



CREATION AND THE BEGINNING OF HUMAN HISTORY

## #28 - The Time of Noah

### Genesis 6:1-8

#### PICTURES NEEDED

28-1 Evil people at the time of Noah

27-3 Lineage chart (from previous lesson)

28-2 Salvation chart

#### REVIEW (Before Teaching Lesson)

- **Journal Review:** Ask students to share an important truth that they learned from their journal readings at home that week. Share some of your own insights.
- **Previous Lesson Review:** (Use the visual from the last lesson to aid in review)  
What was the difference between Cain's offspring and Seth's offspring?  
How does the way parents live their lives affect their children?
- **The Big Question Review:** What is the impact of an upright father?  
Let the students give their answers to the question.
- **Bible Verse Review:** Psalm 112:1-2    The children of the righteous will be blessed.

*Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who finds great delight in his commands.  
His children will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.*

## LESSON CONTENT

**Note:** The Bible verses included in the lesson are from the NIV 1984 edition. The wording of the questions is derived from that version. If another version of the Bible is used, questions may need to be adapted.

God made man in his image, longing to have a relationship with him. Thinking back to the lesson on the creation of Adam, what does it mean to be made in the image of God? God is a personal God: he has a mind (intellect), he has a will and he has emotions or feelings. Since man was created in the image of God he also has those characteristics. Human beings are unique among all God's creation in that they can have a personal relationship with God, choosing to follow and obey him.

What happened to the relationship between man and God? It was broken in the Fall. Adam and Eve chose to follow their own desires rather than obey and remain rightly related to their creator and were sent out of the Garden of Eden. Cain, because he murdered his brother, was sent away from God's presence.

**(picture 27-3)** After Cain killed Abel, Adam and Eve had another son Seth. Even though they had other sons and daughters the account in Genesis only relates the lineage of Adam and Eve through Cain and Seth.

What is the difference between the lineages of Cain and Seth? Cain's lineage is associated with evil and rebellion against God while the men in Seth's lineage called on the name of the Lord. Seth's lineage leads to Noah who was the tenth generation from Adam and was a righteous man in a time of great evil.

Because God has emotions the sin of people grieves him. What does it mean to grieve? Grieve means to experience great sorrow over something.

What is sin? Sin is anything that fall short of the good that God desires for his creation and the way he designed it to function.

What is it about sin that grieves God? God grieves over sin because it hurts the people that he created and loves. As God is holy and perfect, sin separates people from him. However, even though he detests sin and there are consequences to it, God is long-suffering.

What does it mean to be long-suffering? To be long-suffering means that God puts up with man's sin for a long time, always desiring for people to repent and turn back to him. Ultimately, however, sin is always judged by God. At the time of Noah, the sin of mankind had gotten so bad that God could no longer tolerate it. People were so given over to evil that God had to put a stop to it.

### Genesis 6:1-8

*<sup>1</sup>When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, <sup>2</sup>the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. <sup>3</sup>Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days will be a hundred and twenty years."*

*<sup>4</sup>The Nephilim were on the earth in those days--and also afterward--when the sons of God went to the daughters of men and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown.*

*<sup>5</sup>The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. <sup>6</sup>The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. <sup>7</sup>So the LORD said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth--men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air--for I am grieved that I have made them." <sup>8</sup>But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.*

NOTE: Students may have questions about who the "sons of God" and the "daughters of men" refer to. Two explanations from the Zondervan NIV Study Bible are:

1. "Sons of God" possibly refers to godly men, and "daughters of men" to sinful women probably from the wicked line of Cain.
2. "Sons of God" refers to royal figures (kings were closely associated with gods in the ancient Near East) who proudly perpetuated and aggravated the corrupt lifestyle of Lamech son of Cain (virtually a royal figure) and established for themselves royal harems.

**(Picture 28-1)** What grieved God about men? God was grieved by their wickedness and how the inclination of man's heart was to evil all the time.

What was the cause of man's wickedness? The cause of their wickedness was the inclination of their hearts. They rejected God and their thoughts were void of God. They did the things they wanted to do rather than what pleased God.

What is the equation of sin from James 1:14-15? The equation of sin is evil desires plus temptation = sin that destroys.

What did man's wickedness cause God to do? It caused God to determine to rid the earth of them.

What was different about Noah? Noah found favor with God.

Why do you think Noah was different from the people around him? His heart was inclined to God. He had faith in God and wanted to please him. Whether a person chooses to follow God or follow evil will depend on the inclination of the heart.

Jeremiah 17:9-10 says, *<sup>9</sup>The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? <sup>10</sup>I the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve."*

What does it mean to be deceitful? Synonyms for deceitful are: dishonest, fraudulent, untrustworthy, cunning, lying, devious, faithless.

How is the heart deceitful? It isn't trustworthy or faithful to choose to do what is right and good. It is often misled by feeling instead of following truth. A deceitful heart rejects the God who has made it. When people reject God they pursue other things in place of God,

What does it mean that God rewards a man according to his conduct? Our actions show the inclination of our heart. If our actions are good, then we will find favor with God like Noah did. If our actions are bad then it shows our heart is hard toward God, deceitful and bent towards evil and we will receive just punishment for what our deeds deserve.

What is the cure for a deceitful heart? The heart can't be cured; it needs to be replaced with a new heart. This happens when a person recognizes his need for a new heart, confesses his sin and puts his faith in Jesus to deliver him from both the penalty and power of sin.

How do we maintain a right heart once we believe in Jesus? If we want to remain rightly related to God we need to examine our heart on a daily basis and determine what it is inclined toward. We do that by examining the things we say and do. If our heart is inclined toward evil we need to uncover and confess our sin and turn to Jesus to be made right.

Note: This could be a good time to review the salvation chart from lesson 25. (picture 25-2)

## LESSON WRAP-UP

- **Overview Questions:** Why was God grieved he had made people? What did God decide to do? What was different about Noah from the other people of his time? What does the inclination of the heart determine?
- **Thought Questions:** Do you think it was right for God to wipe all the wicked people from the face of the earth? Explain your answer. What would have happened if God hadn't put an end to people and their wickedness? Which is worse to destroy wickedness or to let wickedness destroy others? Why is God long-suffering and allows wickedness to continue for so long?
- **Prayer:** Thank God that he cares about all people and doesn't want to see anyone perish. Thank God that he wants what is good and right for all people and sent his Son to make them right. Pray that your heart would be inclined towards God and that you would want to do right because it pleases God and enables you to be an influence for good.
- **The Big Question: What is the problem of the heart?**  
Let the students give their answers to the question. Share the memory verse. Ask how it answers the question.
- **Memory Verse: Jeremiah 17:9-10** The heart is deceitful and needs a cure.

*"The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? <sup>10</sup>! the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve."*

Questions: What does it mean to be deceitful? How is the heart deceitful? How will God reward a man? What does that mean?

## ACTIVITIES (Completed after the lesson)

Any age appropriate activity can be included which fits into the class time. The activities with a star are included on the class notes.

- ★ **Lesson Notes:** Have the children answer the two questions individually or as a group. What did you learn from this lesson? How can you put into practice what you learned?
- ★ **Memory Verse:** Read the memory verse on the cover of the class notes and then have the students fill in the blanks in the verse.
- ★ **Activity Page:** Word Search

Have the students find the underlined words in the memory verse in the word search puzzle.  
Jeremiah 17:9-10

The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?  
"I the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve."

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- ★ **This Week's Big Question:** Have the students fill in the blanks for the way the memory verse answers the big question.  
The heart is deceitful and needs a cure.
- ★ **Coloring Page:** Color the lesson picture.

- **Craft:** Woven heart

As a reminder that the heart is deceitful, make a woven heart.

Materials: cover stock paper, scissors, glue sticks

Preparation: Run off Craft 28 on cover stock paper.

Instructions:

1. Cut out the heart.
2. Fold the heart along the white line.
3. Turn the heart so the short black lines are facing up. Cut along them.
4. Turn the heart over and open it up. Finish cutting along the black lines.
5. Cut out the black strips.
6. Weave the black strips in and out of the heart in a basket weave.
7. Glue the ends of the black strips down and cut off excess paper.

### Game: Hide the Heart

Talk to the children about how we often try to hide what's in our heart rather than let it be cleansed by Jesus. If evil stays in the heart it gets worse. To see the evil we have to let Jesus examine our heart and reveal what is real about it to us.

Instructions: Cut out a heart to hide. Select one student to hide the heart with a little piece of it showing. All students put their heads down and cover their eyes while the heart is hidden. Once the heart is hidden, they lift their eyes and look around to see if they can find it. If no one spots it then the teacher tells them to get up and search. The child that finds the heart gets to hide it.

## JOURNAL

The journal is passed out at the end of class for the students to complete at home. It has six poetic readings and related Bible verses. It would be beneficial for the teacher to read through and be familiar with its content.