



**Mustard Seed Sunday School Lesson for September 3, 2006  
Released on August 30, 2006**

**"God's Promise to Noah"**

**GOLDEN TEXT:** - "The waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh" (Genesis 9:15).

**SUMMARY OF SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT:**

God promised never again to destroy the earth with a flood.

**LESSON TEXT: Genesis 9:1-15**

**GEN. 9:1** And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, **Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.**

2 And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered.

**3 Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things.**

4 But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.

**5 And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man.**

6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

**7 And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multi-ply therein.**

8 And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying,

**9 And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you;**

10 And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth.

**11 And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.**

12 And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations:

**13 I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.**

14 And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud:

**15 And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh.**

## **NOTES ON THE LESSON**

This quarter begins a study of God's covenants with His people. A covenant is an agreement between two or more parties of people or between God and man. It is binding on both sides. When it is broken by one side, it ends the obligation of the other side. A covenant can also be unconditional.

Another word for "covenant" is "testament." The Bible tells us about God's old covenant in the first part of the Bible, the Old Testament. The New Testament shows how Jesus fulfilled a new and living covenant by His sacrifice on the cross for sin.

The covenants in the Bible are solemn agreements involving a commitment by God or a relationship with God and a commitment of obedience. The first covenant in this quarter's study is found in Genesis 9:9-17. It was between God and Noah and all of the future generations of people and animals. In this covenant God promised that judgment would never again come in the form of a flood over all the earth. It also promised that the seasons, days, and nights would continue.

God's sign for keeping this covenant was the rainbow. Ever since the days of Noah, the rainbow can be seen as evidence of God's faithfulness to us. What a wonderful reminder of God's faithfulness to teacher and child alike!

The covenant with Noah prepares us for future or renewed covenants recorded in Scripture.

Today a two-party covenant is called a contract, or a deal with conditions. A word more familiar to primaries is "promise," which is repeated

often in these lessons.

The Prophet Jeremiah prophesied about a new covenant centered on Jesus, born many years later (cf. Jeremiah 31:31-34). The old covenant and the new covenant are compared in Scripture. (See Genesis 9:9-17 and Hebrews 8:6-13.)

The new covenant will not be studied this quarter. However, it will be seen in next quarter's lessons on the life of Jesus, who provided an everlasting covenant for all who believe in Him. Let us rejoice that God's promises last forever and include teacher and student alike.

### **THE OBJECT IN VIEW:**

Help the children understand the importance of God's promises.

### **TRUTHS TO STRESS:**

1. Learn that God made a promise to Noah many years ago.
2. Learn that God's blessings are conditioned on people's obedience.
3. Encourage believers to follow God every day.

### **PLANNING VISUAL AIDS**

For **Telling the Lesson**, make the first section of a time line by printing the words "Creation," "Adam and Eve," and "Noah" on a piece of paper. At the bottom print "Genesis." You will also need Bibles for the children.

For **Helping to Remember**, each child will need a piece of white paper and crayons or colored markers.

For **Explaining the Golden Text**, write the verse at the top of the chalkboard before the class session.

### **TELLING THE LESSON**

*Can someone tell us about the ark and the animals? (Answers to this question will help you learn how much is known about Noah and the ark. Correct misconceptions, and add details that have been omitted.)*

*(Gather the children around a table with Bibles. Encourage children to bring a Bible every Sunday.)*

The account of Noah and the ark is found in the first book of the Bible. Can you find a list of the Bible books in the front of your Bible? (Help the children find the table of contents. Read the names of the first five books to the children as they follow in their Bibles. Read the books together. Instruct the children to close their Bibles, and then recite the books together.)

Turn to the first page of Genesis. The Bible books are divided into chapters and verses. Look at the first verse. (*Read the verse to them; then read it in unison.*)

(Show the time line, and read the words together. Post the paper on the wall, or place it on the chalkboard tray.)

**Question: What did God make in the world?**

(Possible answers: "Everything and everyone!! No matter how big or small. No matter how simple or complex. No matter how good or how bad. No matter how beautiful or ugly we think something is, God made all things; and all things were made for His pleasure." Give time for responses.) God made Adam and Eve and placed them in a beautiful garden. Eve disobeyed God by eating fruit from a certain tree. God had told her not to eat its fruit. Eve disobeyed God. She sinned. She gave the fruit to Adam, and he ate it too. He disobeyed God. Adam sinned. God sent both of them out of the garden.

Noah lived many years later. He had a wife and three sons. Each of his sons had a wife.

**Question: What were Noah's sons' names?**

Answer: Ham, Shem, and Japheth (See Genesis 10). (Hold up one finger as each person is named. Instruct the children to do the same.) They obeyed God. People around them did not obey God. They sinned more and more.

God told Noah to build a big boat called an ark. When it was finished, God sent animals to Noah to put in the ark. He told Noah to take his family in also. Then it began to rain. It rained and rained. Finally, after many days, it stopped raining.

After many more days, the water went down. Noah and his family walked out of the ark. The animals scurried out of the ark. They were glad to be free. God blessed Noah and his family. He told them to have children to start filling the earth with people. More animals would be born also. God told Noah that the animals would be afraid of him. God said, "All the animals will be your meat to eat. Everything that grows on the earth is also for you to eat."

God gave a warning too. He told Noah and his family not to kill any person, for God made people special. God made a promise to Noah and his family. He said, "*Never again will I send water over all the earth in a flood to destroy the people. To show you that I will keep My promise, I will put a rainbow in the sky.*"

How excited they must have been to look up into the sky and see a rainbow! The rainbow still appears today. It reminds us of God and His promise. It

tells us that God made that promise to us also.

Watch for a rainbow after it rains. Remember Noah and the ark. Remember that God keeps His promises.

God made a covenant with Noah and his family. (*Write the word "covenant" on the chalkboard.*) This word is found seven times in the first part of Genesis 9. Find a verse that has this word. (Ask a child to write the number of the verse on the chalkboard: 9, 11,12,13,15,16,17.)

*A covenant is a promise.*

**Question:** Who was the promise made to in Genesis 9:16?

Answer: (Noah and us.)

**Question:** What did God say about His promise? Ask the students if they can find a word with eleven letters in verse 16 ("everlasting"). What does it mean? (Allow time for answers.)

Answer: God said that His promise or covenant is everlasting, and will never end. It means, It lasts forever.)

**Ask students two tell of a time when someone gave them a promise and did not keep it. Then ask them: How did you feel?**

**Possible Answers:** Sad, mad, angry, unhappy, like that person could not be trusted; like that person did not really care about me.

**Now ask the students to tell of a time when someone gave you a promised and kept that promise to you. How did you feel after the promise was kept?**

**Possible Answers:** Happy, like telling everybody about the good thing that happened to you. Excited. Special. Loved.

## **TELLING HOW TO LIVE**

(Allow time for answers to the questions in this section.)

Do you think it was easy to build the ark? Why? People made fun of Noah for building a boat with no water nearby. How do you think Noah felt? How do you feel when someone makes fun of you? Do you think Noah was tempted to disobey God?

Everyone is tempted to disobey God. The devil does not want us to obey God. Being tempted is not sin. Doing what God does not want you to is sin.

What tempts boys and girls to disobey God? What did Jesus do when the

devil tried to get Him to disobey God? He said Bible verses. This will help us too. We must learn the verses before we can say them. That is why we learn verses in Sunday school.

The Bible says, "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (Jas. 4:7). This is a good verse to learn. It is a promise that God gives His followers. The word "resist" means do not do it. Do not listen to the devil. He wants us to disobey God.

When we are tempted, we should call for Jesus. We can call Him in our mind or out loud.

God promises to help us do what is right. We must ask Him to help. We must really want to obey God.

The rainbow tells us that God keeps His promises. Look for a rainbow when the rain stops. If the sun is shining, you may see a rainbow. When you see it, say, "Thank You, God, for Your promise." God's promises are everlasting. They last forever. **Remember: God keeps His promises, and can be trusted.**

## **HELPING TO REMEMBER**

Instruct the children to draw Noah's ark on the top of a hill. They should draw a large rainbow over the ark. Write "God Promised" on the chalkboard for the children to copy at the bottom of their pictures.

## **EXPLAINING THE GOLDEN TEXT**

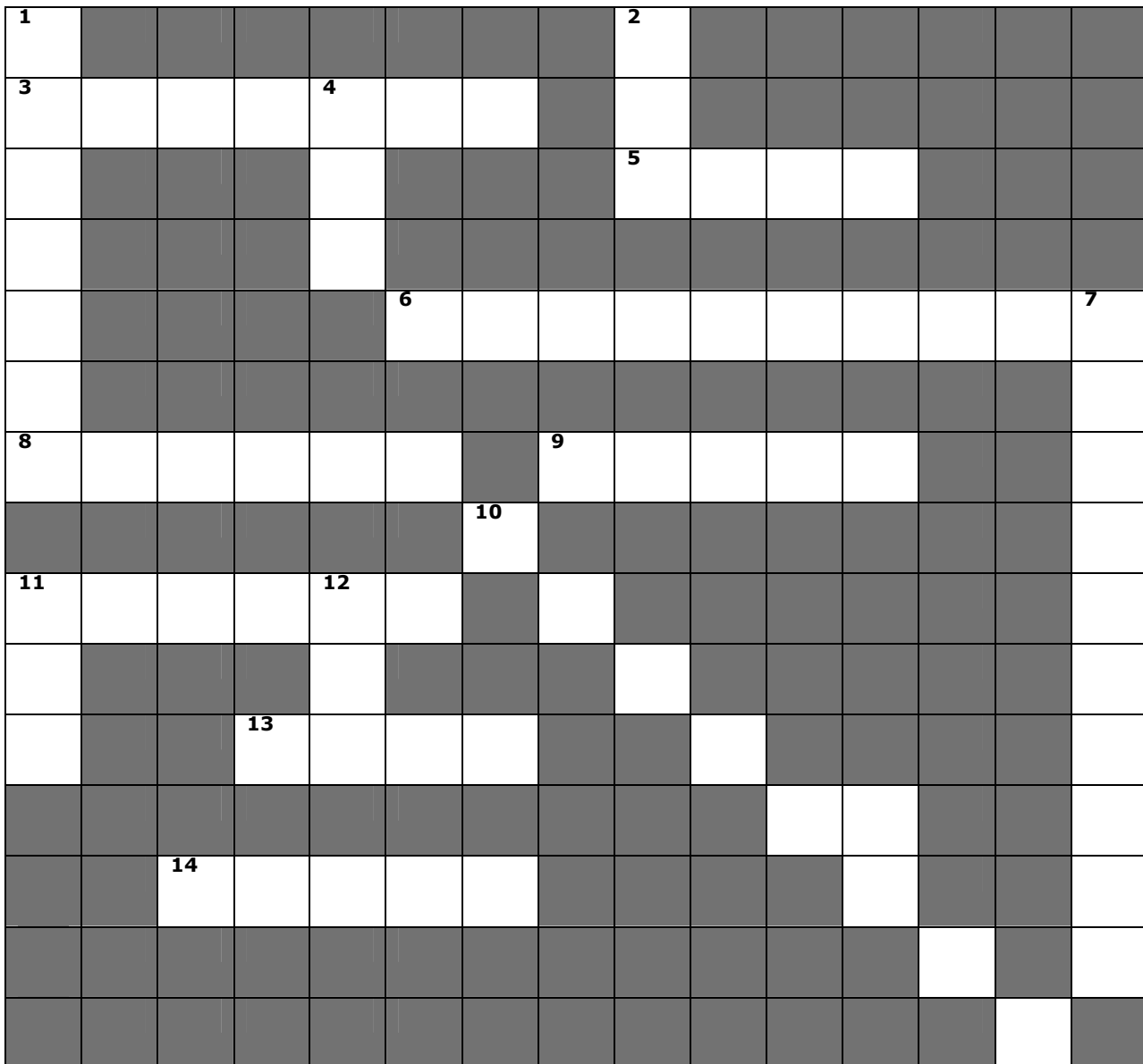
**"The waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh" (Genesis 9:15).**

God promised Noah that He would never again destroy the world with a flood over all the earth. (Say the golden text, as written on the board, together.)

*After all was said and done, Noah was happy to see the rainbow. He knew God would keep His promise.*

Now it's time to have some fun. Let's find some key words from today's lesson in our crossword puzzle. Come on! You can do this! Just remember who and what today's lesson talks about. Are you ready? Let's take another look at God's promise to His friend Noah.

**God's Promise to Noah**  
**Crossword Puzzle – Look for Clues Below**



**Down**

1. It is a sign that we can see in the sky after it rains of God's promise to Noah
2. He is Almighty and He made a promise to Noah after the flood
4. Noah's big boat was called an \_\_\_\_\_
7. God said that He would \_\_\_\_\_ flood the earth
11. This will shine while it rains to create God's sign in the sky of His

promise to Noah

12. Noah was told to take \_\_\_\_\_ of every kind of beast into the big boat

**Across**

3. Noah gathered two of every \_\_\_\_\_ to put inside the big boat

5. After many days the rain stopped and the waters went \_\_\_\_\_ enough for Noah and his family and the animals to leave the big boat

6. The big boat provided Noah, his family, and the beasts inside

8. The constant rain in Noah's day caused the \_\_\_\_\_ to rise and cover the earth

9. The rain kept falling until there was so much water and there was a \_\_\_\_\_

13. \_\_\_\_\_ was God's friend who obeyed and built the big boat

14. Before rain starts to fall there is usually a \_\_\_\_\_ in the sky

**Diagonal**

10. A special word that God used to describe His "promise" to Noah



**God's Promise to Noah  
Crossword Puzzle Answers**

<sup>1</sup> R								<sup>2</sup> G						
<sup>3</sup> A	N	I	M	<sup>4</sup> A	L	S		O						
I				R				<sup>5</sup> D	O	W	N			
N				K										
B					<sup>6</sup> P	R	O	T	E	C	T	I	O	<sup>7</sup> N
O														E
<sup>8</sup> W	A	T	E	R	S		<sup>9</sup> F	L	O	O	D			V
							<sup>10</sup> C							E
<sup>11</sup> S	A	F	E	<sup>12</sup> T	Y		O							R
U				W				V						A
N			<sup>13</sup> N	O	A	H			E					G
										N				A
		<sup>14</sup> C	L	O	U	D					A			I
												N		N
													T	

**Lesson Summarized by:**

Barbara Palmer [barbara@jesusisall.com](mailto:barbara@jesusisall.com)