Use Week of:

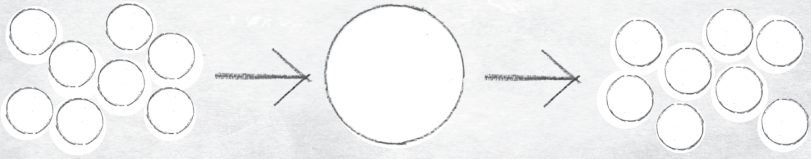
Noah and the Ark

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 6:5–9:17
MAIN POINT: God is holy.
UNIT KEY PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 8:6
BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law.

SMALL GROUP OPENING
(15–20 MINUTES)
PAGE 58

LARGE BIBLE STUDY
(10–15 MINUTES)
PAGE 60

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES
(20–25 MINUTES)
PAGE 62



Leader BIBLE STUDY

Adam's son Seth lived 912 years. Despite their sin, the Lord sustained generation after generation. Seth's sixth-great-grandson, Noah, was born less than 20 years after his death. With each generation, the earth's population grew.

By the time Noah lived—10 generations after Adam—people had stopped following God. In fact, Scripture describes a deplorable situation: "Man's wickedness was widespread on the earth … every scheme his mind thought of was nothing but evil all the time" (Gen. 6:5).

God was right to punish this sin. He decided to send a flood to cleanse the earth. The waters would cover the earth and

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destroy everything. God graciously chose to save one man and his family, so he warned Noah about the flood and told him to build an ark.

Noah believed God's warning about the coming judgment. He obediently worked to build the ark that would save himself, his family, and the animals. But the work took years, and Noah likely faced ridicule from his friends and neighbors. Was Noah crazy? He was building a boat where there was no water!

When the ark was complete, God's judgment did come. The floodwaters covered the earth. Every living thing was destroyed, but Noah and his family were safe inside the ark. God rescued Noah's family—the family His own Son would be born into. Jesus would warn of God's coming judgment too, but instead of condemning the world, Jesus would give up His life to rescue sinners.

Apart from the grace of God, every thought we have is nothing but evil all the time. Our wickedness is widespread, and God would be justified to destroy us immediately. What grace that He has provided a Rescuer!

Before you teach, pray that the Lord would help you clearly communicate the gospel to children. Pray that the Holy Spirit would lead them to receive Jesus, who rescues us from God's anger toward sin. (1 Thess. 1:10)



Additional resources for each session are available at *gospelproject.com.* For free training and session-by-session help, visit *www.ministrygrid.com/web/thegospelproject.*

Noah and the Ark

Genesis 6:5–9:17

Adam and Eve had children and grandchildren. Soon there were many people in the world. Every one of them did just what Adam and Eve had done—they made bad choices. They did not choose to do what God said. God saw that the people did mean things and thought bad thoughts. **God was very sad.**

God is holy and perfect. He **was sorry He had made all the people who chose to sin against Him. God decided to send a big flood** to clean up the world. **Everyone would die in the flood, but God showed favor to a man named Noah.**

Noah was a righteous man, and **God told Noah to build an ark—a really big boat.** God told Noah about His plan to send the flood. In the ark, Noah's family and many kinds of birds and animals that lived on the earth would be safe from the flood.

Noah did what God said. He began to build the ark just like God told him to build it. Noah worked for many years until the ark was finished. Then he filled it with food for his family and for the animals, just as God had told him. Every kind of animal came to the ark, males and females.

Rain began to fall, so Noah, his family, and the animals went into the ark. God closed the door of the ark, and Noah and his family were safe inside.

The rain came for 40 days and 40 nights. Water covered all the earth, even the highest mountains. **The ark floated on the water, and everyone inside the ark was safe.**

Finally, the rain stopped but the water was still very

deep. God sent a wind, and the water went down. **The ark landed on a mountaintop, and everyone in the ark waited for the earth to dry out. Then God told Noah to bring his family and all the animals out of the ark. Noah gave an offering to thank God.** God had saved Noah, his family, and the animals from the flood.

God told Noah's family to spread out and live in different places, to have children, and to take care of the world. God promised Noah that He would never again send a flood to cover the whole earth. God put a rainbow in the clouds to be a reminder of His promise.

Christ Connection: God sent a flood to punish the world for sin, but God rescued Noah and his family. Later, there was an even greater rescue! Jesus came to save people from sin. If we trust in Jesus, He saves us from the punishment for our sin.



WANT TO DISCOVER GOD'S WORD? GET *MORE!*

Invite preschoolers to check out this week's devotionals to discover that God promised Noah He would not flood the earth again, instead He would send Jesus to deal with sin. Order in bulk, subscribe quarterly, or purchase individually. For more information, check out *www.lifeway.com/devotionals.*

Small Group OPENING

SESSION TITLE: Noah and the Ark
BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 6:5–9:17
MAIN POINT: God is holy.
UNIT KEY PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 8:6
BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law.

Welcome time

- "God Makes Everything" song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert download
- favorite toys

Play the unit theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church's security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

Activity page

- "Just Add Water" activity page, 1 per kid
- crayons or markers

Lead preschoolers to draw water around the boat in the picture. Encourage older preschoolers to draw rain as well as water.

SAY • A boat where there is no water seems rather silly, doesn't it? In today's Bible story, God told a man to build a boat—a really big boat called an ark, but there was no water. God is not silly. God always has a plan and a reason for everything He does. Let's find out who the man was and why God wanted him to build a boat.

Jump in "puddles"



- blue construction paper
- masking tape

Tape pieces of blue construction paper to the floor close enough for preschoolers to jump from paper to paper. Guide preschoolers to take turns jumping in the "puddles."

SAY • Playing in rain puddles is fun, even pretend ones! In today's Bible story, God caused it to rain 40 days and 40 nights. This rain was not fun. It rained so much that the earth was flooded. God had a good reason for flooding the earth. We will find out why in our Bible story today.

Gather pairs

- pairs of items

Gather an assortment of items in pairs. Hide the items around the room. Encourage preschoolers to search for the hidden items. When all the items have been found, guide preschoolers to place pairs of items together.

SAY • A *pair* is a set of two. In our Bible story today, God had a man gather pairs of animals and put them on a great big boat called an ark. Let's find out who that man was and why God had him gather pairs of animals.

Transition to Bible study

- countdown video (optional)

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, flip off the lights, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Invite the children to find a friend and travel in pairs to Bible study.

Large Group LEADER

SESSION TITLE: Noah and the Ark
BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 6:5–9:17
MAIN POINT: God is holy.
KEY PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 8:6
BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law.

Introduce the Bible story

- spray bottle
- blanket

Set a clean spray bottle to the mist setting and fill it with water. Place a blanket on the floor and invite preschoolers to take turns walking through the mist as a leader sprays.

SAY • Do you all like playing in the rain? In our Bible story today, we are going to hear about a time it rained 40 days and 40 nights. You cannot play in that much rain. Water covered the whole world.

Watch or tell the Bible story

- Bible
- "Noah and the Ark" video
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Open your Bible to Genesis 6–9.

SAY • Our Bible story comes from the very first book of the Bible, Genesis. The Bible is the most important book there is. Everything in it happened in real life. It is not a pretend book. The Bible is God's words.

Show the Bible story video "Noah and the Ark," or tell the Bible story in your own words using the script provided. Use the bolded version for younger preschoolers.

Talk about the Bible story

- Main Point Poster
- Giant Timeline or Big Story Circle

SAY • **God is holy.** That means God is most special of all, more than anyone or anything! He is perfect. God cannot sin, and He wants to get rid of sin. God sent

a flood to punish the world for sin, but He was kind and rescued Noah and his family.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline or big story circle as you ask the following review questions:

1. Was God happy that people were making bad choices? (*No, He was sad.*)
2. What did God tell Noah to do? (*build an ark*)
3. Who was on the ark (*Noah, his family, and pairs of every kind of animal*)
4. What did God put in the sky as a reminder of His promise to never flood the whole earth again? (*a rainbow*)

Learn the big picture question

- Big Picture Question Poster

SAY • Our big picture question is, ***What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law.*** People were breaking God's laws all the time in what they did and what they thought. Their hearts were evil. **God is holy,** and He must punish sin. God sent a flood to punish sin.

Practice the key passage

- Key Passage Poster
- "There Is Only One" song

Open your Bible to 1 Corinthians 8:6. Read the key passage aloud several times. Sing together the key passage song, "There Is Only One."

SAY • The one God rescued Noah from being punished for sin. Later, there was an even greater rescue! The one Lord, Jesus Christ, came to save people from sin. If we trust in Jesus, He rescues us from being punished for our sin.

Transition to small groups

Small Group ACTIVITIES

SESSION TITLE: Noah and the Ark
BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 6:5–9:17
MAIN POINT: God is holy.
UNIT KEY PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 8:6
BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law.

Look for rainbows

- clear wide-mouth jar
- small unbreakable mirror
- flashlight
- blanket (optional)

Fill a clear wide-mouth jar with water. Place a small unbreakable mirror into the jar at an angle. Dim the lights. Consider placing a blanket over a table to create a dark spot if the room is too bright. Aim a flashlight toward the mirror in the jar. Adjust the angle of the flashlight or the mirror until a rainbow appears on the wall or ceiling. Allow preschoolers to take turns aiming the flashlight at the mirror. Move the jar around the room to create rainbows in different locations.

SAY • Look at the beautiful colors in the rainbow! God made the rainbow. **God is holy.** God sent a flood to punish the world for sin. He promised to never flood the earth again and sent a rainbow as a reminder of His promise. God sent Jesus to be punished for sin, so people who trust in Him can be rescued.

Put scenes in order

- "Sequencing Scenes" printable

Prepare and display "Sequencing Scenes" out of order. Guide preschoolers to place the scenes in the correct order as you review the Bible story. Encourage preschoolers to retell the Bible story to each other using the sequencing scenes to remind them of the Bible story's events.

SAY • God loved the people He created. The people loved to sin, and it made God sad. **God is holy.** Allowing people to continue to sin over and over again is not loving. God sent a flood to clean the world of sin. Later, God sent Jesus to be punished for sin.

Color rainbows



- paper
- crayons
- masking tape or rubber bands

Provide a piece of paper for each preschooler. Use masking tape or rubber bands to bind together several crayons of the preschooler's choosing. Demonstrate how to draw rainbow shapes on the paper using the bound crayons.

SAY • You all made some lovely rainbows. God put a rainbow in the sky to be a reminder of His promise to never again flood the whole earth. **God is holy** and punishes sin. Jesus came to rescue sinners like you and me.

Play in the "rain"

- plastic tablecloth
- plastic pitcher
- colander
- plastic tub
- towels for cleanup
- smocks
- plastic boats, people, and animals

Place a plastic tub on a table covered with a plastic tablecloth. Fill a plastic pitcher halfway with water. Demonstrate how to pour water from the pitcher into a colander to make it "rain" over the plastic tub. Allow preschoolers to take turns pouring water into the colander and placing their hands in the rain. Consider providing a plastic boat, people, and animals preschoolers may use to play out the Bible story.

SAY • God caused it to rain 40 days and 40 nights. **God is holy** and punished the sin of the people with a flood. God is also kind. He rescued Noah and his family. God planned a way all people can be rescued from sin through Jesus.

Gather people and animals



- eight toy people
- toy animals
- hula hoop
- timer (optional)

Place toy people and animals in plain sight around the room. Set a hula hoop on the floor. Explain to preschoolers that the hula hoop is the ark, and they must get all the people and animals on board. Form a line. Guide preschoolers to go one at a time and retrieve one person or animal and place it in the ark. Continue until all the people and animals are retrieved. Consider playing again, this time using a timer to to see how fast preschoolers can load the ark.

SAY • **God is holy,** and He was right to punish the people's sin. God would have been right to punish everyone, but He chose to save Noah and his family. God has planned a way for us to be saved from the punishment for sin too. God sent Jesus to save people from sin. When we trust in Jesus, He saves us from being punished for our sin.

Snack

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert download
- snack food
- paper cups and napkins

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Guide preschoolers to clean their areas. Take a restroom break and wash hands. Gather preschoolers for snack time. Thank God for the snack.

Serve animal cookies and pretzel sticks for snack. Encourage preschoolers to build an outline of an ark with the pretzel sticks and place their animal cookies in the "ark." Remind preschoolers that God instructed Noah to build an ark so he, his family, and many creatures could be rescued from the flood.

Transition

- Journal Page printable, 1 per child
- Bible Story Coloring Page
- books and puzzles
- crayons
- *Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschool*

When a child finishes his snack, guide him to throw away any trash. He may select a book or puzzle to examine, play quietly with play dough or a favorite toy, or color the Bible story coloring page.

Offer the journal page and invite preschoolers to draw a picture of rainbow. Remind boys and girls that **God is holy** and punishes sin, but that He sent Jesus to take the punishment our sin deserves. When we trust in Jesus, we can be rescued from sin.

SAY • God, You are holy and Your rules are holy. You must punish sin. Thank You for loving sinners like us so much that You sent Your Son, Jesus, to be punished for our sin. Help us to see our sin and help us to turn away from it and obey You. We love You. Amen!

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

Journal Page

God the Creator

Key Passage: 1 Corinthians 8:6

Big Picture Questions: Why did God create the world? God created the world for His glory.
What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law.

Session 1: God Created the World
Genesis 1:1-25
God created everything.

Session 2: God Created People
Genesis 1:26-2:25
God created people in His own image.

Session 3: Sin Entered the World
Genesis 3:1-24
Adam and Eve sinned.

Session 4: Cain and Abel
Genesis 4:1-16,25-26
God punished Cain for his sin.

Session 5: Noah and the Ark
Genesis 6:5–9:17
God is holy.

Session 6: The Tower of Babel
Genesis 11:1-9
God created people to give Him glory.



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There is but one God, the Father ... and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 8:6



There is but one God, the Father ... and one Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 8:6



There is one God, the Father ... and there is one Lord, Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 8:6



There is one God, the Father ... and one Lord, Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 8:6



God is holy.





Just Add Water

INSTRUCTIONS: Use a blue crayon or marker to draw water for the big boat. Older preschoolers may choose to draw rain as well.



DOWNLOAD THE TGP FAMILY APP

KEY PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 8:6

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law.

BIBLE STORY:
NOAH AND THE ARK

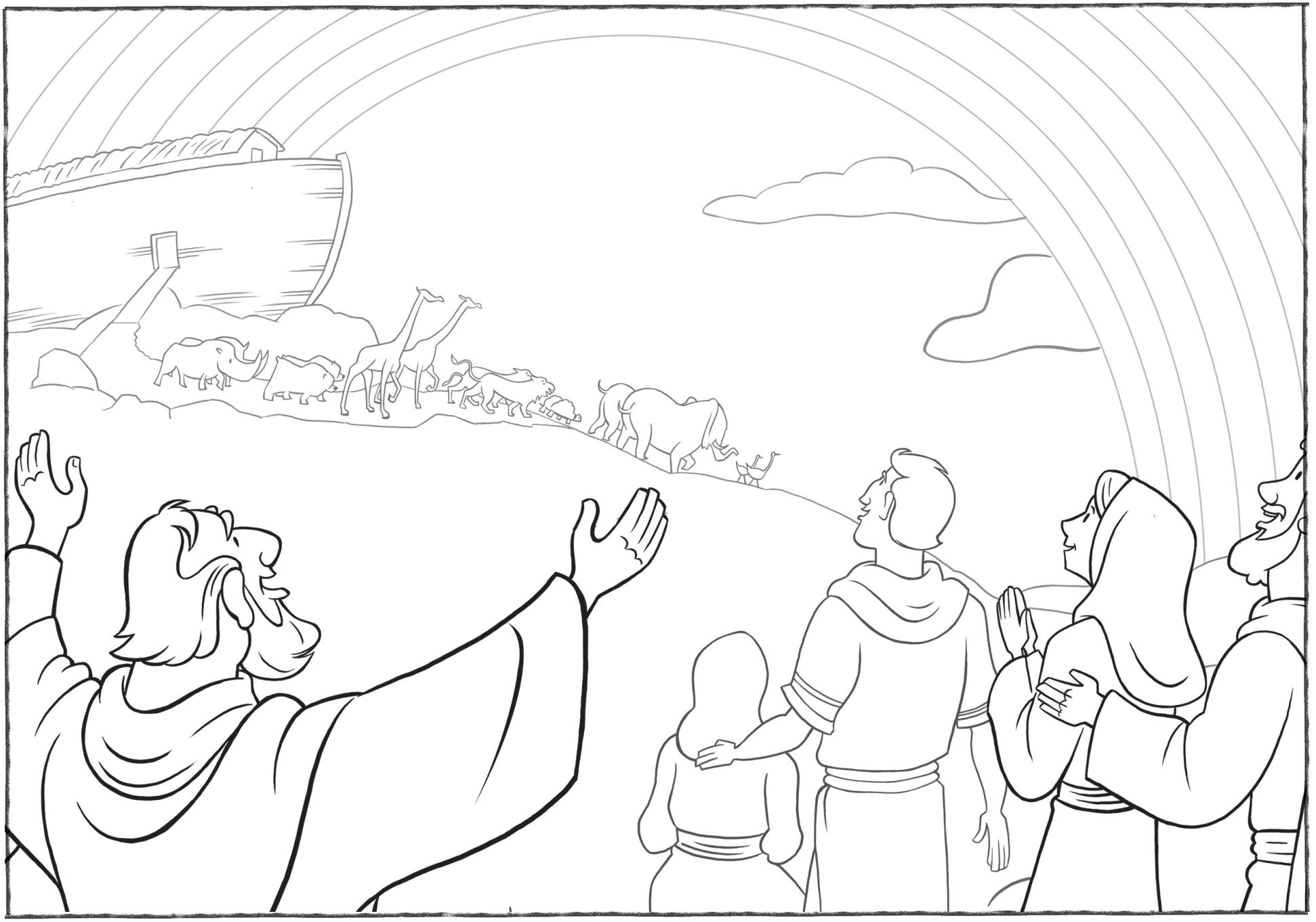
- God told Noah to build an ark.
- God sent a flood that covered the earth to punish sin.
- God saved Noah, his family, and the animals.
- God made a rainbow as a reminder of His promise.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- Tell about a time you were punished for making a wrong choice.
- What would have happened if Noah disobeyed and did not build the ark?
- Tell about a time you did not get a punishment you deserved.

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

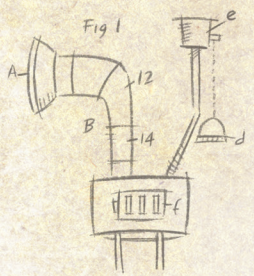
- Talk about how God showed favor to Noah by saving him and his family from the flood.
- Go further: Choose someone to show kindness to as a family by giving them a special gift or serving them in special way.



Why did God create the world?

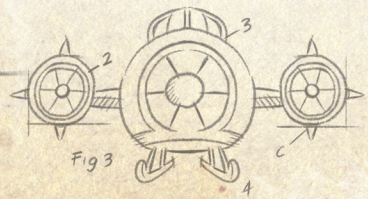


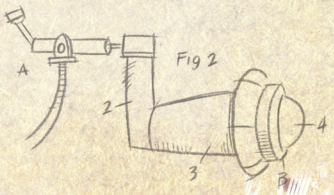
Why did God create the world?

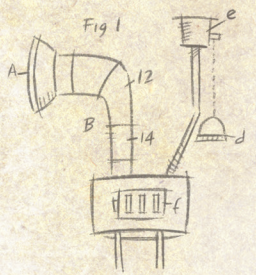




God created the world for His Glory.

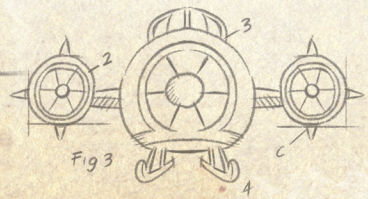


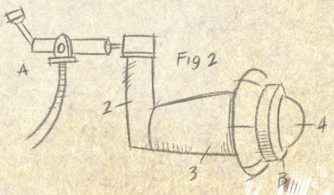




What is sin?







What is sin?

Sin is breaking God's law.











THE GOSPEL PROJECT FOR PRESCHOOL

Sequencing Scene

Preschool Leader Guide • Unit 1 Session 5

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God the Creator

Instructions: Print and cut apart. Guide preschoolers to put the scenes in order.