities.



Opener

5 Minutes

Give the students two minutes to write down as many animals as they can before time is up. Ask each student to name a few animals on their list. See who has the longest list and who has named the most unusual animal.



Vocabulary

recede: to move back or away from a limit or point
covenant: God's promise to the human race



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

FOR TEACHERS

Hand out the Bible Discovery Interview worksheet and tell the students that we will be filling it out as we go through this lesson. Answers are provided on the Teacher Version. Remember to pause when you reach areas marked **Pause** and allow the students to fill in the answers.

Let's open our Bibles to **Genesis 6**.

Many years after Adam and Eve, more people populated the world, but at the same time they also became more wicked. God saw how great man's wickedness was and was grieved that He had made man on the earth, and His heart was filled with pain.

So God decided, "I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth—men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air—for I am grieved that I have made them."

But there was a man named Noah, and he found favor in the eyes of God.

Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God.

Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

[**Pause:** Ask students to answer question 1, 2, and 3.]

God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out.

"This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high.

"Make a roof for it and finish the ark to within 18 inches of the top. Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle, and upper decks."

FOR TEACHERS

Some students may have trouble imagining how large 450 feet (137 m) may be, so you may have to think of some creative way of providing them the scale. For example, if they've seen modern cruise ships, they are around 900+ ft long (274 m). Noah's ark would be about half that size.

God then revealed to Noah that He would bring a great flood to the earth and destroy all life, meaning every creature that had the breath of life in it. Everything on earth would perish.

But God promised to establish a covenant with Noah, instructing Noah to enter the ark with his family—which included his wife, his sons, and the wives of his sons.

Then, Noah was to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with him. He was to bring in every kind of bird as well. Let's continue by reading **Genesis 7:1-3**.

In addition to those animals, he must also take seven pairs of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and two pairs of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate, and also seven pairs of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth.

[**Pause:** Ask students to answer question 4-7.]

At the end of the instructions, in Genesis 6:22, it says that Noah did everything **just as God commanded** him. That means he *obeyed* the Lord. He did not put his own

FOR TEACHERS

Optional: You may mention the following at your own discretion:

Several tests on the design of Noah's ark have been made throughout history, including safety tests. These studies have shown that the ship is excellent in design. A particular study in 1993 demonstrated the superior choice of length, breadth, and depth of the ark. They discovered that the ark is capable of withstanding 100-foot waves.

1993: Safety Investigation of Noah's Ark in a Seaway; S.W.Hong et al, CEN TJ 8(1)1994 (AiG)

thoughts into the ark's design.

What do you think would have happened if Noah changed the plans and design? (God would be angry. The ark might malfunction, sink, or capsize.) God's design was perfect.

[**Pause:** Ask students to answer question 8.]

Next, in Genesis 7, the Lord told Noah to go into the ark with his whole family. God then let Noah know that in seven days He would send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and it would wipe from the face of the earth every living creature. At this time, Noah was 600 years old.

So, as predicted, after seven days the flood came. Noah and his family stayed in the ark. The waters kept coming for forty days. Students, try to imagine what this is like—water and continuous flooding for forty days!

As the water level increased, it lifted the ark high above the earth. It even rose to all the high mountains. Every living thing that moved on land perished—birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind. Even the birds were wiped out. Only Noah, his family, and the animals in the ark were saved.

The floodwaters remained on Earth for a 150 days. In Genesis 8, we see that at the end of the 150 days, God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and the livestock that were with him in the ark, and so He sent a wind over the earth, and the waters receded. The ark ended up on the mountains of Ararat—modern day Turkey.

[Pause: Ask students to answer question 9-10.]

Noah waited for the waters to recede for forty days. At that time, Noah opened a window and sent out a raven, which kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth. Then, he sent out a dove to see if the water had receded from the surface of the ground. But the dove could not find anywhere to land because there was water over all the surface of the earth, so she returned to Noah in the ark.

Noah waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark. When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in her beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf! Then Noah knew that the water had receded from the earth. He waited yet another seven more days and sent the dove out again, but this time she did not return to him. This meant that she must have found dry land.

Noah then removed the covering from the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was dry.

[Pause: Ask students to answer question 11.]

Then God said to Noah, “Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you—the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground—so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number on it.”

So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. All the animals and all the creatures that moved along the ground and all the birds—everything that moved on land—came out of the ark, one kind after another.

Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and, taking of each clean animal and clean bird, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and said in His heart: “Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.

“While the earth remains,

Seedtime and harvest,
“While the earth remains,
Seedtime and harvest,
Cold and heat,
Winter and summer,
And day and night
Shall not cease.”

Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth.”

Continuing in Genesis 9, God said to Noah and to his sons with him: “I now establish My covenant with you and with your descendants after you 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. 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.”

And then 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: I have set My rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, 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. 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.”

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

[Pause: Ask students to answer question 12-14.]

Students, the next time you see a rainbow, it will have more meaning, right? Remember that it is a sign of the promise from God that He will not destroy life on earth with floodwaters again.



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

Salvation – Salvation is given by the grace of God through the faith of believers. Today, we must rely on the Holy Spirit to pursue holiness, to honor God, and to love everyone. Noah was righteous in God's eyes, so God saved him. We must pursue righteousness and holiness as well.

True Jesus Church – Noah's ark represents our True Jesus Church today. Our church preaches the Truth, is filled with the Holy Spirit, and abounds in miracles and the manifold power of God. Salvation begins by coming to TJC.

Water Baptism – The floodwaters represent the proper water baptism that we have today in our church. In order to be saved, we must have the proper baptism. In 1 Peter 3:20 it says those "who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water."

The Lord's Second Coming – This will take place on the Last Day when God descends from heaven to judge the world; the righteous will receive eternal life, while the wicked will be condemned.

Before the Lord comes again, the world will be destroyed. But, remember that God promised that He will not destroy the world by water or flood. Instead, in the end, the world will be destroyed by fire.

Revelations 8:7 "The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up."



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

- 1. Why did God want to destroy the world? How would He destroy the world?** Because the people had become very wicked. He would use a flood.
- 2. How many clean animals did Noah have to bring on in addition to the pairs of animals?** He also had to bring seven pairs of every kind of clean animal.
- 3. How many days did the rain continue to fall? How many days did the floodwaters remain on the earth?** Forty days and forty nights. The earth remained flooded for 150 days.
- 4. After everyone came out of the ark, God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, "Be (fruitful) and increase in number and fill the earth."**
- 5. What was the covenant that God established with Noah?** "Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth."

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

Fill In the Blank

1. wicked
2. flood
3. covenant

True False

4. False; it rained for forty days and forty nights
5. True
6. True
7. False; it was a sign that He wouldn't destroy earth with water

Short Answer

8. Salvation is given by the grace of God through the faith of believers. Today, we must rely on the Holy Spirit to pursue holiness, to honor God, and to love everyone. Noah was righteous in God's eyes, so God saved him. We must pursue righteousness and holiness as well. Noah's Ark represents our True Jesus Church today and the floodwaters represents the proper baptism today. In order to be saved, we must have the proper baptism.
9. Never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth. The rainbow is a sign of the promise from God that He will not destroy life on earth with floodwaters again.
10. It is important because when we follow God's teachings, God will give us strength and guide us onto the right path. Furthermore, God's blessing will also be with us when we follow God's teachings. "To obey is better than sacrifice" (1 Sam 15:22b).



Life Application

10 Minutes

FOR TEACHERS

Give the Life Application handouts to the students. Give them time to complete the first worksheet, then ask the students to share their answers with the class. For the second worksheet, go over the scenarios with the students and ask them to finish the scenarios. Refer to the answers here to guide them.

1. God Keeps His Promises

Objective: To understand the different promises God has given us and their uses in our daily lives.

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #1. Give the students time to read the passages and fill out the table. After they have finished, ask the students to share their answers. If time permits, ask them if they ever have difficulty remembering or believing in God's promises, and reassure them that God never breaks His promises.]

When We Are Afraid: God will be with us wherever we go and deliver us in the day of trouble.

When We Make Decisions: God will instruct us, teach us, and guide us.

When We Have Done Something Wrong and Confess Our Sins: God will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

When We Are Having a Bad Day: God will give us rest.

When We Ask God According to His Will in Prayer: God will hear us.

When We Are Being Tempted to Do Wrong: God will provide a way of escape for us.

2. Dare to Follow God's Teachings

Objective: To understand that we must follow God's teaching during ungodly times.

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #2. Read the scenarios with the students. Then, ask one student to volunteer a solution. Afterwards, allow the students to write their own solutions on the worksheet. Go over all the scenarios, and then conclude with the verses.]

1. You could say, "Danielle, I'm sorry that I can't attend this pool party, but I have to go to church on Saturdays." But maybe you can still go right after all services have ended and if there are no other church activities.

God's 4th commandment is that we must remember the Sabbath, to keep it holy.

2. You could say, "Greg, I can't do this. Stealing is wrong and it's not cool at all." Perhaps you can offer to bring extra money with you and buy ice cream for the both of you every now and then. It's more blessed to give than to receive.

The 8th commandment says we must not steal.

3. You could say, "Doug, I don't like this movie. I really don't want to watch this movie because there are so many bad things in it. You really shouldn't watch it either. What other movies do you have? Let's just watch something else."

We have to be careful in what we see and watch.

- Matthew 6:22-23

"The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!"

- Proverbs 4:23

"Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life."



Activity

Bible Bookmark

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To remind students that God never breaks His promises.

Materials

- Ruler
- White construction paper
- Markers, colored pencils
- Single-hole punch
- Ribbons or string, optional

Instructions

1. Ask students to trace out a rectangle measuring 2" x 5" on the construction paper, and then cut it out.
2. On one side, ask them to write in big, bold letters: **God Always Keeps His Promises**
3. On the other side, tell them to draw a big rainbow however they like, and then decorate the bookmark using colored pencils or markers.
4. Punch a hole at the top so students can attach ribbons or string to the bookmark.



Bible Discovery – Interview

Person's name: _____

Appointment Date: _____ Time: _____ Place: _____

Purpose of Interview: _____

Questions I Want to Ask

1. When God told you that He will put an end to all people in the world, what was His reason?

2. God chose you to be saved. What was His reason?

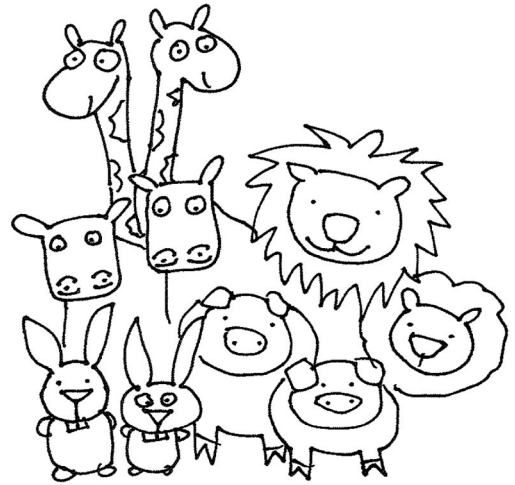
3. How many children do you have? What are their names?

4. God told you to build an ark. What are its dimensions?

5. How is God going to destroy the earth? Who and what did He say will be destroyed?

6. What did God promise He would establish with you? Do you know exactly what it is at this time?

7. I heard that God told you to bring animals on to the ark. Tell me more about the animals. What were God's instructions?



8. Did you do exactly what God instructed regarding the ark or did you add your own design ideas and animals, too?

9. How long did God say the rain would fall on the earth?

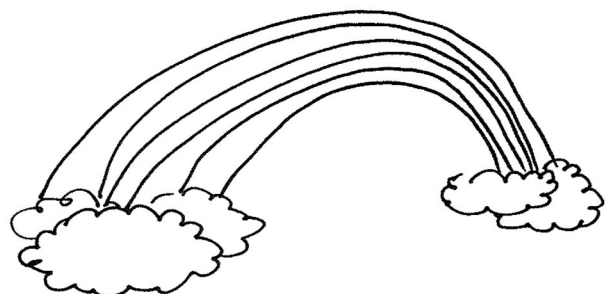
10. How long did the floodwaters remain on Earth? What happened after the waters receded?

11. When the waters receded, you didn't come out right away. What did you do after the waters receded?

12. What did you do after everyone and everything came out of the ark?

13. What was the covenant God made with you?

14. Was there a sign for this covenant? If so, what was it?



God Keeps His Promises

Objective: To understand the different promises God has given us and their uses in our daily lives.

God always keeps His promises and never breaks them.

Instructions: Read the passages and summarize what each promise is or write out the verse. If there's more than one verse, you can choose one to write out.

Promises to Remember...

<p><u>When We Are Afraid</u> Genesis 28:15; Psalm 50:15</p>	<p>God will _____</p>
<p><u>When We Make Decisions</u> Psalm 32:8</p>	<p>God will _____</p>
<p><u>When We Have Done Something Wrong and Confess Our Sins</u> 1 John 1:9</p>	<p>God will _____</p>
<p><u>When We Are Having A Bad Day</u> Matthew 11:28</p>	<p>God will _____</p>
<p><u>When We Ask God According to His Will in Prayer</u> 1 John 5:14-15</p>	<p>God will _____</p>
<p><u>When We Are Being Tempted to Do Wrong</u> 1 Corinthians 10:13</p>	<p>God will _____</p>

Dare to Follow God's Teachings

Objective: To understand that we must follow God's teaching during ungodly times.

Instructions: Read each scenario and complete the ending to each one.

1. Rachel's best friend Danielle is having a special end-of-the-schoolyear pool party at her house on Saturday afternoon. Rachel is thinking about missing the afternoon RE class to go to the party at lunchtime. But, she knows this is not right.

Complete the rest of this scenario.

What would you do and what would you say to Danielle? How would you explain it?



What is the teaching or commandment from God regarding Sabbath?

2. During lunchtime at school, Matt's friend Greg will often steal ice cream sandwiches from the school cafeteria. One time, Greg asks Matt to help him steal one for him. Matt's not too sure about this, but Greg continues to say that he's never been caught before and that no one will find out.

Complete the rest of this scenario.

What would you do and what would you say to Greg?



What is the teaching or commandment from God regarding stealing?

3. Daniel and his family were over at his cousin Doug's house for dinner one evening. Doug's family does not go to church and he is not a believer. Both of them are in Doug's room after finishing dinner and Doug decides to tell Daniel about an R-rated movie he borrowed from his other school friend. This movie has been passed around between their friends and now Doug has it. He asks Daniel if he wants to watch it together. Daniel heard that this movie is very bad because it is filled with drugs, sex, and violence.

Complete the rest of this scenario.

What would you do and what would you say to Doug?



How should we be careful in what we see or watch?

Bible Discovery – Interview

Person's name: _____

Appointment Date: _____ Time: _____ Place: _____

Purpose of Interview: _____

Questions I Want to Ask

1. **When God told you that He will put an end to all people in the world, what was His reason?**
The people in the world had become wicked. The earth was filled with violence.
2. **God chose you to be saved. What was His reason?**
God said that Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people and that he walked with God.
3. **How many children do you have? What are their names?**
He has three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.
4. **God told you to build an ark. What are its dimensions?**
450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high.
5. **How is God going to destroy the earth? Who and what did He say will be destroyed?**
God will use a flood to destroy all of mankind, as well as every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish.
6. **What did God promise He would establish with you? Do you know exactly what it is at this time?**
God promised to establish a covenant with Noah, but he is to first enter the ark with his family. At this time, he doesn't know what it is yet.
7. **I heard that God told you to bring on animals to the Ark. Tell me more about the animals. What were God's instructions?**
He was told to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with him. He is to bring in every kind of bird as well. In addition to those animals, he must also take seven pairs of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and two pairs of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate, and also seven pairs of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth.
8. **Did you do exactly what God instructed regarding the ark or did you add your own design ideas and animals, too?**
Noah did everything just as God commanded him. He obeyed God and did not change anything.
9. **How long did God say the rain would fall on the earth?**
God would send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights.
10. **How long did the floodwaters remain on earth? What happened after the waters receded?**
The floodwaters remained on earth for 150 days. When the water went away, the ark ended up on the mountains of Ararat.
11. **When the waters receded you didn't come out right away. What did you do after the waters receded?**
He sent out a raven, and it kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth. Then, he sent out a dove to see if the water had receded from the surface of the ground. But the dove could not find anywhere to land because there was water over all the surface of the earth, so she returned to Noah in the ark. Noah waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark. When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in her beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf! Then Noah knew that the water had receded from the earth. He waited yet another seven more days and sent the dove out again, but this time she did not return to him. This meant that she must have found dry land.
12. **What did you do after everyone and everything came out of the ark?**
Noah built an altar to the Lord and, taking of each clean animal and clean bird, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it.
13. **What was the covenant God made 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.
14. **Was there a sign for this covenant? If so, what was it?**
The rainbow was to be the sign of the covenant between Noah and all the generations to come.

E2 Year 1 Book 2 Lesson 4—Noah's Ark and the Great Flood

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Weekly Bible Reading: _____

Bible Reading: Check each box when you complete that day's reading.**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

Memory VersePlease write down this week's memory verse. **(Joshua 21:45)**

Fill In the Blank

- God decided to destroy everything because the people in the world were _____.
- God told Noah that He will bring a great _____ to destroy mankind and all living creatures.
- God promised to establish a _____ with Noah, but Noah had to enter the ark with his family.

True or False

- The water and rain kept coming for thirty days and thirty nights. _____
- Noah must bring into the ark two of all living creatures. _____
- In addition to those animals, he must also take seven pairs of every kind of clean animal. _____
- The rainbow was a sign that God will again destroy the earth with floodwaters in the future. _____

Short Answer

- How is this lesson related to salvation as stated in the Ten Basic Beliefs? Explain.
- What was the covenant God established with Noah? What does the rainbow mean?
- Why is it so important to follow God's teachings when our friends are not doing right?