

Story: **Noah**

Background Scripture : **Genesis 6-9**

Specific Passages : Genesis 6:9-22

YOU WILL NEED: Signs that say: *Righteous Man, Blameless, Walked with God, and Saved*

NOTE: This story is a great prelude to a discussion about what it means to be “saved” in a spiritual sense.

Noah

Choose one volunteer—To be Noah. (Give him the *Noah* sign.)

SAY: Noah was a righteous man. (Give him the *Righteous Man* sign.) Noah was blameless. (Give him the *Blameless* sign.) Noah walked with God. (Give him the *Walked with God* sign.) But the entire world was corrupt and evil. So God said to Noah, “I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence... So make yourself an ark [a big boat]. I am going to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish.” So Noah and his sons build the Ark just like God told them to and God sent to them two of each kind of the animals so that these would survive the Flood. But Noah and his family were the only people saved. (Give him the *Saved* sign.)

Ask the students—**How many of you think you know a lot about the story of Noah and the Ark?**

SAY: Here are some things you may not know:

Ask the students—**How long did it take Noah and his sons to build the Ark?** (It took 120 years to build it. People in Noah’s day lived much longer than today. Noah was 600 years old when the flood came and lived to be 950. Imagine how hard it might be to “go against the flow” for an hour or a day, but picture 120 years of doing what is right when everyone else was doing wrong—That’s commitment!)

SAY: Imagine for 120 years telling others to turn away from their sins and none of them believe you. Imagine telling people for 120 years that God is going to destroy the world—that you know they are going to die if they don’t turn to God and still they won’t listen.

Ask the students—**Did you know that it had never rained before the Flood came?** (The earth was watered every day by heavy dew. No one, not even Noah, had ever seen rain, which probably made people think he was crazy. After all, what’s rain if you’ve never seen it and what’s a flood if it has never rained before to cause flooding.)

SAY: Also, sometimes when we think of Noah's Ark, we think of a little, cute boat, but this thing was huge. Imagine how big it would have to be to carry that many animals!

Ask the students—**Do you think people laughed at Noah for building such a huge boat in a place where there wasn't much water?** (Of course they probably did. Wouldn't you?)

Ask the students—**Did you know that Noah and the animals entered the Ark seven days before the Flood came? Do you think people might have come by to laugh at them?**

Ask the students—**How many of each kind of animals did God send to Noah to put on the Ark?** (Two of each kind of unclean animals—the kinds they didn't eat, but *seven* each of the clean animals—the kinds they did eat.)

Ask the students—**Did you know that they were on the Ark for more than a year?**

Ask the students—**Did you know that you're related to Noah?** (Everybody alive is descended from Noah's family since they were the only ones to survive the Flood.)

Ask the students—**How many of you like popcorn? How many bags of popcorn do you think it would have taken to fill the Ark?** (It would have taken about six million bags—So the next time you eat a bag of popcorn, remember what God did to save Noah and what Jesus did to save you!)

SAY: Noah didn't quit. For more than a hundred years he went against the flow. Even though no one believed him and many probably thought he was crazy. It's not always easy to follow God, but there's no other way to live, and you'll never regret living for Jesus.