

**HEROES**

**OF THE**

**FAITH**

Ordinary Men and Women . . .  
Super Ordinary Power

**3**

**NOAH BUILDS BOAT ON DRY LAND**

**HEROES OF THE FAITH CURRICULUM—2012**

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# **NOAH BUILDS BOAT ON DRY LAND**

## **Memory Verse:**

Anyone who doesn't breathe is dead, and faith that doesn't do anything is just as dead! James 2:26b (CEV)

## **Lesson Goals:**

#1 - Understand how ordinary Noah was

#2 - Discover what faith led Noah to do

#3 - Desire to let God do extraordinary things in the life of the ordinary student

## **Audience:**

Young, un-churched learners

Adaptable for all ages, including adults (See **For more training** on Activities page)

## **Scripture to Study:**

Genesis 5:28-32

Genesis 6:5-9:17

Matthew 24:36-39

Luke 17:26-27

Hebrews 11:7

1 Peter 3:20-22

2 Peter 2:1-5, 9

2 Peter 3:3-15a



## **NOAH BUILDS BOAT ON DRY LAND**

Genesis 5:28-32, Genesis 6:5-9:17, Matthew 24:36-39, Hebrews 11:7

Who can tell me what a hero is? A hero is someone who is courageous and brave and compassionate. There are heroes and heroines in the Bible. All of them are brave and courageous and more, but not in the way you would expect.

**Our hero:** Noah

**His Heroic Feat:** Obeyed God

Obeying God may not sound very heroic, but let's look at the facts and see what you think when you have heard the whole story!

Do you remember talking about Enoch last week and how he pleased God? Well, today we are going to talk about Enoch's great grandson! His name was Noah. While Enoch and Noah lived on the earth people were living badly. "The LORD saw how bad the people on earth were and that everything they thought and planned was evil. He was very sorry that He had made them." (Genesis 6:5, 6 CEV) So God decided to destroy them, animals and people alike! The thing is, though, that even in His anger and sadness over how evil man was, God was patient; He would wait 120 years before He judged the earth and those that lived in it. God wanted to make sure that everyone had the opportunity to turn to Him.

In contrast to all of the evil, "the Lord was pleased with Noah." (Genesis 6:8 NIV) Like his great grandfather Enoch, Noah walked with God. He respected God. He obeyed God. He was a godly man, free from blame and guilt, even though he was surrounded by evil. During some part of those 120 years of God's patience, Noah would preach, telling the people that God was going to judge the world, but that there was still time to choose to follow this God who loved them so much.

The Bible doesn't tell us much more about Noah's first 500 years, but it certainly tells us a lot about his life after that! God told Noah that He would destroy all life on earth. But God was going to protect Noah. Then He told Noah "So make yourself an ark out of cypress wood. Make rooms in it. Cover it with tar inside and out." (Genesis 6:14 NIV) God would use this ark to protect Noah throughout the flood, but as you can probably imagine, this enormous boat wasn't just for little ol' Noah. God would save Noah's family because Noah lived the right way. God would also save pairs of each land animal and bird to fill the earth after the flood. God gave exact measurements for how Noah was to build this huge boat. It would be longer than four football fields! God also told Noah to begin storing the food they would need. "Noah did everything exactly as God commanded him." (Genesis 6:22 NIV)

Then, after 120 years of patience, the day came when God told Noah and his family to go into the ark. It was time to judge the earth and all who lived in it. Again, Noah did as God commanded. No one else joined Noah and his family in the ark. In 120 years of Noah preaching, no one repented of their sins to turn to God.

But an amazing thing began to happen. Noah didn't even have to round up all the animals that would go with him on the ark; God sent the animals to Noah. "Male and female of all of them

came to Noah and entered the ark. Everything happened exactly as God had commanded Noah." (Genesis 7:9 NIV) And then God closed the door.

Noah was 600 years old when God closed the door to the ark. Then, "all of the springs at the bottom of the oceans burst open. God opened all the windows of the skies. Rain fell on the earth for 40 days and 40 nights." (Genesis 7:11-12) NIV The waters finally got so high that they covered even the tallest mountains by more than 20 feet. "Everything was destroyed from the earth. Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark were left." (Genesis 7:23b NIV)

From the time Noah and his family entered the ark until the day they walked out on dry land, one year and ten days had passed. (Genesis 7:11, 8:13) Then Noah built an altar and offered animal sacrifices to God, following God's example the way Abel had. God was pleased with Noah's offering and promised never to flood the earth again. God knew that man would continue to be evil and selfish, but He would remain faithful to His promise. God even gave a sign as a reminder of His promise to never again flood the entire earth with water. God gave the rainbow. When a rainbow appears, God promises to remember His promise not only to Noah but to every kind of living thing.

We find the story of Noah in the Old Testament, but the New Testament mentions Noah as well. Do you remember that Noah's great grandfather talked about Jesus returning? We read in the book of Matthew that no one knows when that will happen, not the angels, not Jesus, only God. Jesus' return is explained this way, "Remember how it was in the days of Noah. It will be the same when the Son of Man comes." (Matthew 24:37 NIV) In Noah's day people were living as we do, marrying, eating, all the normal stuff. They did all of those things right until the flood destroyed them. That destruction may sound awful, but remember, God was patient with them and He is being patient with you. We know that Jesus is coming back one day. He hasn't come yet, but God doesn't want you to be destroyed, to die apart from Him. Instead, He wants everyone, including you, to turn away from their sins. (2 Peter 3:9) Are you ready to do that? Let's talk.

Maybe you have already turned away from your sins and turned to God. Are you looking forward to Jesus' return? He wants you to be pure and without blame, like Noah. God wants you to be at peace with Him and "remember that while our Lord is waiting patiently to return, people are being saved." (2 Peter 3:15 NIV)

### **YOU CAN BE A HERO, TOO!**

When you live a life of faith in Jesus Christ, you don't have to leap tall buildings to be a hero. Noah obeyed God.

Our memory verse says that "anyone who doesn't breathe is dead, and faith that doesn't do anything is just as dead!" (James 2:16 CEV) A body with no breath is dead. The same can be said of faith. Many people say they believe, maybe many of the people during Noah's day believed there is a God. Faith isn't just a general belief in something; faith does something. Noah's faith led him to obey God. Noah believed in God; he trusted Him. Noah's trust showed itself as he obeyed God and began building an ark on dry ground!

Are you ready to put your faith (belief, trust) in action?



**NEXT WEEK**  
Job Loses All and Still  
Trusts God

# PRE-SCHOOL!

## LESSON

Who can tell me what a hero is? A hero is someone who is courageous and brave and compassionate. There are heroes and heroines in the Bible. All of them are brave and courageous and more, but not in the way you would expect.

**Our hero:** Noah

**His Heroic Feat:** Obeyed God

Obeying God may not sound very heroic, but let's look at the facts and see what you think when you have heard the whole story!

Do you remember talking about Enoch last week and how he pleased God? Well, today we are going to talk about Enoch's great grandson, Noah. Like his great grandfather Enoch, Noah walked with God. He respected God. He obeyed God. And God was pleased with Noah. God told Noah that He planned to destroy all life on earth. People had been very bad for a long time.

God told Noah to do something kind of wild and crazy! God asked Noah to build a big boat on dry land. God gave exact measurements for this huge boat. It would be longer than four football fields and have three levels! God also told Noah to begin storing the food they would need. "Noah did everything exactly as God commanded him." (Genesis 6:22 NIV)

Then the day came when God told Noah and his family to go into the ark. Again, Noah obeyed God. Then, an amazing thing began to happen. Noah didn't even have to round up all the animals that would go with him on the ark; God sent the animals to Noah. "Male and female of all of them came to Noah and entered the ark. Everything happened exactly as God had commanded Noah." (Genesis 7:9 NIV) And then God closed the door.

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From the time Noah and his family entered the ark until the day they walked out on dry land, one year and ten days had passed. (Genesis 7:11, 8:13) Then Noah built an altar and offered animal sacrifices to God. He followed God's example the way Abel had. God was pleased with Noah's offering and promised never to flood the earth again. God knew that man would continue to be evil and selfish, but He would keep His promise. God even gave a sign of His promise to never again flood the entire earth with water. God gave the rainbow. When a rainbow appears, God promises to remember His promise not only to Noah but to every kind of living thing.

# ACTIVITIES!

- Memory Verse Activity - Provide your students with construction paper, scissors, glue, markers, etc. Encourage them to create posters of Noah's ark. Include the memory verse on each poster.
- Make "Rainbow Windsocks." Make blue cylinders from construction paper. Attach rainbow colored tissue paper to one end of the blue cylinder. Attach yarn to the other end for hanging.
- If you didn't start a "Heroes Banner" last week, do so this week. On a long strip of brown craft paper, write the heading "Heroes of the Faith." Add the first hero, Abel, being sure to make note of his heroic feat. Add Enoch, and his heroic feat as well. Add Noah, etc. (Be sure that you allow enough space for all 52 heroes!)
- Sing "Faith," "Trust and Obey, the "Arky, Arky" song or other songs related to the lesson.
- Make a chart of the timing in the story of Noah. Read Genesis 7:1-8:16.
- **For more training:** Read and discuss God's promise in Genesis 8:20-22.
- **For more training:** Read and discuss Matthew 24:36-39 and Luke 17:26-27.
- **For more training:** Talk about the "Roll-call of Faith" in Hebrews 11. Read verse seven and discuss Noah's life.
- **For more training:** Read and discuss 2 Peter 2:1-5, 9.
- **For more training:** Discuss the implications of God's patience, with Noah and with us. Read and discuss 2 Peter 3:3-15a.

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who doesn't breathe  
is dead,

and ***FAITH*** that  
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is just as dead!

James 2:26b

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Super Ordinary Power

# ***HERO IN TRAINING***

Noah Builds Boat on Dry Land!

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*Taking church to the people*

# HERO TRAINING!

**Scripture:** Genesis 5:28-32, Genesis 6:5-9:17, Matthew 24:36-39,  
Hebrews 11:7, 1 Peter 3:20-22, 2 Peter 2:1-5, 9

**Memory verse:**

Anyone who doesn't breathe is dead, and faith that doesn't do anything is just as dead! James 2:26b

**Our Hero:** \_\_\_\_\_

What did our hero do that was so heroic? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What can you do to be a **Hero of the Faith**? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



What power do Heroes of the Faith possess?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have the power? \_\_\_\_\_

Read 2 Peter 3:3-15a. Why hasn't Jesus returned yet? \_\_\_\_\_

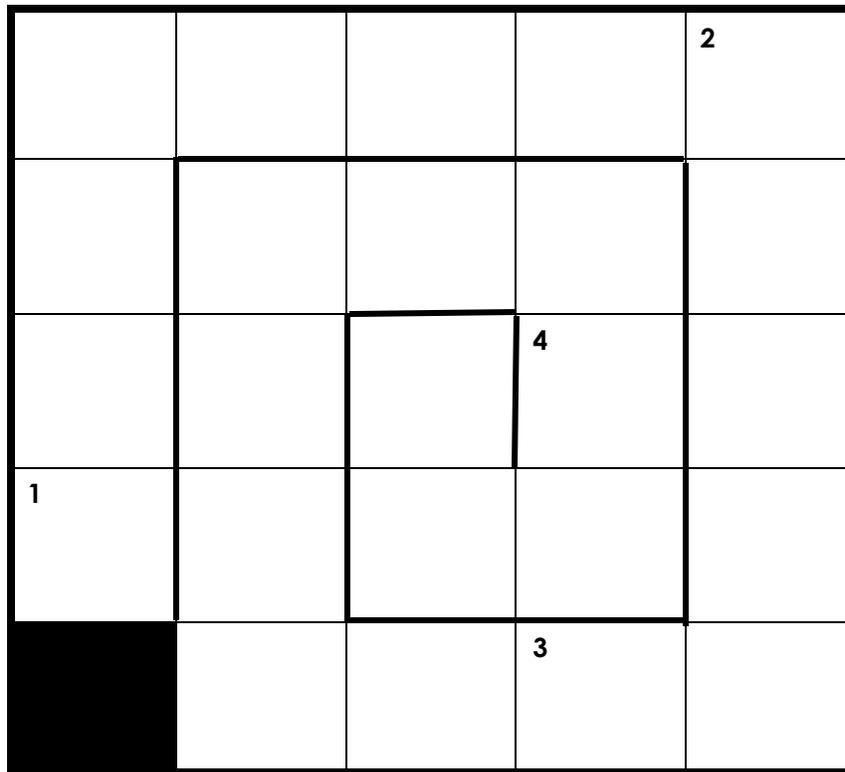
\_\_\_\_\_

According to 2 Peter 3:3-15a, what should you be doing until Jesus returns? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# HIDDEN MESSAGE!

Can you crack the code to find the Hidden Message?  
 Read James 2:26 and fill in the blanks with the missing words.  
 Then, fill in the maze with those words. (The first word goes first, then  
 the second, etc.)



Anyone who doesn't breathe is dead,  
 and faith that doesn't do anything is just as dead!  
 James 2:26b (CEV)

# WORD

# SEARCH!

I A C N F F E R I N G F O  
N G E A B L S N I A C P R  
A C W B E P R E F L O O D  
M H A O N J I T S U S B J  
X N L I E A A S A L A E S  
E O K D Y T P A L I W Y M  
P C E N C M L X E O D E G  
G H D O R R A O B A C D E  
O G W O E P M N F C R G T  
D R I D G N I R E F F O R  
R Y T I W A N N E G O D P  
S A H E R T A E R S S M A  
E T X C H R R E F T N I G  
F E B U I L D A R K F F O  
W A L K E D W I T R G B E

- Noah

- walked with

- God

- obeyed God

- build ark

- animal pairs

- flood

- offering

- rainbow

# HIDDEN MESSAGE!

Answer Page

Can you crack the code to find the Hidden Message?

Read James 2:26 and fill in the blanks with the missing words.  
Then, fill in the maze with those words. (The first word goes first, then the second, etc.)

a	t	h	e	<sup>2</sup>	f
e	i	n	g		a
r	h	d	<sup>4</sup>	d	i
<sup>1</sup>	b	t	a	e	t
	y	n	<sup>3</sup>	a	h

Anyone who doesn't breathe is dead,  
and faith that doesn't do anything is just as dead!  
James 2:26b (CEV)

# WORD

# SEARCH!

Answer Page



- Noah
- walked with
- God
- obeyed God
- build ark
- animal pairs
- flood
- offering
- rainbow