

Community Group Discussion Questions

“Outside the Box” Genesis 6-8 Sept. 1, 2018

Getting Started

Noah’s Ark is not just a story of a boat that floats, but a hope that boasts.

What do you remember about the story of Noah’s Ark that you heard as a child? What impressed you? What bothered you? What questions did it raise for you?

Going Deeper

1. **GRACE WAS AFFORDED:** “But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD” (Genesis 6:8)

A. **God Willed:** *“and called his name Noah, saying, “Out of the ground that the LORD has cursed, this one shall bring us relief from our work and from the painful toil of our hands”* (Genesis 5:29)

B. **Noah Walked:** *“Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God”* (Genesis 6:9)

What would it take for you to be called ‘blameless in your generation’?

If you are walking blamelessly, how might God be able to bless you and the impact you can have on your family, work, church, and community?

2. **PLAN WAS PROVIDED:** “Make yourself an ark” (Genesis 6:14)

A. **The Dimensions:** Genesis 6:14-16: (450 long × 75 wide × 45 tall)

B. **The Disillusionment:** (Luke 17:27, 1 Peter 3:20)

C. **The Determination:** *“a herald of righteousness”* (2 Peter 2:5)

God rarely explains Himself or asks our permission before doing something amazing. What do you think Noah was thinking? What were his neighbors likely thinking? What did Noah’s actions and words demonstrate?

3. FAITH WAS SUPPORTED: “for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation” (Genesis 7:1)

A. Complete Obedience: “*he did all that God commanded him*” (Genesis 6:22, 7:5)

B. Incomplete Evidence: “*being warned by God concerning events (Never Rained/No Floods) as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household*” (Hebrews 11:7)

Why do you think Noah responded immediately with obedience to this bizarre command from God to build a large boat? What would you do today if God asked something bold and bizarre from you?

4. COVENANT WAS RECORDED: “*But I will establish my covenant with you*” (Genesis 6:18)

A. Five Promises Recorded through the Bible:

- **Noahic Covenant:** Promise to never to flood the earth again. I.E. The Rainbow (Genesis 9:11-17)
- **Abrahamic Covenant:** Promise the nations will be blessed. (Genesis 12:1-3)
- **Mosaic Covenant:** Promise of the Law of God. (Exodus 19-24)
- **Davidic Covenant:** Promise of an Eternal King. (2 Samuel 7)
- **New Covenant:** Promise of the Holy Spirit. (2 Samuel 7)

B. Five Pictures Revealed through the Boat:

- **The Door:** “*the Lord shut him in*” (Genesis 7:16)
- **The Detail:** “*cover it inside and out with pitch*” (Genesis 6:14)
- **The Dove:** “*the dove came back to him...freshly plucked olive leaf*” (Genesis 8:11)

- **The Date:** *“and in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat”* (Genesis 8:4)
- **The Decision:** *“For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man”* (Matthew 24:37)

God is a covenant keeping God. He is always faithful, and throughout the Bible, He gives many evidences and examples of His loyal love toward His people. **How has He been good to you?**

Take Away: It is not if you are close to the boat, it is whether you are in the boat (Matthew 24:37-39).

Are we all certain that if Jesus returned today, we would be saved?

Prayer Requests