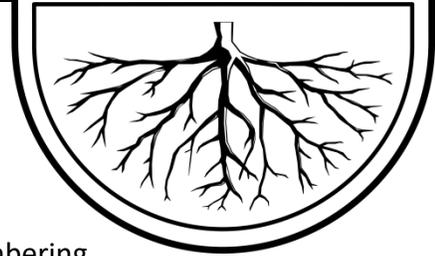




CONTEXT AND CLARIFICATION

Genesis 8-9:17

LIFE GROUPS



Q2: Challenge the group to think through their first thoughts when they hear the word covenant as those influences in understanding this term will affect the framework for how they will understand how it is used in this passage.

Q3: God always keeps His promises. As Brevard Childs said, “God’s remembering always implies his movement toward the object...The essence of God’s remembering lies in his acting toward someone because of a previous commitment”. God faithfully kept his promise to Noah by intervening to end the flood. Challenge the group to think through how God has intervened, much like He did for Noah, in your own groups lives and kept His promises.

Q4: “Righteous Noah not only displayed scrupulous obedience when he did everything God commanded him of a hundred-year period while building the ark but then displayed astounding endurance and faith as in the midst of confinement and discomfort he waited patiently for God’s deliverance. There is no recorded evidence that God spoke to him during the months on the ark or that Noah had a new word from God” (K. Hughes). As Hughes started, God did not speak to Noah while he was the ark and it most likely was a struggle to trust God after being on that boat for as long as he did without hearing from God. In some ways what Noah’s family experienced being locked up inside the ark was similar to the experience of many people during the shutdowns during COVID.

Q5: Read Romans 12:1-2 and read the Hughes quote. “The first thought of Noah was Godward...The offering was totally incinerated to picture the total giving of oneself. At the same time, it was wholly celebratory-thanking God for the salvation just rendered. As it burnt and then incinerated to ashes Noah was indicating in effect, “All my life is yours-everything”” (K. Hughes). Noah’s example in the offering is one that is a great example for how we should live our life in full surrender to God.

Q6: Read Matthew 5:45. The rainbow covenant is a great example God’s common grace on the whole earth despite wickedness. God responded to Noah’s sacrifice by making a covenant to never flood the earth and everything on earth is under this common grace even though sin abounds. Now there are many different examples of common grace like food, shelter, and sex, and God still allows those that don’t follow Him to enjoy things. These examples can be ways that we can share God’s goodness and grace to those that don’t know Him.

Q7: God told Noah to be fruitful and multiply like He did Adam and have dominion over the animals. God was giving them further boundaries for how to protect and preserve life. He told them that children are a blessing from the Lord. He told them to respect animal life and project human life because life is in the blood, and God is the giver of life. “The blood of man is God’s alone, to take human life is to usurp God’s sovereignty of life and death-and thus merits death itself” (K. Hughes). This passage is one example from scripture for justification for capital punishment. “Humankind is responsible to preserve life because they are regularly reminded that life is precious to God” (A. Ross)

Q8: Just like Christ’s atoning sacrifice was not anything we could have earned or provided, the sacrifice from Noah was all because of God’s grace. “Christ, the greater Noah, saves his people from the waters of death by his faithful obedience and atoning sacrifice” (K. Hughes).



LIFE GROUP

ICE BREAKER: What has been the hardest promise for you to keep?

1. Read Genesis 8-9:17. What insight, lesson, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? How was your experience with the Life Tool's this past week?
2. What do you think of when you hear the word covenant?
3. What are some examples in your life where God has kept His promises and intervened?
4. Are there areas of your life that you struggle to trust God because it feels like He is being silent?
5. Read Romans 12:1-2 and quote from Hughes. What areas in our life is God calling you to surrender to Him?
6. Read Matthew 5:45. What ways do we see God's common grace, despite our sin, in our world today? How can God's common grace be used as a way to share the Gospel with someone?
7. What are some practical ways that you can follow God's command to respect and preserve life?
8. Why is it important for us to recognize that even the sacrifices that we give to God are actually God's gift to us?



FURTHER STUDY



Isaiah 28:21 (NIV)

²¹The LORD will rise up as he did at Mount Perazim,
he will rouse himself as in the Valley of Gibeon—
to do his work, his strange work,
and perform his task, his alien task.

Hebrews 10:19-23 (NIV)

A Call to Persevere in Faith

¹⁹Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

James 1:17(NIV)

¹⁷ Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Ephesians 5:1-2(NIV)

5 ¹ Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ² and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.



“Real faith never disappoints because it is in God, grounded on His character, promises, covenant and oath”

- **A.W. Tozer**

“This kingdom of God life is not a matter of waking up each morning with a list of chores or an agenda to be tended to, left on our bedside table by the Holy Spirit for us while we slept. We wake up already immersed in a large story of creation and covenant, of Israel and Jesus, the story of Jesus and the stories that Jesus told. We let ourselves be formed by these formative stories, and especially as we listen to the stories that Jesus tells, get a feel for the way he does it, the way he talks, the way he treats people, the Jesus way.”

-**Eugene H. Peterson**

“Let God have your life; He can do more with it than you can”

-**Dwight L. Moody**

Additional Resources

Devotionals-

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/god-remembers/>

Articles –

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/goodness-god-common-grace/>

Sermon-

<https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/gods-covenant-with-noah>

<https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/90-263/gods-rainbow-covenant>