The Bible Lesson at a Glance
God was saddened by the wickedness He saw on earth. It made Him unhappy to see how people used their intellect for evil rather than good. He decided to do away with this wickedness by sending a flood. God told Noah about His plans. At the same time, He revealed a plan to save those who would turn back to Him.

This is a lesson about community.
In this story we celebrate God’s promise to save. Even though grieved by the wickedness of humanity, God still loved all humankind and wanted them to return to Him. By sending the Flood He presented an opportunity for people to reevaluate their lives and return to Him. God presents the same opportunities today. We can cooperate with Him in the same way that Noah did. Christian cooperation is still a distinguishing feature of God’s people, citizens of heaven, a community of faith that is eagerly awaiting their Savior (Philippians 3:20), the Lord, Jesus Christ.

Teacher Enrichment
“God gave Noah the exact dimensions of the ark and explicit directions in regard to its construction in every particular. Human wisdom could not have devised a structure of so great strength and durability. God was the designer, and Noah the master builder. It was constructed like the hull of a ship, that it might float upon the water, but in some respects it more nearly resembled a house. It was three stories high, with but one door, which was in the side. The light was admitted at the top, and the different apartments were so arranged that all were lighted. The material employed in the construction of the ark was the cypress, or gopher wood, which would be untouched by decay for hundreds of years. . . . All that man could do was done to render the work perfect, yet the ark could not of itself have withstood the storm which was to come upon the earth. God alone could preserve His servants upon the tempestuous waters” (Patriarchs and Prophets, pp. 92-95).

How can I incorporate the habit of reevaluation into my life on a regular basis?
Welcome
Welcome students at the door and direct them to their seats. Ask them how their week has been. Encourage learners to study their Sabbath School lesson regularly. You may de-brief students on the previous lesson to help them see the chronological continuity of the Bible stories from one week to another. Then ask students to share a few things they have learned from the current lesson prior to Sabbath School. Ask: What was the most interesting part of the Bible story? What activity did you find the most helpful? Invite students to share their experiences and/or the handiworks they created for Sabbath School during the week.

Transition into the Readiness activity of your choice.

Program notes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LESSON SECTION</th>
<th>MINUTES</th>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>MATERIALS NEEDED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Greet students at door. Ask about their week.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Readiness</td>
<td>10-15</td>
<td>A. Design-a-Boat (see p. 16)</td>
<td>materials for building a boat, basin of water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B. Operation Rescue (see p. 16)</td>
<td>tape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C. Rescue (see p. 17)</td>
<td>for each group: glass of water, ice cube, string, salt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prayer and Praise</td>
<td>15-20</td>
<td>(see p. 17)</td>
<td>songbooks, world map, pushpins, offering plate/basket OR ark-shaped container, letter to parents (p. 144), jigsaw puzzle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bible Lesson</td>
<td>15-20</td>
<td>Introducing the Bible Story (see p. 18)</td>
<td>Bibles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Experiencing the Story (see p. 18)</td>
<td>Bibles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Exploring the Bible (see p. 18)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applying the Lesson</td>
<td>10-15</td>
<td>A. Scenarios (see p. 19)</td>
<td>model kits or Lego® sets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B. Model Instructions (see p. 19)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharing the Lesson</td>
<td>10-15</td>
<td>God’s Plan for Us (see p. 20)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing</td>
<td></td>
<td>A. Prayer (see p. 20)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B. Reminder to Parents (see p. 20)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C. Next Week’s Lesson (see p. 20)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LESSON 1

READINESS ACTIVITIES

Select the activity or activities that are most appropriate for your situation.

A

Design-a-Boat

Say: Working in small groups, use the materials to design a boat. As you design, keep in mind that, if it were full scale, your boat should be able to carry people and withstand stormy weather. Be prepared to explain any special features you have given your boat.

After they have finished building their boats, give each team time to show it and try it on its maiden voyage. Let the others in the class blow to create “waves” and “stormy” weather.

Debriefing

Ask: What would it take to sail a life-sized boat designed like this? What changes would you need to make? What changes would you like to make? In our lesson today we will learn how God spoke to Noah and told him to build a boat, as there was going to be a flood. Noah had no conception of rain or floods, but followed God’s plans. Let’s say together the power text, Genesis 6:22,

“Noah did everything just as God commanded him” (Genesis 6:22).

Together we are part of God’s plan.

Accommodation for students with special needs:

This activity may be challenging for some students with physical disabilities. Place these students in groups where they can receive additional help from their peers.

B

Operation Rescue

In advance, prepare a “river” represented by two strips of tape on the ground about 4½ feet (1.5 meters) apart (just far enough so that the students cannot jump across.)

Divide the students into small groups, place one student from each group on one side of the river and the rest on the other “bank.” Say: This is a fast-flowing river. Imagine that the river is deep and dangerous. Your friend is stuck on the opposite bank. Work out a plan to rescue them. Ask the students to share their plans.

Debriefing

Ask: What do you think is the best rescue plan? What were the advantages of working as a team in contrast with working alone? What were the disadvantages of working as a team versus working alone?

Say: Today we are going to learn about God’s rescue plan. People had become so wicked that God decided to send a flood to destroy the world, but He had a rescue plan for those who loved Him.

Let’s say together the power text, Genesis 6:22,

“Noah did everything just as God commanded him” (Genesis 6:22).

God has plans for us that we can follow today.

Together we are part of God’s plan.
Fellowship
Allow students to report things that they are pleased or troubled about. Acknowledge any birthdays, special events, or achievements. Give a special, warm greeting to all visitors. Get contact information from the adult who brought them to church. Early in the following week, send a postcard or e-mail letting the visitors know how much you enjoyed having them in your class and that you would like to see them again.

Suggested Songs
“We Are the Family of God” (*He Is Our Song*, no. 114)
“Side by Side” (*He Is Our Song*, no. 123)
“Salt and Light” (*Praise Time*, no. 43)
“We Are His” (*He Is Our Song*, no. 140)

Mission
Use Adventist Mission for Youth and Adults (go to www.juniorpowerpoints.org and click on MISSION) or another mission report available to you. For the mission story, have a map of the world where the students can identify the location of the mission story and compare it to where they are. You could use pushpins to mark where the mission stories take place throughout the quarter.

Offering
At the beginning of the quarter send a letter to the parents, informing them that an offering is taken up each week in Sabbath School (see letter to parents on p. 144). Say:

One way that we can participate in God’s plan for all of us is by giving our offerings. This money goes to help other parts of our family.

Prayer
Give each student one piece of a puzzle. Have the rest of the puzzle put together. Say: Sometimes God’s plans seem like a puzzle. We have one piece in our hands, but we are not sure what we should do. Let’s put the puzzle together. Close with a prayer, asking God to guide students according to His plan for their lives. Also remember to pray for students’ prayer requests, for the birthday and other special event celebrants, as well as for the visitors.

Say: Just as the puzzle pieces fit together so

Together we are part of God’s plan.

Rescue
Divide the students into small groups and supply a glass of water, ice cube, salt, and string to each group. Keep one set of materials for yourself.

Say: Each group has a glass of water and an ice cube. Your challenge is to rescue the ice cube from the glass without using your hands to lift it out, and without removing the water from the glass. You may use the string and salt to help. There is some salt and a piece of string to help you.

While the groups are trying, place one end of the string on your ice cube and the other over the edge of the glass. Then sprinkle salt on the ice cube around the string. After seven to 10 minutes you will be able to lift the string and remove the ice cube. You may want to begin your “rescue” before the students begin theirs.

Debriefing
Ask: How successful were you? What techniques did you use? Would you like to see one way it can be done? Demonstrate what you did.

Say: Today we are going to learn about God’s rescue plan. People had become so wicked that God decided to send a flood to destroy the world, but He had a rescue plan for those who loved Him. Noah and his family worked with God. Let’s say together the power text, Genesis 6:22,

“Noah did everything just as God commanded him” (Genesis 6:22).

As a Christian community we can remember that Together we are part of God’s plan.

YOU NEED:
for each group:
- ice cube
- glass of water
- salt
- string
Introducing the Bible Story
Ask: Have you ever built a model or worked on a design? What happens if you do not follow the instructions exactly? It does not look right, or it does not work the way it should. In our lesson today God gave Noah a plan and very specific instructions to follow.

Experiencing the Story
Divide the class into two groups. Read Genesis 6:13-22 responsively. Ask the students to form pairs and discuss the dialogue between God and Noah. They could consider discussing the answers to questions such as: What was God’s purpose in talking with Noah? Why did God choose to speak to Noah? How might Noah have reacted when he acknowledged that God entrusted him with the responsibility of carrying out His plan? At the end of their discussions ask the students to share with the larger group some of the points they raised in their conversations.

Exploring the Bible
Say: Many times throughout history, God has allowed His children on earth the privilege of working with Him to accomplish some mighty plan. God promises to work through us and help us work together with each other for His glory.

Together we are part of God’s plan.

Let’s find and read about other occasions when God asked people to work with Him on a specific plan. Write on the board the Bible passages and questions listed below. Divide the students into small groups and assign to each group one of the following Bible passages. Once they have read the text assigned to them, have them answer the questions. Have each group report back to the larger group.

Bible Passages
- Judges 7:1-21 (Gideon)
- Esther 4 and 8:1-8 (Esther)
- Acts 10:9-35 (Peter)
- Acts 9:1-19 (Saul and Ananias)

Questions to Answer
- What was God’s plan?
- Who did God ask to help?
- How were they able to influence others in their community?

Debriefing
Ask the larger group: What is the criteria to being part of God’s plan? (willingness to cooperate even if it is not our preferred option; cooperation with others) We are not alone but part of a community, and

Together we are part of God’s plan.

Accommodations for students with special needs:
Have students with visual impairments and learning disabilities sit close to the board. Alternatively, prepare in advance for these students a handout with the list of Bible references and questions.
APPLYING THE LESSON

A

Scenarios
Choose the scenarios that best suit your situation. Feel free to adapt them to suit your group.
1. **A new family moves into your area. They have a son/daughter about your age. You can see that they are having difficulties integrating into the community. What can you do to help? How might you involve other friends and neighbors to help?**
   - When you have discussed the options, point out how we need to work together, and repeat the power point.
   - *Together we are part of God’s plan.*

2. **You have an aunt/uncle who is not a Christian. They are not hostile, but just say that Christianity is not for them. What can you do to demonstrate God’s love? What can you do to alert them to the need to accept Jesus into their life?**
   - When you have discussed the options, point out how we need to work together, and repeat the power point.
   - *Together we are part of God’s plan.*

3. **You are invited to a party, but as you listen you realize that it is not a place where you should go. Everyone else says that they are going. You like being part of the popular group. You could make an excuse that you have something else to do or you could tell the truth and say that you do not agree with some of the things they are planning. What would you do and why?**
   - When discussing the options, point out that by taking a stand you can help others. Our actions do not affect just us, but also influence those around us. We are united with others in God’s family when we take a stand for the right.

B

Model Instructions
Bring several small model kits or Lego® sets. Remove the instructions from half the model kits and leave the instructions in half. Give each group of three to four students a model kit and three minutes to complete the model. Then ask each group to show theirs to the class.

Ask: What made this project difficult? What made it easy? Which group was unable to finish their model? How are building these models like or unlike what Noah encountered in his ark project? What kinds of things do we need to “build” in our own lives that might work easier with a plan/instructions from God? How will our lives work if we choose God’s plan instead of our own? List one thing in your world today for which you need God’s plan or instructions to be successful.

YOU NEED:

- model kits
- Lego® sets

**YOU NEED:**

- model kits
- Lego® sets
God’s Plan for Us
Allow students to share if during the past week they told someone the good news about God’s plan to save us. Say: God wanted to save more than Noah and his family. He instructed Noah to build an ark, but also to tell others what he was doing and why. Today God wants to save people, and He wants us to be a part of His plan.

Together we are part of God’s plan.

Divide into small groups and think of a way you can share the good news that God wants to save the people you meet every day. Decide how you could put the ideas into action.

Debriefing
Allow the groups to report back. Have them plan to implement in practice one of the witnessing methods that was mentioned.

Say: Remember that

Together we are part of God’s plan.

Prayer and closing comments:
Say: God worked through Noah to save his family and the people in the world. God wants us to be part of His plan to save people today. When we work together, we are part of God’s plan. Ask God’s blessing on your plans to share with others.

Reminder to parents:
Say: Check out the student Bible study guide to find Parents’ Pages for your use in family worship, or however you wish to use them to spiritually guide your children. You may listen to the podcast of the lesson online at www.juniorpowerpoints.org/podcast.php?channel=1.

Coming up next week:
Say: Noah set an example. God uses us to influence others.
LESSON 1

Have you ever tried to make a model or follow a pattern and the instructions have not been very clear? How did you feel? When God asked Noah to build an ark, Noah didn't have any problem following God's plan.

Noah sighed as he walked into the house. He had just been talking to his neighbor. It seemed that there was no end to the wickedness around. Almost every day there was a new robbery or murder. People seemed indifferent. When Noah tried to point out that these things went against God's law, they just laughed. Why should they worry about God's law? They had a good life the way it was.

Noah knelt down and gave the problem to God. One night God spoke to Noah:

“I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. So make yourself an ark of cypress wood” (Genesis 6:13, 14). 

“An ark? What is an ark?” Noah may have asked, sounding puzzled.

So God explained to Noah His plan. This big boat would serve as a home for people as well as for many animals. God gave important instructions for how to build the ark. He asked Noah to use the best cypress trees he could find and make an ark with the following dimensions: 450 feet (130 meters) long, 75 feet (22 meters) wide, and 45 feet (13 meters) high. Further, Noah was instructed to make a roof that would allow for the inflow of fresh air. He was then asked to coat the structure inside and out with tar.

God continued giving instructions: “Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle, and upper decks” (verse 16).

Noah thought of the time that the ark would be built. He may have wondered, How will I know when it is the right time?

Then God offered His friend Noah a glimpse into the future and gave him further instructions:

“I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons’ wives with you. You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them” (verses 17-21). 

Noah probably looked surprised. He knew that this was not God's original plan. God did not want to destroy the world by flood, but He could not let the wickedness continue.

Noah determined to do everything that God had told him. He wasted no time. He made plans to start building right away. He told his family what God had said. At first everyone was silent. Then everyone started talking at once. What should they bring? What was rain? How would they get the animals to enter? What would the animals eat? Noah did not know the answers to all of their questions. But he did know that God would be with them. Noah believed that at the right time God would show them how to gather the animals and what food they would eat. But first they needed to gather wood, find people to help them, and buy some tools. However, before they started to work they asked God to bless them and lead them to the right people and places.

Noah got his sons and others to help him. People were curious about what he was doing. So Noah warned them. He told them what was going to happen. He told them that God loves them. Then he invited them to go into the ark and be safe.

Noah and his sons worked together to build the boat. While they worked Noah preached, telling others of God's love and giving everyone the opportunity to accept God’s plan.
KEY REFERENCES
- Genesis 6:13-22
- Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 7, pp. 90-97
- The Bible Story (1994), vol. 1, pp. 101-104 ("Sad, Bad Days")
- Our Beliefs nos. 14, 11, 7

POWER TEXT
"Noah did everything just as God commanded him" (Genesis 6:22).

POWER POINT
Together we are part of God’s plan.

Sabbath
DO  Do the activity on page 18.
LEARN  Begin learning the power text.

Sunday
READ  Read Genesis 6:13 and this week’s story, “Long-range Weather Forecast.”
DRAW  Draw or find a tool. Attach to it this week’s power text, Genesis 6:22, and review it each day.
REVIEW  Review the power text.
PRAY  Ask God to help you share His plan to save us.

Monday
READ  Read Genesis 6:14.
THINK  Think about the dimensions of the ark. Why did the ark have to be so large?
MAKE  Make a rain measure by half burying a wide-necked jar or tin in some fairly open ground. Measure how much water there is in it at the end of the week.
WRITE  Write in your Bible study journal things that make you afraid or things that make your world an unsafe place to live.
REVIEW  Review the power text.
PRAY  Turn your fears over to God. Ask Him to protect you and your family.

Tuesday
READ  Read Genesis 6:15, 16.
THINK  What was the purpose of God’s specific instructions to Noah for the building of the ark?
LIST  List the things that you would have taken on the ark. What things can you take with you to heaven?
REVIEW  Review the power text.
PRAY  Ask God to help you share with others the news that He is coming soon.

Wednesday
READ  Read Genesis 6:17.
THINK  What was the purpose of the opening below the roof? What does this detail say about God’s loving care?
SHARE  Tell someone the good news that Jesus died to save each one of us from sin.
REVIEW  Review the power text.
PRAY  Thank God that He is still saving people today.

Thursday
READ  Read Genesis 6:18-22.
THINK  Think about the provisions God has made to preserve you until He comes to take you to heaven.
WRITE  In your Bible study journal, describe the place that is the modern-day “ark,” where we can invite people to come to know God’s saving grace.
REVIEW  Review the power text.
PRAY  Thank God that you are part of His family.

Friday
READ  Read Genesis 6:13-22.
SHARE  Tell your family what you experienced when you shared with someone this week the good news about God’s plan to save us. How did the person with whom you shared respond?
DISCUSS  Talk about how your family and your church compare to the ark.
REPEAT  Share the power text with your family at worship.
REVIEW  Review the power text.
PRAY  Pray for each member of your family that they will experience God’s saving power.