

THE FLOOD: NOAH

**Genesis 6:1-22; 7:1-9:17;
Hebrews 11:7**

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BIBLICAL PASSAGE

MEMORY VERSE

By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith. Hebrews 11:7

“Come on, try it. Everybody’s doing it. It’s no big deal.” Peer pressure is a big deal when you’re a teenager. It’s called “keeping up with the Joneses” when you’re an adult. The pressure to conform to “the world” is huge. It’s what every commercial on television says: “You don’t want to be without this product because it’s what makes you cool/successful/fulfilled.”

Read Genesis 6:1-22. Pay attention to verse five and verse nine. What stands out? Man was wicked, evil. The earth? Full of violence. But Noah was righteous. Blameless. Obedient. In a culture of depravity, Noah was an oasis of goodness. God saw Noah’s heart and showed him favor.

Our world can sometimes seem like Noah’s. The world-views espoused on TV, the Internet, movies, and radio

can be so corrupt. And while we can be like Noah, we often aren’t. We give in to society’s lie. Maybe it is on a small scale, but we are often guilty, nonetheless. We covet. We envy. These little areas of compromise ultimately lead us away from intimacy with God. Many times they can lead us away from obedience.

But like Noah, we have the power to be righteous. We can trust and obey God. We can learn from Noah’s example that through His bountiful grace, God shows favor to His children.

Take time today to talk about areas of life in which you and your family feel pressure to conform to society’s mold. Encourage one another to stay strong, conforming instead to the pattern of righteousness and obedience set by Noah, and ultimately by Jesus Christ.

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL TIME

Connect . . .

Discuss: How does it feel when others have something you want? Do you feel a little left out? What’s that like? What are you willing to do to avoid that feeling?

Explore . . .

Have someone read Genesis 6:5. **Read:** One might say that evil is nothing more than the willingness to settle for less, over and over, in order to halfway meet a need on our own terms. And we all do it.

Read Genesis 6:9. **Read:** Our love for each other reflects our worship of God and the way He has changed us.

Read Hebrews 11: 7. **Read:** Noah was righteous and blameless in the eyes of God because of faith. He believed and depended on God to meet the needs of his life and was patient enough to wait.

Transform . . .

Discuss: How can we as a family follow God faithfully amid our personal struggles and the pressure of this world to conform?

Pray together that God will increase your ability to trust Him in all things. Pray that He will open your eyes to the ways you conform to this world. Ask for the renewal of your minds that you may experience the transformation of God and know His good, pleasing, and perfect will.