

06 WRATH POURED OUT

KEY TEXT: GENESIS 6:13-22; 7:20-24

CENTRAL truth

As kids, many of us thought “Noah and the ark” was a cute story about animals and rain. But as we grow, we begin to see details our kid brains didn’t quite process! Noah’s ark is actually a narrative about God’s wrath poured out on a sinful world. Cain’s story taught us that whenever sin goes unaddressed, it grows bigger. It makes sense that if generations of people ignore their sin, the world would become a very dark place. The flood is an important reminder that **sin is dangerous, and God will always address it.**

key question

How does the narrative of Noah, the flood, and the ark point to Jesus?

Noah and the ark is a picture of the gospel! The flood waters remind us of the punishment that our sin deserves. The ark reminds us of Jesus, who endured God’s wrath so that we might have life. Noah reminds us of ourselves—spared from God’s wrath because we are safe in Christ.

keep in mind

- God’s wrath is a difficult subject. It can seem unfair that God would destroy the world by flood. But we need to be careful not to underestimate two things: the horror of sin and the depth of God’s goodness. Help students process God’s wrath by encouraging them to hold those things in tension. We don’t want to fall into the trap of thinking we understand goodness more than God does! He is always good. Of course, this sets us up to long for the gospel, so consider how you can bring in the good news of Jesus. On the cross, He endured the wrath we deserve. He is our ark!
- Students might have questions about whether the ark and the flood were historical events. Try to avoid getting into lengthy debates about the event itself during your group time. Instead, you can present many of the principles we’ve gleaned from Genesis: Do we trust God’s Word or not? Do we believe sin is as bad as He says? Do we believe He’s as good as the Bible teaches?

application

What are some ways we can act to show that we believe sin is a big deal?

the win

FOR THE STUDENT: Students can begin to more closely observe the narrative of Noah and the ark, and they can begin to develop a deeper understanding of the seriousness of sin and the good news of the gospel.

FOR THE LEADER: Leaders can take advantage of opportunities to share the good news of the gospel with students—part of which means acknowledging sin!

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