

Sunday School Lesson – Upper Primary

BIG IDEA	God is rescuer
Bible Passage	Genesis 6-8
Preparation	<p>Read Genesis 6-8 Adam and Eve’s rebellion against God had far reaching consequences. Not only did they suffer personally, but the whole of creation was now cursed. Even worse, every single person born into the world would now be born a rebel - a natural enemy against God and deserving of his judgement. Genesis 6:5-6 aptly describes the state of affairs. The following verse (v.7) is a natural conclusion: The whole world has rebelled against God’s rightful rule – the just response is judgement. The surprise is found in verse 8. In the midst of judgement, God determined to show mercy. He chose to rescue Noah and his family. Although Genesis 6:9 would seem to suggest Noah was rescued because he was worthy, this cannot be the case, as the account in Genesis 9:20-25 clearly demonstrates. Noah and his family were as fallible as anyone. They would have suffered the same fate as the rest of the world, had God not intervened. Yet God does intervene, and he does so by giving Noah very specific instructions. In faith, Noah complied and built an Ark. He obeyed God, even though it must have looked like folly. But the very thing that looked so foolish was the means by which he and his family were saved. Just as the means that God gives to rescue us today looks like foolishness to those who are perishing (1 Corinthians 1:18) yet is powerful to rescue those who put their faith in him.</p> <p>Take home message: We deserve judgement, but God chooses to rescue those who put their trust in him.</p> <p>Prepare for Getting Started: Plan how to act out or tell the story as described in “Getting Started”.</p>
Getting Started	<p>Either get the children to act out or tell a story about a scenario where everyone is going for a walk and one of them falls into quicksand (or a deep pit). The others try different ways of rescuing them (use a rope, branch, clothing... etc). The person in the pit refuses to accept help and insists they can get out by themselves. In the end, the “helpers” give up. <i>Talk about what would end up happening to the person stuck in the pit and how foolish they are.</i></p>
Finding Out 1. God’s judgement is fair and just (Gen 6:5-7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recap the story from last week. Remind them that God had made a beautiful world. He looked after and provided for Adam and Eve and was their rightful ruler • <i>Q: How did Adam and Eve behave towards God? What was the consequence?</i> ➤ Explain that Adam and Eve’s sin had consequences not just for themselves, but also for the whole world. The whole world was now broken (<i>talk about examples of this</i>). And ever since Adam and Eve, every person who was born into the world

<p>2. God chooses to rescue some from his own judgement (Genesis 6:8)</p>	<p>was also broken and affected by sin. Everyone continued the pattern started by Adam and Eve and continued to rebel against God.</p> <p>➤ God looked down on the world he had made, and this is what he saw.</p> <p>Read Genesis 6:5-6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What were the people like? How were they behaving?</i> • <i>Q: How did God feel about this?</i> • <i>Q: What would be a fair response from God to this behaviour?</i> <p>Read Genesis 6:7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What does this verse say that God's response was? Is that fair?</i> • Talk about the fact that God was completely just and fair in deciding to judge the world. They had all rebelled against him, even though he gave them no cause. <p>Read Genesis 6:17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: How did God say he was going to judge the world?</i> <p>➤ Even though God was completely just and fair in deciding to judge the world, he also decided to show mercy in rescuing people.</p> <p>Read Genesis 6:8</p> <p>➤ God chose to show mercy and rescue Noah and his family from His judgement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What would have happened to Noah and his family if God hadn't decided to rescue them?</i> <p>➤ Talk about the fact that there was no way that Noah and his family could have survived if God had not decided to rescue them. Read Genesis 7:17-24. Point out the complete devastation of the earth (v.18-20), and complete destruction of all people and animals (v.21-23). There was no way to survive God's judgement outside of his way of rescue. There was no way Noah could have rescued himself.</p> <p>Read Genesis 6:13-16; 7:2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What did God tell Noah to do?</i> <p>➤ Talk about the specific nature of God's instructions to Noah. God knew exactly what was needed to rescue Noah and his family.</p> <p>➤ <i>Q: What do you think might have happened if Noah decided to change the plans and build a different boat, because he thought he knew better than God?</i></p> <p>➤ Noah needed to trust God's rescue plan. He needed to believe that God knew exactly what he was doing.</p> <p>➤ <i>Q: How long do you think it might have taken to build the ark? What do you think Noah's neighbours thought about seeing Noah build a giant boat on dry land?</i></p> <p>➤ There was no sign of rain or flooding during the whole time Noah was working on the ark, yet he carried on, trusting that God's word could be trusted.</p> <p>Read Genesis 6:22</p>
<p>3. Noah's response (Genesis 8:20)</p>	<p>➤ Everything happened exactly as God said it would. The whole earth was flooded, and everything and everyone was destroyed, except Noah and his family, who God kept safe in the ark. God even told them when it was safe to come out.</p>

	<p>Read Genesis 8:20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What was Noah's response to being rescued?</i> ➤ He built an altar, to show that he knew it was God who rescued him, and to thank God for being his rescuer.
So What?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ God has told us that one day he is going to judge the world again. <p>Read Luke 17:26-27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ He has warned us this is coming, just as he did with Noah. He has also offered us a way to be rescued, just like he did with Noah. • <i>Q: What is the way that God has offered us so that we can be rescued from his coming judgement?</i> ➤ This time it's not a big boat – it's a person! He has given us his son – Jesus. If we put our trust in Jesus, he will rescue us. This might seem foolish to some, but it is the only way to be safe from God's judgement. ➤ Will you be like Noah and trust God's way of rescue? Or do you think that you don't need it, and that you will be ok when facing God's judgement?
Memory Verse	<p>PSALM 145:1</p> <p><i>I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.</i></p>

Sunday School Lesson – Lower Primary

BIG IDEA	God is rescuer
Bible Passage	Genesis 6-8
Preparation	<p>Read <i>Genesis 6-8</i> Adam and Eve’s rebellion against God had far reaching consequences. Not only did they suffer personally, but the whole of creation was now cursed. Even worse, every single person born into the world would now be born a rebel - a natural enemy against God and deserving of his judgement. Genesis 6:5-6 aptly describes the state of affairs. The following verse (v.7) is a natural conclusion: The whole world has rebelled against God’s rightful rule – the just response is judgement. The surprise is found in verse 8. In the midst of judgement, God determined to show mercy. He chose to rescue Noah and his family. Although Genesis 6:9 would seem to suggest Noah was rescued because he was worthy, this cannot be the case, as the account in Genesis 9:20-25 clearly demonstrates. Noah and his family were as fallible as anyone. They would have suffered the same fate as the rest of the world, had God not intervened. Yet God does intervene, and he does so by giving Noah very specific instructions. In faith, Noah complied and built an Ark. He obeyed God, even though it must have looked like folly. But the very thing that looked so foolish was the means by which he and his family were saved. Just as the means that God gives to rescue us today looks like foolishness to those who are perishing (1 Corinthians 1:18) yet is powerful to rescue those who put their faith in him.</p> <p>Take home message: We deserve judgement, but God chooses to rescue those who put their trust in him.</p> <p>Prepare for Getting Started: Plan how to act out or tell the story as described in “Getting Started”.</p>
Getting Started	<p>Either get the children to act out or tell a story about a scenario where everyone is going for a walk and one of them falls into quicksand (or a deep pit). The others try different ways of rescuing them (use a rope, branch, clothing... etc). The person in the pit refuses to accept help and insists they can get out by themselves. In the end, the “helpers” give up. <i>Talk about what would end up happening to the person stuck in the pit and how foolish they are.</i></p>
Finding Out 1. God’s judgement is fair and just (Gen 6:5-7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recap the story from last week. Remind them that God had made a beautiful world. He looked after and provided for Adam and Eve and was their rightful ruler • <i>Q: What did Adam and Eve do that was wrong? What was the consequence?</i> ➤ Adam and Eve’s sin had consequences not just for themselves, but also for the whole world. The whole world was now broken. ➤ And ever since Adam and Eve, every person who was born into the world was also broken. Everyone now rebelled against God and was now an enemy of God. ➤ God looked down on the world he had made, and this is what he saw.

<p>2. God chooses to rescue some from his own judgement (Genesis 6:8)</p>	<p>Read Genesis 6:5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What were the people like? How were they behaving?</i> <p>Read Genesis 6:6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: How did God feel about this?</i> <p>Read Genesis 6:7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What did God decide to do?</i> <p>➤ God was completely just and fair in deciding to judge the world. All the people had rebelled against God. He had been kind and good to them, and they rejected him.</p> <p>Read Genesis 6:17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: How did God say he was going to judge the world?</i> <p>➤ Even though God was completely just and fair in deciding to judge the world, he also decided to show mercy and rescue people.</p> <p>➤ God chose to show mercy and rescue Noah and his family from His judgement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What would have happened to Noah and his family if God hadn't decided to rescue them?</i> <p>➤ There was no way that Noah and his family could have survived if God had not decided to rescue them. Talk about how everything in the whole world was destroyed. There was no way to survive God's judgement outside of his way of rescue. There was no way Noah could have rescued himself.</p> <p>Read Genesis 6:14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What did God tell Noah to do?</i> <p>➤ <i>Q: How long do you think it might have taken to build the ark? What do you think Noah's neighbours thought about seeing Noah build a giant boat on dry land?</i></p> <p>➤ There was no sign of rain or flooding during the whole time Noah was working on the ark, yet he carried on, trusting that God's word could be trusted.</p> <p>➤ Then, everything happened exactly as God said it would. The whole earth was flooded, and everything and everyone was destroyed, except Noah and his family, who God kept safe in the ark.</p>
<p>So What?</p>	<p>➤ God has told us that one day he is going to judge the world again.</p> <p>➤ He has warned us this is coming, just as he did with Noah. He has also offered us a way to be rescued, just like he did with Noah.</p> <p>➤ <i>Q: What is the way that God has offered us so that we can be rescued from his coming judgement?</i></p> <p>➤ This time it's not a big boat – it's a person! He has given us his son – Jesus. If we put our trust in Jesus, he will rescue us.</p> <p>➤ Will you be like Noah and trust God's way of rescue?</p>
<p>Memory Verse</p>	<p>PSALM 145:1</p> <p><i>I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.</i></p>

Sunday School Lesson – Pre-School

BIG IDEA	God is rescuer
Bible Passage	Genesis 6-8
Preparation	<p>Read Genesis 6-8 Adam and Eve’s rebellion against God had far reaching consequences. Not only did they suffer personally, but the whole of creation was now cursed. Even worse, every single person born into the world would now be born a rebel - a natural enemy against God and deserving of his judgement. Genesis 6:5-6 aptly describes the state of affairs. The following verse (v.7) is a natural conclusion: The whole world has rebelled against God’s rightful rule – the just response is judgement. The surprise is found in verse 8. In the midst of judgement, God determined to show mercy. He chose to rescue Noah and his family. Although Genesis 6:9 would seem to suggest Noah was rescued because he was worthy, this cannot be the case, as the account in Genesis 9:20-25 clearly demonstrates. Noah and his family were as fallible as anyone. They would have suffered the same fate as the rest of the world, had God not intervened. Yet God does intervene, and he does so by giving Noah very specific instructions. In faith, Noah complied and built an Ark. He obeyed God, even though it must have looked like folly. But the very thing that looked so foolish was the means by which he and his family were saved. Just as the means that God gives to rescue us today looks like foolishness to those who are perishing (1 Corinthians 1:18) yet is powerful to rescue those who put their faith in him.</p> <p>Take home message: We deserve judgement, but God chooses to rescue those who put their trust in him.</p> <p>Prepare for Getting Started: Plan how to act out or tell the story as described in “Getting Started”.</p>
Getting Started	Either get the children to act out or tell a story about a scenario where everyone is going for a walk and one of them falls into quicksand (or a deep pit). The friends get some rope/stick and rescue their friend. Talk about how the person would feel before they were rescued, and then how they felt after being rescued.
Finding Out 1. God’s judgement is fair and just (Gen 6:5-7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recap the story from last week. Remind them that God had made a beautiful world. He looked after and provided lots of good things for Adam and Eve. • <i>Q: What did Adam and Eve do that was wrong? What was their punishment?</i> ➤ Explain that after Adam and Eve sinned, the whole world was broken as well. And every person who was born into the world was also broken now. Everyone was now God’s enemy and disobeyed God. They couldn’t be friends with him anymore. ➤ God looked down on the world he had made, and this is what he saw. <p>Read Genesis 6:5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: How were the people behaving?</i> • <i>Q: How do you think God felt about this?</i>

<p>2. God chooses to rescue some from his own judgement (Genesis 6:8)</p>	<p>Read Genesis 6:7a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What does God say he is going to do?</i> ➤ God decided to judge the world. This was fair because everyone in the world had disobeyed him and deserved to be punished. ➤ God decided he was going to make it rain for days and days and days, until the whole world was completely flooded, and everything was destroyed. ➤ Even though God was completely fair and right in deciding to judge the world, he also decided to show mercy and rescue people. ➤ God chose to rescue Noah and his family from His judgement • <i>Q: What would have happened to Noah and his family if God hadn't decided to rescue them?</i> ➤ There was no way that Noah and his family could have survived if God had not decided to rescue them. Talk about how everything in the whole world was destroyed. There was no way Noah could have rescued himself. <p>Read Genesis 6:14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What did God tell Noah to do?</i> ➤ God knew exactly what was needed to rescue Noah and his family. He told Noah how he could be rescued – he needed to build a really big boat. ➤ Because the boat was so big, it would have taken years and years to build. • <i>Q: Where do you normally use a boat?</i> ➤ Noah lived in a very hot and dry country with no water. • <i>Q: What do you think Noah's friends thought about seeing Noah build a giant boat on dry land?</i> ➤ There was no sign of rain or flooding during the whole time Noah was working on the ark, but he carried on, trusting that what God said was true. ➤ Then, everything happened exactly as God said it would. The whole earth was flooded, and everything and everyone was destroyed, except Noah and his family, who God kept safe in the ark.
<p>So What?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ God has told us that one day he is going to judge the world again. ➤ He has warned us this is coming, just as he did with Noah. He has also offered us a way to be rescued, just like he did with Noah. ➤ This time it's not a big boat – it's a person! He has given us his son – Jesus. If we put our trust in Jesus, he will rescue us.
<p>Memory Verse</p>	<p>PSALM 145:1 <i>I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.</i></p>
<p>Alternative to worksheet</p>	<p>Make boats out of playdough or paper/card</p>