

SURVIVING THE STORM LESSON 1

MAIN FOCUS

We can live a righteous life in a wicked world just like Noah did!

POWER VERSE

"The paths of the LORD are true and right, and righteous people live by walking in them."

- Hosea 14:9

BIG IDEA

"I'm Gonna Walk With God Every Day, Living Righteous Is The Only Way!"

Leader's Info

The world we live in is full of sin. It's not much different than the world that Noah lived in. In Noah's day, there was NO ONE else living for God except Noah.

How did Noah do it? How did he manage to live a righteous life in the midst of all that wickedness and sin? In this lesson we examine the life of Noah and what set him apart from those around him. We will learn how he became the one God chose to save the human race from extinction.

The children will learn how they, too, can live a life that stands out for God. Even in the midst of a wicked world, they can still live a righteous life.

★ **INTRO VIDEO**

"BREAKING WEATHER BULLETIN"

★ **PUPPET SKIT**

"SILLY WILLY STRUGGLES TO DO RIGHT"

★ **OFFERING TIME**

★ **PRAISE SONGS**

★ **GAME TIME**

"SURVIVING THE STORM"

★ **POWER VERSE**

"THE PATHS OF THE LORD ARE TRUE AND RIGHT, AND RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE LIVE BY WALKING IN THEM."

- HOSEA 14:9

★ **WORSHIP SONGS**

★ **ILLUSTRATED MESSAGE**

"LIVING FOR GOD IN A WICKED WORLD"

★ **"RAP IT UP" VIDEO**

★ **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

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"RAP IT UP" VIDEO

REVIEW QUESTIONS

ORDER OF SERVICE

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SURVIVING THE STORM LESSON 1

PUPPET SKIT

Character: Silly Willy *(a hyperactive puppet that thrives on “scaring” the leader; feel free to use any puppet character that your kids are familiar with from your services)*

Leader: Today, we are learning about how Noah lived a righteous life even in the midst of a wicked and sinful world...

Silly Willy: *(comes up and scares the leader)* Woo! Now, that was a good one! I bet you have to go change your undies after that scare, huh?

Leader: Silly Willy! That’s no way to talk in church! But, yes, you did scare me a little.

Silly Willy: I know! It was awesome! So, what-cha doing?

Leader: I was just talking to the kids about Noah.

Silly Willy: Who’s he?

Leader: Oh, you don’t “Noah” the story about Noah? *(chuckles a bit, laughing at their own joke)*

Silly Willy: *(looking puzzled)* I don’t get it.

Leader: Nevermind. Noah was a man in the Bible who was chosen by God to build an ark to save his family from the flood that God was sending to destroy the world.

Silly Willy: WHOA! Destroy the world?

Leader: Yes, it was terrible. But, God found Noah to be a righteous and holy person. That means that he lived his life to please God in all he did. God chose Noah and his family to be the only human beings that survived the flood.

Silly Willy: Wow! So, you mean Noah was the only person in the world who was living for God?

Leader: That’s what the Bible says.

Silly Willy: I wonder how he did it? I find it hard to do the right thing all the time, especially when my friends at school are doing things that are wrong. Sometimes it is almost impossible not to do things wrong with them.

Leader: It certainly can be hard to do what is right when everyone else is doing wrong. But, Noah proves that it is possible to live for God even if you are the **ONLY** one.

Silly Willy: But, what about when I am over at a friends house for a sleepover and they want to watch

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SURVIVING THE STORM LESSON 1

PUPPET SKIT (CONTINUED)

a movie that I know I am not allowed to watch. I can't be the ONLY one who doesn't watch it. They might make fun of me.

Leader: That's true. Sometimes people don't want to do what is right and they make fun of those who choose to do the right thing. I am sure that probably happened to Noah as well. But, he chose to make pleasing God more important than pleasing people. That's why God chose him to be the savior of humankind.

Silly Willy: Wow! I sure wish I could be like Noah.

Leader: Oh, you can. That's what we are going to learn about today. We are going to learn how to live for God in a wicked world.

Silly Willy: Well, awesome! Then, I am going to go back down and listen to the lesson. I want to be a righteous person just like Noah was.

Leader: Great idea, Silly Willy!

Silly Willy: But, before I go, I have a knock-knock joke for you since we are talking about the flood today.

Leader: OK.

Silly Willy: Knock-Knock.

Leader: Who's there?

Silly Willy: Water.

Leader: Water who?

Silly Willy: Water you waiting for? Let's start the lesson! *(exits quickly)*

Leader: Oh, that Silly Willy. But, he's got a point. Let's get moving to the next part of our service!

SURVIVING THE STORM LESSON 1

GAME TIME

"SURVIVING THE STORM"

Items Needed For Game: The Data CD; open the PowerPoint presentation to Lesson 1 and begin with the game title slide "Surviving The Storm" (*don't be confused with the series title slide*)



How To Play: Everyone can play this game. Explain that the captain of the ship they have been traveling on has gotten very sick and can no longer be in charge. It's up to the kids to navigate the ship through the storm.

Divide the room in half. Each team will get to decide which way to turn. At each turn, the team will discover either a life jacket, sunshine, a life preserver, or a hurricane. If they find a life jacket, their team gets 25 pts. If they find sunshine, they get 50 points. If they find a life preserver, they get 100 points. However, if they find a hurricane they lose all the points they have accumulated so far and their turn is over.

Every time a team gets a correct answer they can choose either to continue or pass to the other team. They can play as long as they like, but as soon as they hit a hurricane they lose all their points and their turn is over. The goal is to get correct answers and pass it on the other team to try to make them choose a hurricane and lose their points.

The team that survives the storm and gains the most points after twenty rounds wins!

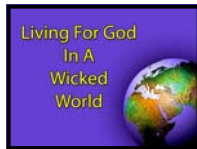
SURVIVING THE STORM LESSON 1

ILLUSTRATED MESSAGE

"LIVING FOR GOD IN A WICKED WORLD"

Materials Needed: The Data CD; a basketball; a football

Preparation: Open the PowerPoint presentation on the Data CD titled "Lesson One," begin with the slide titled "Living For God In A Wicked World." Read the story of God choosing Noah in Genesis 6.



The Message: *(title slide)*

Today we begin talking about one of the most famous stories in the Bible, "Noah and the Ark." But, the truth is Noah's story started long before the ark ever was built. The story It starts in Genesis chapter 6 verse 5. Listen to what the Bible says: *"Now the LORD observed the extent of the people's wickedness, and he saw that all their thoughts were consistently and totally evil."*

The world was filled with evil. God knew the people were evil. He saw the way they treated each other. He saw the way they hurt each other. God knew all about it. Sometimes we think that God doesn't really see our sin. We think we are "getting away" with it. But, the truth is, God knows. God knows when you lie to your parents. God knows what movies you watch. God knows what parties you attend. God knows your words, your actions, even your thoughts. Somehow we get in our mind that we can hide things from God. We can't. God knows.

And, how do you think God felt about all this sin? How did it make God feel that the people He had created had become sinful, evil people? Genesis 6:6 says, *"It broke his heart."* Sin makes God sad. When we sin, we're not just breaking God's rules, we're breaking God's heart. God was so sad that His people had become so evil that He made a very strong decision. He decided that He was going to destroy the WHOLE Earth and EVERYTHING in it. That's hard to believe isn't it? But, that's how much God wanted things to change. He wanted evil GONE from the world.

So, He decided to send so much rain to the earth that it would FLOOD the whole Earth and kill everything in it. Now, you're probably thinking, "So, what does this have to do with Noah?" I'm glad you asked. You see, God searched the whole world looking for someone who was living for Him. He looked over the whole world and only found ONE man who was living for God in the evil world. Guess who it was? That's right, Noah.

You know kids, the world you live in is an evil world as well. Everywhere you look, there's people killing each other, people lying to each other, people stealing from each other. God is looking for US to be just like Noah. I want to share with you three things about Noah that will help you live for God in an evil world.

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SURVIVING THE STORM LESSON 1

ILLUSTRATED MESSAGE

(CONTINUED)

Genesis 6:8 says, "Noah was a righteous man..." What does that mean? How can you be "righteous?" How can I be righteous? It simply means this...If you want to **Live for God in a Wicked World:**



1. Do What's Right (slide)

Righteousness is doing what is right before God. If you want to stand out in a world filled with wickedness, do what is right. No matter what! When people treat you wrong, do what is right. When everyone around you doesn't do right, do right.

Do what is right. How? Righteous is doing what the Bible says is right. Not what feels right – but live by everything the Bible says. That's what Noah did. He followed God's commands to the best of his ability. But, that is not the ONLY thing about Noah that stood out to God.

Genesis 6:9 says, "Noah was...the only blameless man living on earth at the time." What does it mean to be blameless? It means that other people saw the difference in Noah's life. They knew what he stood for. People saw my Noah's life and knew there was something different about him. They knew he was living for God because of the way he lived. So, if you want to **Live for God in a Wicked World:**



2) Let Others See The Difference In Your Life (slide)

Do people know YOU are living for God? Do people look at YOUR life and know you are living for God because of the way you talk, act, and treat others? If they do, then you are "blameless" just like Noah. If not, then you need to change that.

(hold up the basketball and the football) Can you see the differences between these two balls? They are both balls, but what are some of the differences between them? (allow the children to respond; some of the responses should be "one is orange and the other is brown," "one is round and the other is oblong") It's very easy to tell see the difference between these two balls, right? It should be THAT easy to see the difference between your life and those who are not living for God as well. It should be easy to see the difference in the way you talk, the way you act, the way you treat others, and every other area of your life.

So, Noah was righteous (that means he did what was right), he was blameless (that means people saw the difference God made in his life), and one more thing. **Genesis 6:9** also says that Noah "consistently followed God's will and **enjoyed a close relationship with Him.**" So, if you want to **Live for God in a Wicked World:**

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SURVIVING THE STORM LESSON 1

ILLUSTRATED MESSAGE

(CONTINUED)



3) Stay Close To God (slide)

What does that mean – Noah was close to God? What does it mean for you and for me to be close to God? Being close to God is choosing to put God first in your life every single day. It's more than just "visiting God" on Sunday when you go to church. It's choosing to spend time with God every day in prayer, reading the Bible, and worship.

That's what Noah did. He prayed to God every day. He worshipped God every day. God meant more to him than anything.

And that is what made him someone God wanted to choose to save from the flood. He did what was right, he let other see the difference in his life, and he stayed close to God. And, you can do the same. I know you are thinking, "Well, I am not like Noah. I am just a normal kid. How can I be like Noah?"

The truth is, Noah was just a normal guy. There was no special super power that he had that others didn't have. God chose to save him and his family from the flood because he CHOSE to do what was right. It wasn't easy, but he did it with God's help. And, you can too.

When others are living a wicked life in a wicked world. YOU can choose to do what is right. You may be the only one living for God. So was Noah. But, if he can do it, so can you.

ALTAR RESPONSE (play soft music)

Allow those who feel like they haven't been living for God like they should to come forward for prayer. Pray that God would help them to live their life so that others will see the difference in them.

SURVIVING THE STORM LESSON 1

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What was today's Big Idea?

Answer: "I'm Gonna Walk With God Every Day, Living Righteous Is The Only Way!"

2. What was the name of the crazy weatherman on the video?

Answer: *Rusty Nimrod*

3. Which of Noah's sons was being interviewed?

Answer: *Ham*

4. Is it possible to live for God in a wicked world?

Answer: *yes*

5. Why did God want to destroy the world?

Answer: *it was full of wickedness and sin*

6. Who was the ONLY person living for God in the wicked world?

Answer: *Noah*

7. Did Noah always do what was right?

Answer: *yes*

8. What does it mean to be "blameless?"

Answer: *others can see the difference in your life*

9. True or False: If you want to stay close to God you need to pray and spend time with God every day.

Answer: *true*

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: *Hosea 14:9*