

LESSON 6

REFERENCES: GENESIS 6:19–7:24; PATRIARCHS AND PROPHETS, PP. 97–104.

An Animal Parade

Isn't it fun to watch a parade? A long time ago Noah and his neighbors watched a strange animal parade. This is how it may have happened.



Noah's son stacked the last sack of grain with the other food in the ark, then came to stand beside his

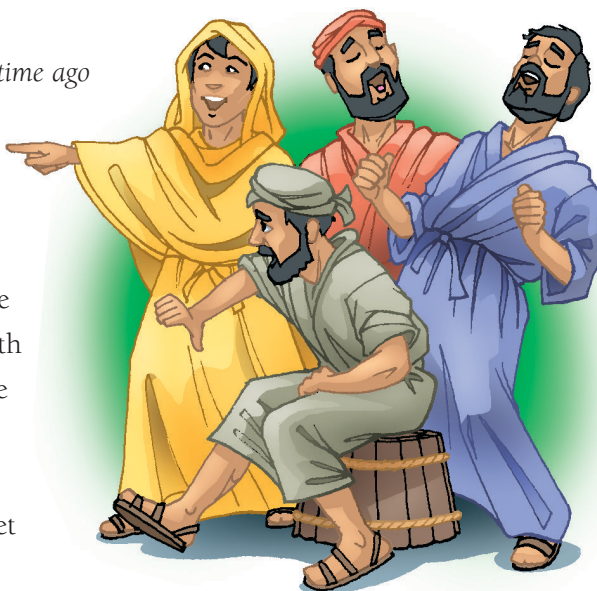
father at the open door. Noah was quiet for a long time. Finally he said, "It is

finished. We have done everything the Lord told us to do."

Noah marched down the ramp. A small crowd of people had gathered around it. People may have come there to hear Noah tell about the coming flood.

"Water has never covered all the earth!" they may have shouted. "Why should we believe that it ever will?"

"Because God told me it will," Noah may have always answered. But these people didn't love God. They didn't care about what God said.



Memory Verse

"For what you have done I will always praise you."

PSALM 52:9, NIV.

The Message

We thank God for taking care of us.

“It’s almost time,” Noah said to the people. “The ark is finished. The flood is coming! Come into the ark,” he may have begged. “God wants so much to save you!”

Nobody believed him. Nobody believed God.

Then suddenly someone may have shouted, “Lions!”

Everyone turned to see. Two lions padded together toward the crowd. But the lions didn’t even seem to see the people. They had their eyes fixed on the ark. They walked right up the ramp and disappeared inside.

“Elephants! Elephants!” a little boy yelled. Two big gray elephants trotted toward the ark. They also climbed up the long ramp and disappeared inside.

“What kind of trick is this?” someone shouted. “How are you making the animals do that?”

Noah’s face spread into a huge smile. “It’s the Lord!” he exclaimed. “The Lord is leading the animals aboard. I don’t have anything to do with it!”

All that day animals came into the ark. The crowd watched in silence. When the last

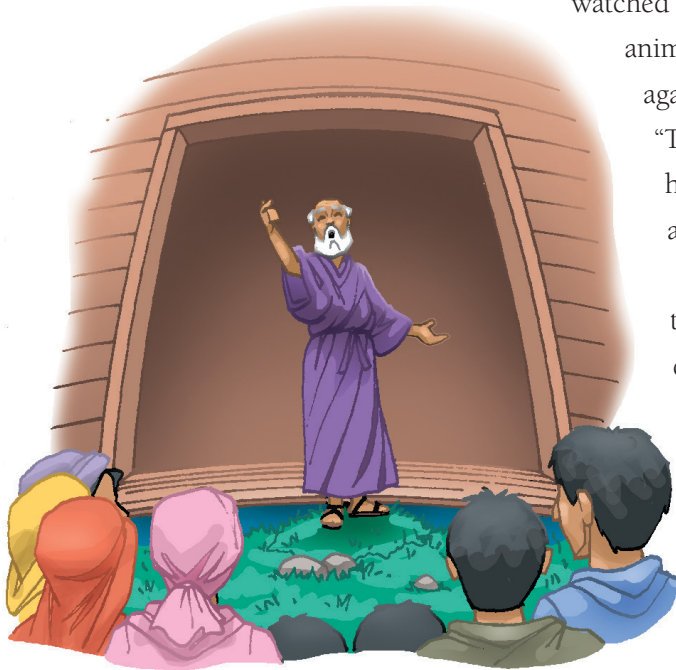
animal was safely inside, Noah once

again came to the door of the ark.

“This is your last chance,” Noah may have pleaded. “Please come inside and be safe.”

But no one moved. So Noah turned away and walked quietly back into the ark. Then God Himself shut the big door and sealed Noah’s family and the animals safely inside.

God had a plan to take care of Noah’s family and the animals. And He has a plan to take care of us too.



Do and Say

SABBATH

To review the memory verse, use the way he or she learned it in Sabbath School. (See page 61.) Read together Genesis 7:1–3 and 7–9. Thank God for giving us the Bible.

In Sabbath School your child made a finger puppet to tell someone about God's care. Help him or her to do so.

SUNDAY

Together, name ways God uses parents to take care of children. Talk about ways to take care of animals. Encourage your child to help care for an animal. Providing food and water is a good beginning.

If possible, plan a trip to a zoo or wild animal park. Thank God for the animals.

MONDAY

Tell the Bible lesson to your child.

Ask: How many people joined Noah in the ark? Who? What did Noah do to get ready for all the animals? How do you know that Noah loved God? How can we show we love God?

TUESDAY

Help your child draw a picture of the ark. How many animals can you draw going into the ark? Sing an animal song, then thank God for making animals for us to enjoy.

WEDNESDAY

Help your child describe ways God cares for people and animals. Sing a “praise” song to thank God for His care. Sing an animal song too.

For fun, “bark” like a puppy to the tune of “Jesus Loves Me,” then “meow” it like a cat. Then sing the words.

THURSDAY

Ask your child to make some animal sounds. Guess which animals are being imitated. Make some animal sounds yourself. How many can your child identify? Use animal crackers or a picture book so your child can identify the animals. Say and clap the memory verse together.

FRIDAY

Use stuffed animals to act out the story of Noah. Make an ark by putting a blanket over a table. (Have lunch or supper as you sit together in the “ark.”)

Review the memory verse and then sing “Jesus Loves Me.” Thank God for taking care of us and for saving the animals for us to enjoy.

