



LESSON 3 - The Flood and the Ark

Watch carefully where I go. First, we need a rug.

When God created everything, God said, "It is good." But people began to do bad things. God decided to send a great flood of water to wash everything clean and make it new again.

Then God saw a good family. The father was Noah. He and his wife had three sons, and they had wives.

Noah walked with God. He came so close to God, and God came so close to Noah, that Noah knew what God wanted him to do. God wanted Noah to build a big boat called an ark.

Noah and all of his family began to build the ark. As they were building the ark, animals began to come from all the four corners of the earth. They came two by two to fill the ark.

When the ark was finished and all of the animals were on the ark, it began to rain. Water came down from the heavens and up from the earth. It rained and rained.

At first it was like any rain, but the rain kept on coming. The puddles ran together... and soon the water covered everything.

When the creatures on the ark looked out into the rain all they could see was water. It rained and rained. It rained for forty days and forty nights.

But God did not forget the creatures on the ark. Water forty days and forty nights the rain stopped. Then God sent a great wind to dry up the water, and the water began to go down.

Noah took the dove. He held it carefully and then sent it forth. It flew and flew. Noah held out his hand and received the dove. There was still nothing but water.



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Noah waited seven more days. He sent the dove forth again. It flew and flew. This time when it came back it had a fresh olive leaf in its mouth. Now there was something green and growing off the earth again.

Noah waited seven more days. He sent the dove out again. This time it did not come back. It found a home. It made a nest, and stayed there.

The water kept going down, then finally the ark came to rest upon the earth. All the creatures began to come out of the ark. They were so happy to be home again that they could not help it. They had to say their prayers to try to say how happy they were. They made an altar and gave thanks to God.

Suddenly, all the creatures saw a great bow in the sky. It was a bow of many colors. You can still see it today when there is rain and the sun is shining. Today we call it a rainbow.

We can't get a whole rainbow in our room, but, if you hold this prism up to the light and look carefully, you can see a piece of a rainbow in it.

This rainbow is God's sign to say that God will never send such a flood again.

The creatures then went out into all the four corners of the earth and filled it up again with life.

Wondering

Now, I wonder what party of the story you like best?

I wonder what part is the most important?

I wonder where you are in the story or what part of the story is about you?

I wonder if there is any part of the story we can leave out and still have all the story we need?