

THE SEAM RIPPER:

The Story of Noah & His Wife



LESSON TWO

The Seam Ripper: Noah and His Wife

Unit Memory Verse: *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. (Genesis 1:27)*

Biblical References: **Genesis 1:27-Genesis 3:15**

Key Verse: *And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him saying, and I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you. (Genesis 9:8-9)*

“Hey, Gram,” called Liam. “Pops told us you were down here in the sewing room and that we’d better watch out. He said you have the ‘grumps.’”

Gram was sitting on the couch. Her lap was covered in white cloth while she worked with a dangerous-looking tool of some sort.

“Honey Gram, I see you’re still working on that wedding dress. Is that what’s giving you the ‘grumps?’” questioned Izzy.

Gram’s face flickered with a short-lived frown. “Looks like I’m going to have to have a talk with your dear, old Pops for tattle-telling on me. Here, hold this while I clear off a space for you two to sit.”

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LOOKS
HAZARDOUS!



2.

Liam reached for the strange sewing tool. “What is this thing and what do you do with it? Looks a little hazardous to me.”

“I guess it could be unsafe in the hands of a frustrated wedding dressmaker,” said Gram. “But seeing my two favorite grandchildren...”

“We’re your only grandchildren,” interrupted Izzy.

“Right.” Gram smiled. “Anyway, seeing you both cheers me right up. But just look at this.” Gram held up the huge piece of material.

Izzy noticed the problem right away. “Oh, one side is all lacy and the other side is smooth.”

“I sewed the two sides together incorrectly and now, using my trusty seam ripper, I have to start all over, which as you may have guessed reminds me of a Bible story.”

“I knew it! I knew it! Gram, everything reminds you of a Bible story,” exclaimed Liam. “We’re trapped, Izzy. She’s at it again.”

Izzy ran over to her brother. “Knock it off, Liam. Honey Gram is the best storyteller ever. Better watch out! She may have to use this seam ripper on you.”



3.

Gram laughed. “No, I don’t think a seam ripper can undo your brother’s words even if they were said in fun. Right, Liam? However, luckily for you, there’s a backspace button on the computer to undo any mistakes you may make. I have a job for my favorite computer geek. Grab the laptop, plant yourself, and get ready.”

Gram looked at Izzy. “Here, Sweetie, while I’m talking, you take these scrap pieces of material and try to use the seam ripper to take them apart. We can do a sewing project with them later.”

Liam got busy booting up the computer while Gram started her story. “The last time we were together we talked about how God needed a way to rescue mankind from their sinful state after Adam and Eve disobeyed Him in the garden.”



4.

Izzy looked up from her seam ripping. “Right. You told us that even after that very awful beginning when Adam and Eve disobeyed, God had a plan to rescue all of us by sending His Son Jesus to the earth.”

“Yes, Jesus would come to save sinners who believed and trusted in Him. In the Bible sometimes the Church is referred to as...”

“The bride.” Izzy happily finished her grandmother’s thought. “And that means Jesus is the Groom. All through time, everyone is waiting for the Groom.”

Liam chimed in using a sing-song voice. “Here comes the groom. Here comes the groom.”

“Out of tune, but true,” laughed Gram. “All creation was waiting for God’s Rescuer to come, but sadly instead of remembering God, the Creator, and His wonderful promise, through the generations mankind turned from Him and followed their own path,” said Gram. “Liam, grab my Bible, and turn to Genesis chapter five. I want you to make me a chart on the computer showing the generations between Adam and Noah.”

“Noah? Is that who the story is about? I love this story,” Izzy declared.

Liam quickly found the right place. “Whoa, these guys were antiques! They were so old.” He bent down to the keyboard. “Okay, Gram, you teach, and I’ll type. I’m on it.”

“Can you be finished by the time the story is over?” asked Gram.

“No-ah guarantee,” laughed Liam. “Get it?”

“Very funny. Now hop to it.” With both grandchildren busy with their tasks, Gram continued.



5.

“The Bible tells us that, by the time Noah was living on the earth, mankind was living a life of violence and wickedness. This brought pain to God’s heart, so much pain that the LORD said, ‘I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth.’”

Izzy seemed deep in thought. “Like you had to do with the seam ripper. You had to start over. Now God had to start over.”

“That’s a good point,” said Gram. “Only there’s a big difference. I made a mistake and had to start over. God didn’t make a mistake. Mankind made evil mistakes, and they would have to suffer the destruction of a world-wide flood.”

“It’s so sad,” said Izzy.

“There’s always a bright spot, though, my girl. God made a promise to send a Rescuer, and He found a man and wife who would help do that very thing. The Bible tells us Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.” Gram paused and said, “Liam, have you figured out how many generations lived between Adam and Noah yet?”

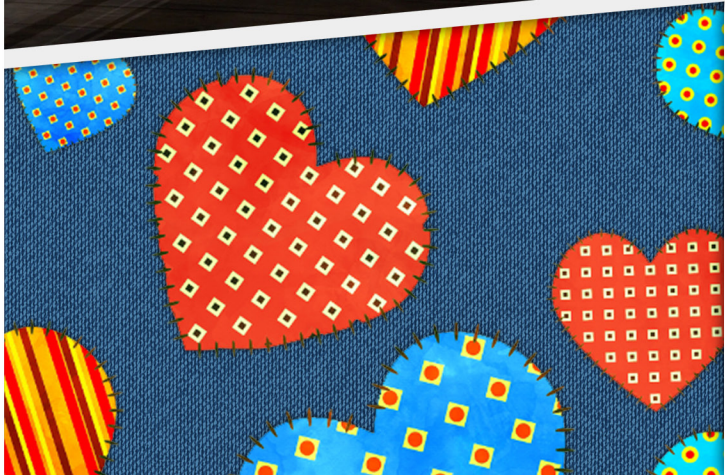
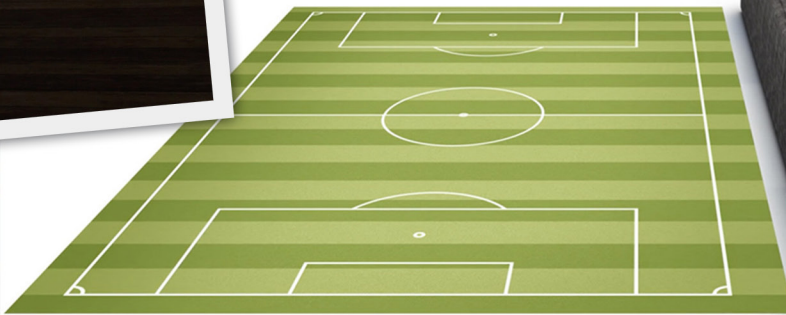
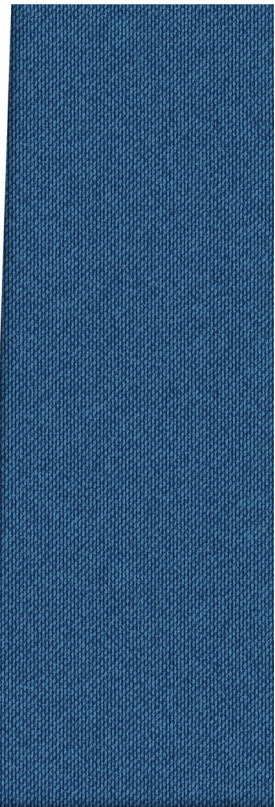
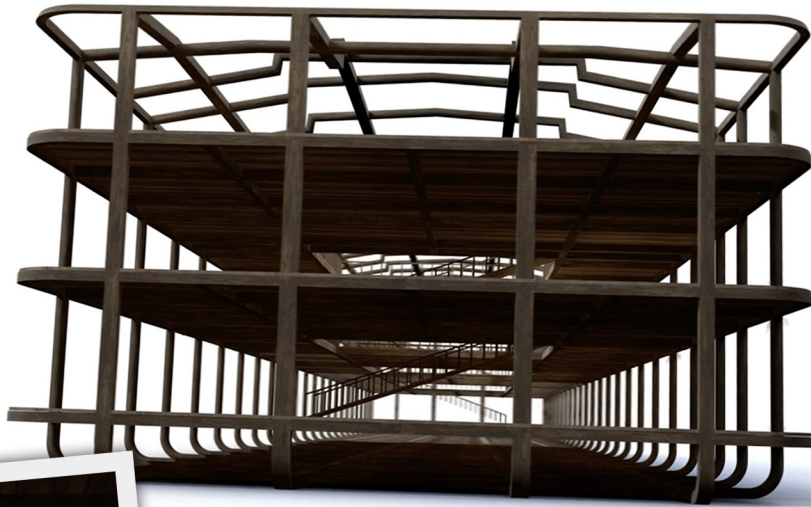
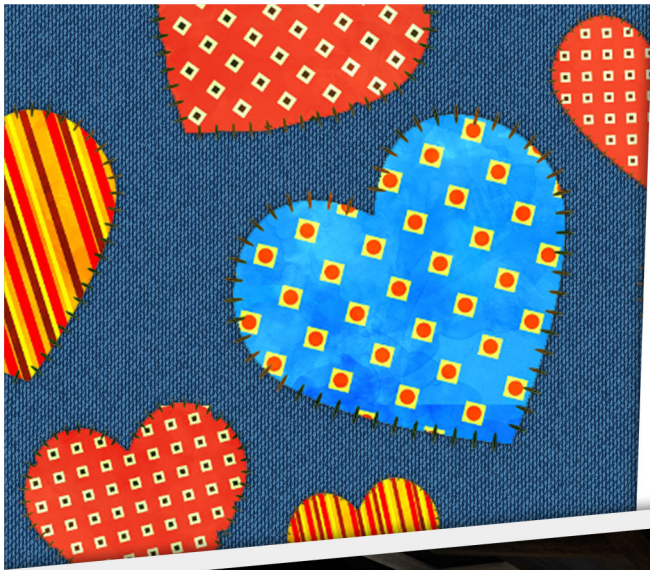


6.

“That would be ten generations, and if my calculations are correct, that means about 1,650 years had passed between the creation of Adam and the time of Noah,” answered Liam.

“My genius brother strikes again,” quipped Izzy.

“Good work, Liam. And ignore your sister.” Gram grinned and continued with the story. “Noah, this righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, walked with God. He had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.”



7.

“They were to build an ark according to God’s specific directions.”

“The sons were all married, right?” asked Izzy. “Adding Noah’s wife makes eight people.”

“Wow, Izzy, you’re a regular mathematical wizard,” teased Liam.

“Kidding aside,” Gram noted, “quite a lot of specific measuring was required for building the ark, and Noah followed the instructions obediently.”

“Let me tell the next part,” begged Izzy. “I love the part about the animals.”

“Be my guest,” said Gram.

“Okay, here goes.” Izzy put her fabric down and began to recite what she knew. “God told Noah to take seven pairs of clean animals, and one pair of unclean animals, males and females. Oh, and also seven pairs of flying birds. Noah didn’t have to find them; they would come right to him.”

“That’s a pretty amazing thing to think about,” said Gram. “The gathering of those animals was a miracle.”

Suggested Activity

This would be a good place to insert **The Animals Came in Two-by-Two**. *Note: After the game is completed, use a “Call to Order” technique to settle the children.*



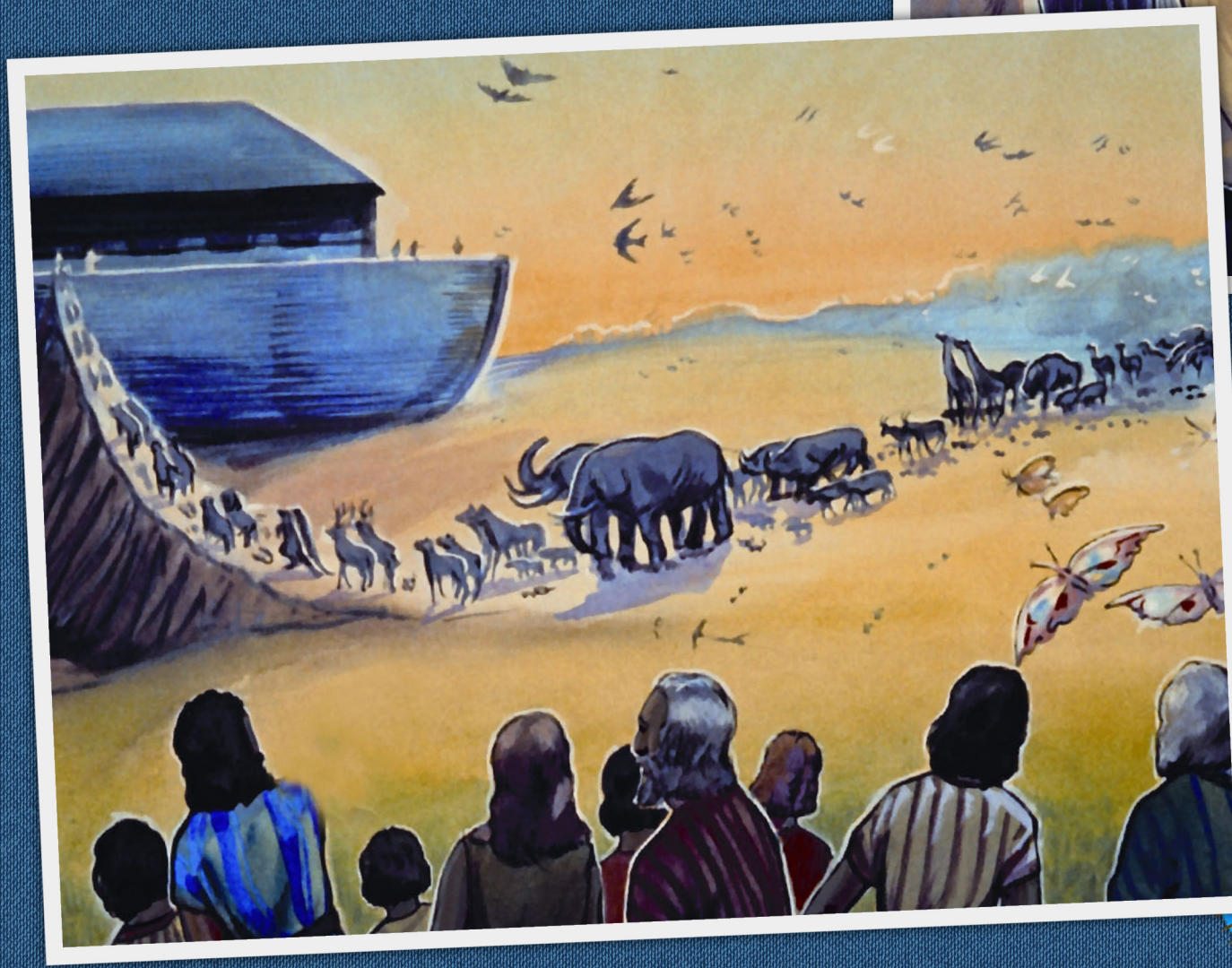
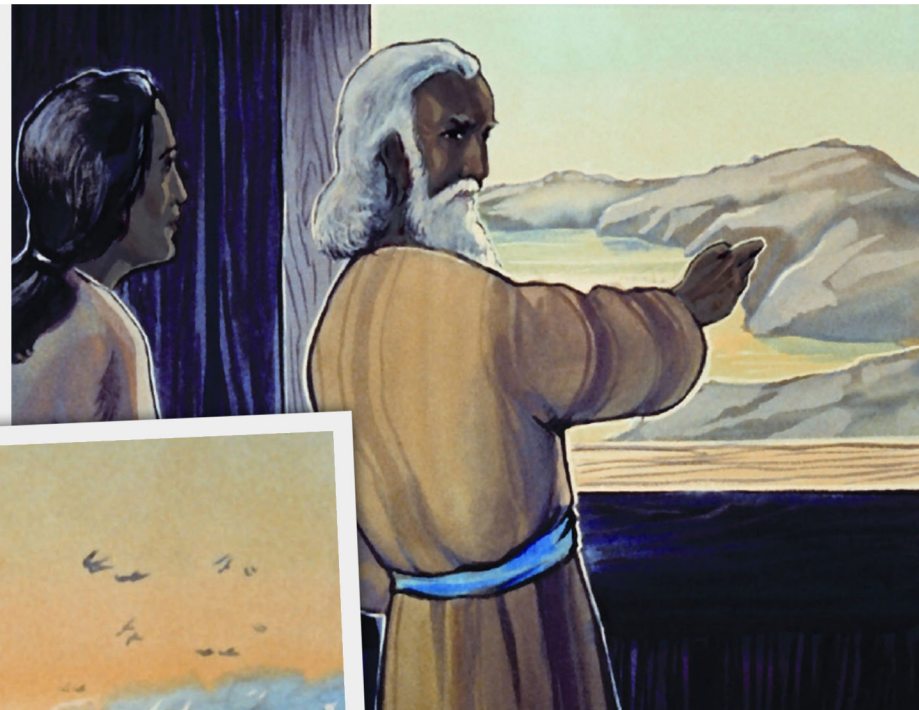
8.

“Then the rains came, and not only rain from the heavens, but the Bible says that all the springs of the great deep burst forth.”

“What an upheaval! You don’t hear much about that part, the bursting forth of the underground stuff. I bet it was epic!” remarked Liam.

“I’m certain that it was.” Gram continued with her story. “Rain coming down for forty days and nights without stopping, in addition to the bursting of the springs deep inside the earth, completely destroyed every living land animal and all human beings not sheltered within the ark.”

Busy at work with her seam ripper, Izzy added, “Yeah, Honey Gram, I seem to remember hearing that Noah and his family were on the ark for a whole year before the land was dry. Is that right?”



9.

“Yes, it’s hard to imagine being inside a huge boat with all of those animals for such a long time. That reminds me of a thought; I imagine that maybe Noah’s family was able to get milk from the cows. What do you think they got from the ducks?”

“Ducks?” Izzy looked confused.

Gram grinned and answered, “Noah got quackers from the ducks!”



10.

Finding his grandmother's attempt at humor comical, Liam threw his head back in laughter. "Gram, your jokes are so lame, they crack me up! You'd better stick to telling stories and sewing wedding dresses."

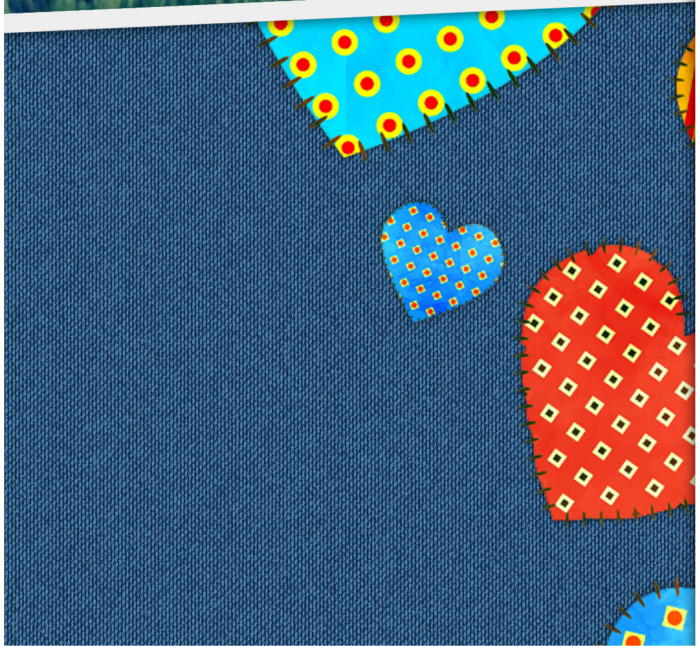
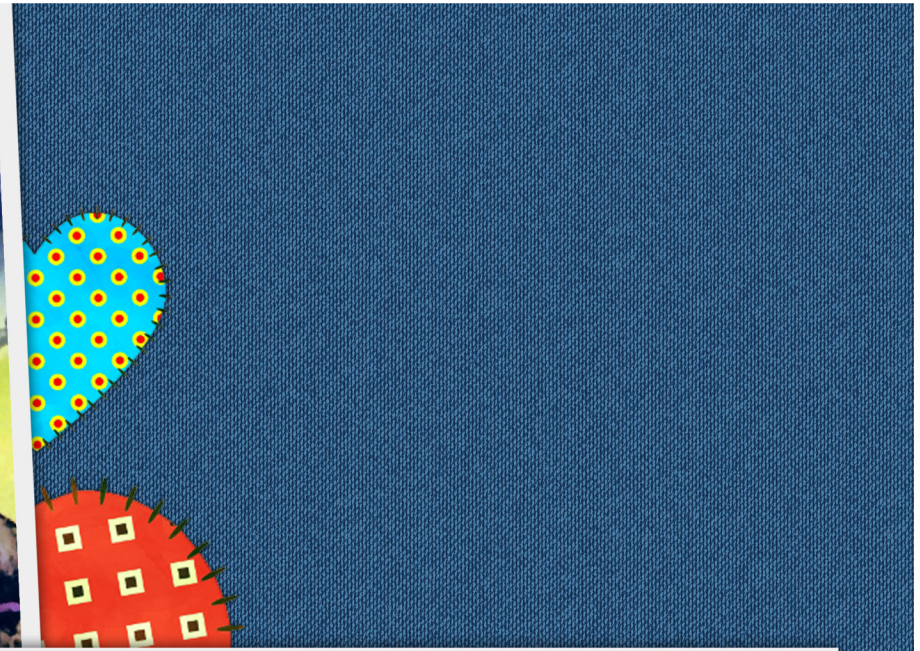
"Thanks a lot." Pointing at Liam, Gram asked, "Can you do any better?"

"Maybe," Liam teased. "Gram if you sprouted feathers and webbed feet, what would your name be?"

Gram shrugged. "I give up."

"Honey Gram Quacker!"

All three laughed at Liam's joke as Gram picked up her Bible. "May I finish my story now?" The children nodded and Gram continued.

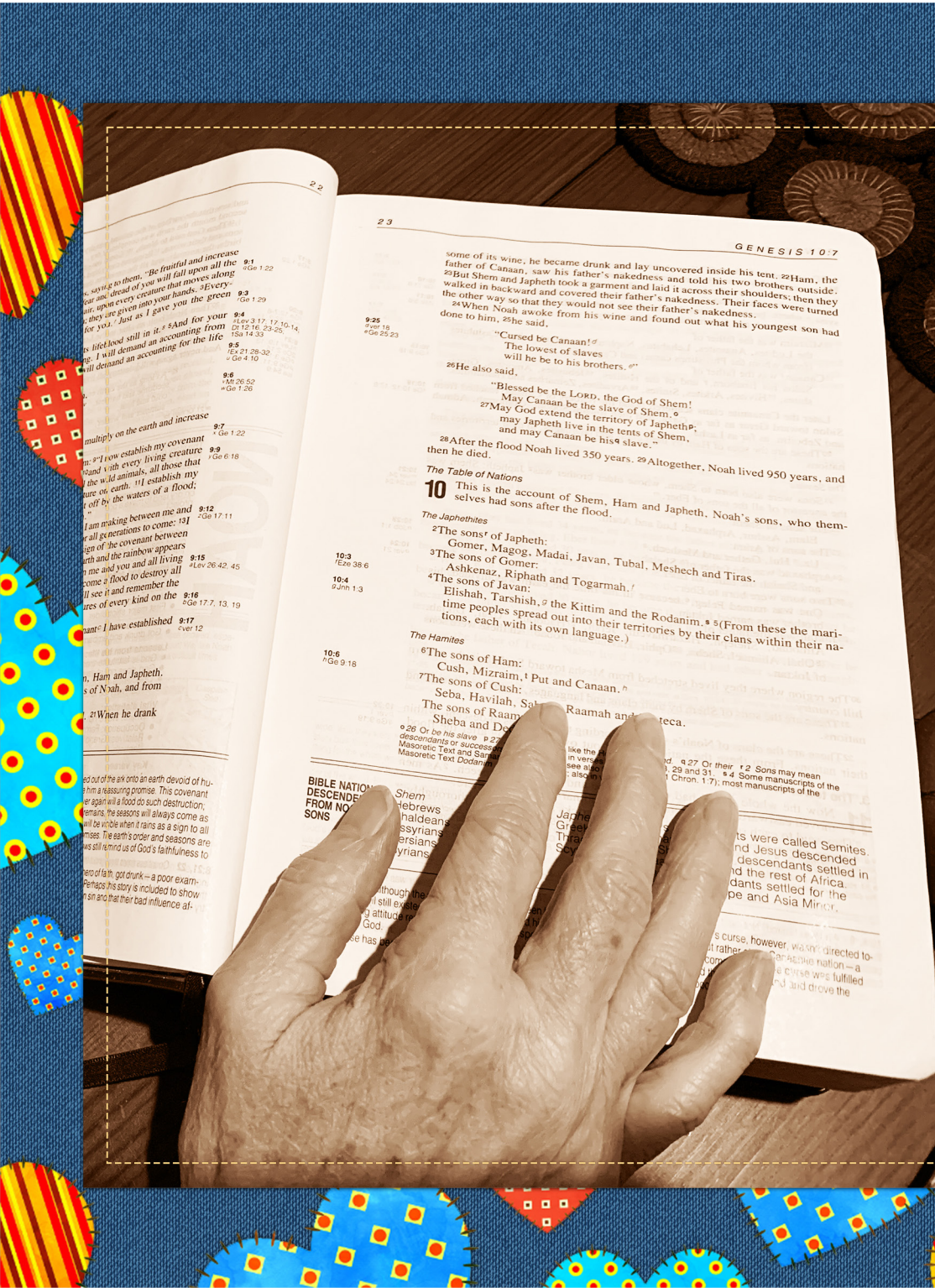


11.

“Upon leaving the ark with his family and the rescued animals, Noah built an altar and made an offering to God. This pleased the LORD, and God made a promise that the earth would never be destroyed by a flood again.”

“And that’s when God first put a rainbow in the sky as a symbol of that promise,” added Izzy.

“Now,” said Gram, “Do you again see how God used the pattern of marriage between a godly man and his wife to continue the family tree of Jesus? After the flood, God told Noah to be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.”



“And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him saying, and I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you.”

some of its wine, he became drunk and lay uncovered inside his tent. ²²Ham, the father of Canaan, saw his father's nakedness and told his two brothers outside. ²³But Shem and Japheth took a garment and laid it across their shoulders, then they walked in backward and covered their father's nakedness. Their faces were turned the other way so that they would not see their father's nakedness. ²⁴When Noah awoke from his wine and found out what his youngest son had done to him, ²⁵he said,

“Cursed be Canaan!
The lowest of slaves
will be to his brothers.”

²⁶He also said,
“Blessed be the LORD, the God of Shem!
May Canaan be the slave of Shem.
²⁷May God extend the territory of Japheth;
may Japheth live in the tents of Shem,
and may Canaan be his slave.”

²⁸After the flood Noah lived 350 years. ²⁹Altogether, Noah lived 950 years, and then he died.

The Table of Nations

10 This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth, Noah's sons, who themselves had sons after the flood.

The Japhethites

²The sons of Japheth:
Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech and Tiras.
³The sons of Gomer:
Ashkenaz, Riphath and Togarmah.
⁴The sons of Javan:
Elishah, Tarshish, the Kittim and the Rodanim. ⁵(From these the maritime peoples spread out into their territories by their clans within their nations, each with its own language.)

The Hamites

⁶The sons of Ham: Cush, Mizraim, Put and Canaan.
⁷The sons of Cush:
Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah and Sheba and Dedan.

⁸Or, be his slave descendants or successors of Cush: Sabeans, Cushites, Egyptians, Assyrians, Chaldeans, Hebrews, and Arameans. ⁹Some manuscripts of the Masoretic Text and Samaritan Pentateuch read: Cushites, Egyptians, Assyrians, Chaldeans, Hebrews, and Arameans.

BIBLE NATIONS DESCENDED FROM NOAH'S SONS

Shem: Hebrews, Chaldeans, Assyrians, Persians, Syrians, etc.
Japheth: Greeks, Thracians, Scythians, etc.
Ham: Cushites, Egyptians, Sabeans, etc.
Canaan: Phoenicians, Amorites, Canaanites, etc.

BIBLE NATIONS DESCENDED FROM NOAH'S SONS

12.

Gram reached for her Bible and began to read. “And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, and I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you.”

“What does covenant mean, Gram?” asked Izzy.

“A covenant is a special promise, and God always keeps His promises.” answered Gram. “Each **generation** that passed brought mankind closer to having Jesus, the Groom, come to earth to rescue His bride, the Church.” ✦

Liam nodded. “Great story, Gram. Even though I give you a hard time, I always learn a lot.”

Izzy joined Liam at the computer. “I liked it too, Honey Gram.”

✦ DEFINE THE WORD

Define the word **generation**. *Note: It might help to say that the word “seed” is another way of saying the generations that follow.*



WAYS
KEEP
AMIN

begat

Adam
Sani
Erich
Lani
Marsinah
Lani
Erich
Methuselah
Lamech
Noah
Methuselah

13.

“Hey, Gram, since I did all of this fantastic work on the computer and was such a good listener and all, does that mean I don’t have to help with clean-up chores after dinner?” asked Liam.

Gram put her hands on her hips and grinned. “No-ah way.”

End of Story Review

Answers from the Bible

(4th-6th graders)

1. The oldest man in the Bible was Noah’s grandfather. What was his name, and how old was he when he died?
(Genesis 5:25-27)
2. What kind of wood did God tell Noah to use to build the ark? (Genesis 6:14)
3. What two kinds of birds did Noah send out of the ark in search of dry land? (Genesis 8:7-10)
4. What was the meaning of the rainbow God placed in the cloud? (Genesis 9:12-15)
5. Jesus said, “But as the days of Noah were, so shall the coming of the Son of man be.” According to the words of Jesus, what was happening in the days of Noah? (Matthew 24:38-39)

Review Questions

(1st-3rd graders)

1. How many generations were from Adam to Noah’s sons? (10)
2. How many sons did Noah have? (3)
3. How long did it rain while Noah and his family were inside the ark? (40 days and 40 nights)