

# 06

GENESIS 6:13-22; 7:20-24

## WRATH POURED OUT

### THIS WEEK'S **focus**

As kids, many of us thought “Noah and the ark” was a cute story about animals and rain. But as we grow, we begin to see details our kid brains didn’t quite process! The narrative of Noah’s ark is about God’s wrath poured out on a sinful world. Think about it: As Adam and Eve had kids, and their kids had kids, and their kids’ kids had kids, the impact of the first couple’s sin passed on through the generations. And any time sin goes unaddressed, it grows like an evil slime mold. (Remember how Cain ignored his sin, and it grew bigger?) You can imagine that if generations of people ignore their sin, the world would become a very dark place. The flood is an important reminder that sin is dangerous and that God will always address it.



### CENTRAL **truth**

Sin is dangerous, and God will always address it.



EXPLORE

# scripture

GENESIS 6:13-22; 7:20-24

## GENESIS 6:13-17

**13** Then God said to Noah, “I have decided to put an end to every creature, for the earth is filled with wickedness because of them; therefore I am going to destroy them along with the earth.

**14** “Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it with pitch inside and outside. **15** This is how you are to make it: The ark will be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide,

and 45 feet high. **16** You are to make a roof, finishing the sides of the ark to within eighteen inches of the roof. You are to put a door in the side of the ark. Make it with lower, middle, and upper decks. **17** “Understand that I am bringing a flood — floodwaters on the earth to destroy every creature under heaven with the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish.

## GENESIS 6:18-22

**18** But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark with your sons, your wife, and your sons’ wives. **19** You are also to bring into the ark two of all the living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. **20** Two of everything — from the birds according to their kinds, from the livestock

according to their kinds, and from the animals that crawl on the ground according to their kinds — will come to you so that you can keep them alive. **21** Take with you every kind of food that is eaten; gather it as food for you and for them.” **22** And Noah did this. He did everything that God had commanded him.

## GENESIS 7:20-24

**20** The mountains were covered as the water surged above them more than twenty feet. **21** Every creature perished — those that crawl on the earth, birds, livestock, wildlife, and those that swarm on the earth, as well as all mankind. **22** Everything with the breath of the spirit of life in its nostrils — everything on dry land

died. **23** He wiped out every living thing that was on the face of the earth, from mankind to livestock, to creatures that crawl, to the birds of the sky, and they were wiped off the earth. Only Noah was left, and those that were with him in the ark. **24** And the water surged on the earth 150 days.

# 06

GENESIS 6:13-22; 7:20-24

CONVERSATION

## questions

▶ READ GENESIS 6:13-17.

**.01** What was Noah's world like? What was Noah like?

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**.02** Why do you think God didn't just speak the ark into existence and instead instructed Noah to build it?

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**.03** Sometimes we treat Noah's ark as a cartoonish story about animals and rain. How does verse 17 help you better understand this narrative?

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**Q** GIVE AN ANSWER

Why did God flood the earth? In our time in Genesis so far, you may have noticed the way God places limits on sin's power. A limit is a boundary by which God has said, "You cannot cross this." When God placed an angel and a flaming sword outside of the garden of Eden (see Gen. 3:24), this limited sin's power by preventing anyone from reentering the garden. In God's goodness, He was protecting Adam and Eve from eating of the tree of life and living forever in their sinful state. After Cain's sin, God mercifully placed a mark on Cain that acted as a limit against sin's power: no one could murder Cain (see Gen. 4:15). Then God limited the years of humankind, knowing that it was corrupt and that the corruption would grow the longer people lived (see Gen. 5:3). By the time we get to Noah, these limits culminate into a bigger limit. With the flood, it's as if God says, "Enough!" Sin has grown to astronomical proportions, and He, in His goodness, limits it.

▶ READ GENESIS 6:18-22.

**.04** Looking at today's text, what examples of partnership do you see God set up between Himself and Noah?

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**.05** Do you think Noah's actions in verse 22 were easy or difficult for him? Why? Why was this significant?

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▶ READ GENESIS 7:20-24.

**.06** Circle the words "every" and "everything" in today's text. In your own words, describe the impact of this flood.

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**.07** Amid all this horror, how does the ark offer hope?

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**.08** How does the narrative of Noah, the flood, and the ark point to Jesus?

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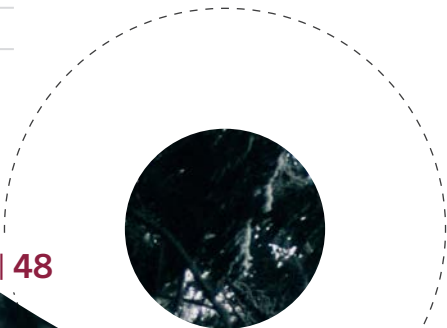
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**THEOLOGY**

Before Noah ever obeyed God (v. 22), before Noah was ever called righteous (v. 9), the Bible tells us that Noah found favor with the Lord (v. 8). It's important that we remember this important gospel principle: we do not have to—nor can we—earn God's favor. He gives His love freely, and when His love truly sinks into our heart, it changes us. Our lives begin to look different than they did before. We want to be careful not to think that Noah was perfect—he certainly had a sin nature like every other human! He couldn't have been "good" apart from the Lord. But Noah looked to God, believed God's words, and trusted in God's goodness. This impacted how he lived. Noah didn't make himself righteous by living perfectly; he simply walked with God.



# 06

GENESIS 6:13-22; 7:20-24

## NOW what?



### CENTRAL truth

Sin is dangerous, and God will always address it.

**.09** How can these Genesis narratives shape our view of sin?

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**.10** What feelings do you have about the flood and God's wrath? How has our study helped to address those feelings?

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**.11** What are some ways we can act to show that we believe sin is a big deal?

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**.12** When we're tempted to overlook our own sin, what can we do instead?

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# DAILY devotions

## MEMORIZE GENESIS 6:13



What does this passage say?



What does this passage tell us about God?



What did this passage mean to its original audience?



How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



What does this passage tell us about humans?



How does this passage prompt me to pray?



What does this passage demand of me?

day 1

# GENESIS 5:28-32

## DWELL

Genesis 5 gives us the genealogy of Adam's line through Seth. The general pattern (with the exception of Enoch) is this: a dude lives for a long time, has some kids, and then he dies. But like with Enoch, we get more information about Noah. His father gave him this name—which sounds like “bring us relief”—because he believed Noah would be used by God to bring rest to a world made chaotic by sin and its curse.



What kind of rest do you suspect Noah's father had in mind?



What kind of rest did God actually have in mind?

## MEMORIZE

Using colored pencils or pens, creatively write out Genesis 6:13 on a piece of paper. Then, “take a picture” of it with your mind and try to say the verse to yourself a few times without looking.

## PRAY

Acknowledge to God the complete chaos of sin. Ask Him to reveal to you places where you are exhausted from not following Him.

day 2

# GENESIS 6:1-8

## DWELL

People often wonder about the Nephilim. Scripture doesn't offer us as much information as we would like, but the general purpose of this passage is clear: the world was growing more and more corrupted by sin. Corruption is like rot or mold that slowly destroys something, robbing it of its beauty and purpose. We can view God's regret and grief through this lens: He is God and therefore knew and ordained all that would unfold, but that doesn't mean He was unaffected. God always cares.

→ How does this passage challenge you to take sin more seriously?

↶ How does this passage invite you to pray for the world?

## MEMORIZE

Write out Genesis 6:13 on a piece of paper or note card, and place it next to your bed. Make it a goal to say it five times before you go to bed and five times when you wake up.

## PRAY

Praise God for caring about both people and sin and for being impacted by both. He is unchanging, yet He is never uncaring.

day 3

# GENESIS 6:9-22

## DWELL

Notice the order of the statements about Noah: he has God's favor before he is ever described as righteous and before he ever obeys God. It would be easy to mischaracterize Noah as "the good guy" in this story rather than "God's guy." By God's grace, Noah was spared (along with his family), invited to partner with God, and able to obey the Lord. Although everyone at that time was constantly sinning (see v. 5), Noah did everything God had commanded him to do.

↶ What was the reason God was going to flood the earth?

↶ As the original audience heard this narrative, how do you think it shaped their views of sin and God?

## MEMORIZE

Invent motions that match the words to Genesis 6:13, and practice them while saying the words out loud a few times. It probably feels a little weird, but when something is weird, it helps us remember!

## PRAY

Thank God the Father for sending God the Son, Jesus! Though our sin deserves God's wrath and God will never overlook sin, Jesus was our ark, enduring the wrath so that we might have life.

day 4

# GENESIS 7:1-10

## DWELL

God made the world with His word, but we can see here how He planned to remake the world through Noah. God could have kept His plan hidden from Noah, but God shared it with Noah and invited him to participate by listening to His words and obeying Him. This part of the passage once again emphasizes that Noah did everything the Lord commanded him. Truly, God had His hand on Noah!



What kinds of things did God ask Noah to do? How do you think this required faith?

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How does this passage motivate you to obey God like Noah?

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## MEMORIZE

Write down the first letter of each word of Genesis 6:13 on a note card. At least five times today, see if you can say the verse just by looking at the letters.

## PRAY

Ask Him to give you courage to follow Him even when it seems like no one else does.

day 5

# GENESIS 7:11-24

## DWELL

The Bible doesn't mention the faith of Noah's family. But regardless of how Noah's family might have felt about God and following Him, they seemed to willingly follow Noah. As they followed Noah, they were able to witness God do every single thing He told Noah that He would do. Everything and everyone that might have once had their attention was gone—but God's word stood.



What happened in this passage that God promised He would do earlier?

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How does Noah's example inspire you to use your influence to point others to God?

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## MEMORIZE

Tell a friend or family member that your memory verse this week is Genesis 6:13, and explain what it means. Then, invite that person to randomly quiz you at some point today to see if you can remember the verse.

## PRAY

Ask God to show you how to use your influence to point others to the rescue that Jesus offers.