

Week 5: The Life of Noah — Righteousness in a Wicked World

A Sabbath Family Bible Study

 **Scripture Reading: Genesis 6:5–22; 7:1; Hebrews 11:7 (KJV)**

With Commentary

Genesis 6:5

“And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”

Commentary:

The world before the flood was not a neutral place—it was saturated in sin. Wickedness wasn’t occasional, it was constant. It corrupted not only outward actions but even inward thoughts. This verse reflects the spiritual climate Noah was surrounded by: total depravity. This mirrors our own age—perverse imaginations, constant rebellion, and widespread violence.

Genesis 6:8

“But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.”

Commentary:

Amidst global corruption, one man found grace. God always preserves a remnant. Noah was not perfect, but he was faithful. Grace is not earned by works—but it leads to obedience. Noah was a man who walked differently from his peers because he walked with God.

Genesis 6:9

“Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.”

Commentary:

To be “just” means to be righteous—lawful in conduct, upright in heart. To be “perfect in his generations” means that Noah was morally pure and undiluted by the wickedness around him, even genetically untainted (see also Genesis 6:2–4). “Walked with God” is covenantal language. Like Enoch before him, Noah lived in daily communion with God, refusing to walk with the world.

Genesis 6:13–14

“And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me... Make thee an ark of gopher wood...”

Commentary:

God doesn't merely judge—He provides a way of salvation. The ark is a type of Christ: the only refuge from divine wrath. Noah's task was not to speculate or argue with culture, but to build according to God's instructions. True faith works with hammer in hand.

Genesis 6:22

“Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.”

Commentary:

Noah's faith was proven by total obedience. He didn't delay, negotiate, or alter God's commands. In a disobedient generation, Noah's life was marked by exact submission to the Word of the Lord. His actions were a rebuke to a rebellious world.

Genesis 7:1

“And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.”

Commentary:

God's covenant with Noah extended to his household. Noah's righteousness brought protection not only to himself but to his wife, his sons, and his sons' wives. God blesses headship and honors covenantal order.

Hebrews 11:7

“By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet... prepared an ark to the saving of his house...”

Commentary:

Faith sees what the world cannot. Noah built for 120 years with no rain in sight. His life was a living sermon of judgment and salvation. His faith condemned the world and proved him an heir of righteousness. His example teaches us to prepare our households in obedience to God's warnings, regardless of cultural mockery.

Discussion Questions for All Ages

Young Children:

- Who was Noah?
- What did God tell Noah to build?
- Why did Noah obey God?

Older Children & Teens:

- What made Noah different from everyone else in his time?
- How was the ark like Jesus?
- Why is it sometimes hard to obey God when others don't?

Adults:

- What parallels do you see between Noah's world and our own?
- How can you build an "ark" for your family today—spiritually and practically?
- What does it mean to walk with God while the world walks in darkness?

Psalm or Hymn to Sing

Psalm 1:1–3 (KJV)

*1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly...
2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD...
3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water...*

Commentary:

Noah was the blessed man who refused to walk with the wicked. This Psalm beautifully reflects the life Noah lived—rooted in righteousness, fruitful, and unmoved by corruption.

Optional Hymn: “Trust and Obey” (by John H. Sammis, 1887)

“Trust and obey, for there’s no other way, to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.”

This hymn perfectly captures the spirit of Noah’s life. He trusted God’s warning and obeyed completely—no matter how strange it looked to others.

Family Application Points

1. **Live Differently:**

Encourage each family member to embrace being different from the world. Righteousness may be lonely—but it is never unnoticed by God.

2. **Build Your Ark:**

As Noah built a literal ark, fathers today must build spiritual arks—homes of obedience, worship, and protection. Discuss what structures and habits need to be built or repaired in your home.

3. **Prepare for Judgment:**

Like Noah, our families must live in light of coming judgment. Teach your children that God’s mercy delays wrath, but it does not ignore sin forever.

4. **Honor Obedient Headship:**

Noah’s entire household was saved because of his righteousness. This affirms the role of godly men as protectors, providers, and spiritual leaders in times of crisis.

5. **Daily Walk with God:**

Teach your household that righteousness isn’t a one-time act—it’s a walk. Encourage daily prayer, Scripture reading, and personal holiness.

Closing Prayer

Righteous Father, we thank You for the example of Noah, who walked with You in the midst of corruption. Teach us to live as he did—with obedient faith, reverent fear, and steadfast hope. Help our homes to be like arks in the midst of a drowning culture, places of safety, worship, and preparation. Give us courage to stand apart, strength to build according to Your Word, and grace to lead our families into salvation through Christ, our true Ark. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.