

# 07

GENESIS 8:10-22

## THE GREAT RESET

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

Have you ever had that creepy feeling of being in a store after it's closed, at your house when no one is home, or in a totally empty movie theater? Have you ever seen pictures of an amusement park when it's closed? All of these scenarios can give us that creepy feeling that people should be around but aren't. This might have been what Noah and his family felt when they stepped off the ark. They had been waiting and waiting for the flood waters to finally recede so they could step onto dry land, but once they did, two things were clear: they had been spared from God's wrath, and God was making the world anew. Noah's response was to worship. Noah and the ark is a rich picture of the gospel and how God brings life from death.



CENTRAL **truth**

God brings life from death.



EXPLORE

# scripture

GENESIS 8:10-22

## GENESIS 8:10-14

**10** So Noah waited seven more days and sent out the dove from the ark again. **11** When the dove came to him at evening, there was a plucked olive leaf in its beak. So Noah knew that the water on the earth's surface had gone down. **12** After he had waited another seven days, he sent out the dove, but it did not

return to him again. **13** In the six hundred first year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the water that had covered the earth was dried up. Then Noah removed the ark's cover and saw that the surface of the ground was drying. **14** By the twenty-seventh day of the second month, the earth was dry.

## GENESIS 8:15-19

**15** Then God spoke to Noah, **16** "Come out of the ark, you, your wife, your sons, and your sons' wives with you. **17** Bring out all the living creatures that are with you — birds, livestock, those that crawl on the earth — and they will spread over the earth

and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." **18** So Noah, along with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, came out. **19** All the animals, all the creatures that crawl, and all the flying creatures — everything that moves on the earth — came out of the ark by their families.

## GENESIS 8:20-22

**20** Then Noah built an altar to the LORD. He took some of every kind of clean animal and every kind of clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. **21** When the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma, he said to himself, "I will never again curse the ground because of human beings, even though the

inclination of the human heart is evil from youth onward. And I will never again strike down every living thing as I have done. **22** As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night will not cease."

# 07

GENESIS 8:10-22  
CONVERSATION

# questions

▶ **READ GENESIS 8:10-14.**

**.01** What kinds of discussions and emotions do you think were being experienced in the ark during all of this waiting?

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**.02** Look up Genesis 5:29. How had Noah been used by God to bring rest and relief to the world?

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▶ **READ GENESIS 8:15-19.**

**.03** What kinds of things do you think Noah and his family saw and felt as they stepped off the ark?

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## CONTEXT

When we need to wait a long time for something, it can feel like an accident, as though God has forgotten us or stopped running the world to go play pickleball or something. But if you pay attention to the Bible, you'll see waiting is one of God's primary ingredients! But the reason He makes people wait isn't because He is busy. It seems God makes people wait because He is forming and growing us in the waiting. In the waiting places, He strengthens us, like Isaiah 40:31 says: "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength." Psalm 46:10 says, "Be still, and know that I am God." In these times when we're forced to be still, it's an opportunity to do something important: to know that God is God—and we are not.

**.04** What kind of parallels do you see between this narrative and Genesis 1? (Pay special attention to 8:17 and 1:22.)

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**.05** What does it tell us about God that He chooses to use His creation to accomplish His will?

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**▶ READ GENESIS 8:20-22.**

**.06** What does Noah's worship teach you about him and what he values?

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**.07** How might Noah have been tempted to keep these animals rather than sacrifice them?

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**.08** What does God's response to Noah's sacrifice teach you about God? (See verse 21.)

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## THEOLOGY

Notice that even though Noah presented the offering to God, it was God Himself who actually provided the offering. This is a pattern you'll see throughout Scripture that is especially obvious with Noah! After all, these clean animals were created by God, as all animals are, and it was God who told Noah to bring these animals onto the boat (see Gen. 7:2). This helps us understand that we can never truly take credit for what we give to God. We may give Him an offering of money or time—and He delights in this. But we only have these things because He gave them to us. They were His to begin with (see Deut. 10:14)! Like all the offerings in the Bible, Noah's God-provided offering points to the ultimate offering that God provided by giving Himself. God the Father gave His Son, and God the Son gave His life. Because of this offering, we who deserve God's wrath because of our sin are spared and given new life. Noah points to the salvation that those who look to Jesus experience!



# 07

GENESIS 8:10-22

## NOW what?



### CENTRAL truth

God brings life from death.

**.09** How can we trust that God is working, even if we need to wait longer than we want to?

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**.10** How is it challenging or comforting to trust God when we're waiting on something?

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**.11** What are some ways we can offer our time, money, or other resources to the Lord? Why is this sometimes difficult?

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**.12** How can we make sure our first instinct after an answered prayer is to praise God? Why is this important?

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# DAILY devotions

## MEMORIZE GENESIS 8:17

### 7 ARROWS FOR BIBLE READING



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 8:1-4

## DWELL

When the text says that God remembered Noah, it doesn't mean that God had forgotten about him. God didn't hit His metaphorical forehead and think, "Ah! Totally forgot about those people I stuck in that boat!" God knows and sees all things and all people. The term "remember" here implies that God considered Noah with kindness and that He was about to act on Noah's behalf. The water began to recede.



God didn't have to act on Noah's behalf, but He did. What does this reveal about God?



How are you comforted by knowing God has this level of control over something as daunting as floodwaters?

## MEMORIZE

Using colored pencils or pens, creatively write out Genesis 8:17 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

Praise God for His power and His kindness. Ask Him to help you see ways He has remembered you.

day 2

# GENESIS 8:5-9

## DWELL

Noah knew that God had promised to reestablish His covenant with Noah—and Noah probably understood that didn't mean living in an ark forever. In faith, Noah waited on the Lord's timing but also actively sought to discern what God was doing. In the waiting, God hadn't taken a nap or forgotten to drain the world. Everything that God does is with holy and loving intention.

← How do you think hearing this narrative impacted Israelites who were waiting on God's promises to be fulfilled?

↻ How does Noah's waiting season prompt you to pray for others in waiting seasons?

## MEMORIZE

Write out Genesis 8:17 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 that He is at work even when we can't see what He is doing. Ask Him to increase your faith in whatever waiting seasons He has ordained for you.

day 3

# GENESIS 8:10-14

## DWELL

After nearly a year of being shut up in the ark, Noah finally spotted some glimmers of life: his dove returned with an olive leaf, and the surface of the ground began to dry. Of course, God's whole thing is bringing life from death, but it's always amazing to see Him at work! After everything Noah and his family had seen, after all the death and destruction, it was finally time to step outside.

↻ What steps do you notice between the rain stopping and the ground finally drying?

↔ How can you use the story of Noah's life to encourage a friend who is having trouble waiting on God?

## MEMORIZE

Invent motions that match the words to Genesis 8:17, 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

Share with God about an area of your life that feels difficult or life-stealing. Ask Him to be who He is in that situation: a life-giver! He doesn't always work the way we expect, but He's always working.

day 4

# GENESIS 8:15-19

## DWELL

After months and months of the sound of rain and weeks of silence as the ground dried, God spoke to Noah. It was time! Noah and his family were probably relieved to step outside of the ark, but they may have also been grieved to once again consider the many people they knew who died in the flood. They must have grieved to think about the people who clung to sin instead of God. Now, as they stepped outside the ark onto this remade earth, Noah and his family were called like Adam and Eve to be fruitful and multiply.



What details stand out to you in this part of the text?

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What does it say about humankind that God continues to want to use us to accomplish His will?

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## MEMORIZE

Write down the first letter of each word of Genesis 8:17 on a note card. At least five times today, see if you can say the verse just by looking at the letters.

## PRAY

Thank God for His love for humankind—including you—and His desire to use people—including you—to accomplish His will.

day 5

# GENESIS 8:20-22

## DWELL

After Noah exited the ark, one of the first things he did was give an offering to the Lord. God doesn't need our gifts (in fact, He owns all things, so our gifts aren't even ours to begin with), but God enjoys our gifts! After pouring out His wrath on the world, God delighted in Noah's sacrifice. With love for Noah, God said to Himself that He would never again pour out wrath in this way. There would be another way.



What does God's response to Noah show you about God?

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How does Noah's offering and God's response inspire you to give to the Lord?

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## MEMORIZE

Tell a friend or family member that your memory verse this week is Genesis 8:17, 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

Thank God for His love for you, and ask Him to help you see ways you can give to Him.