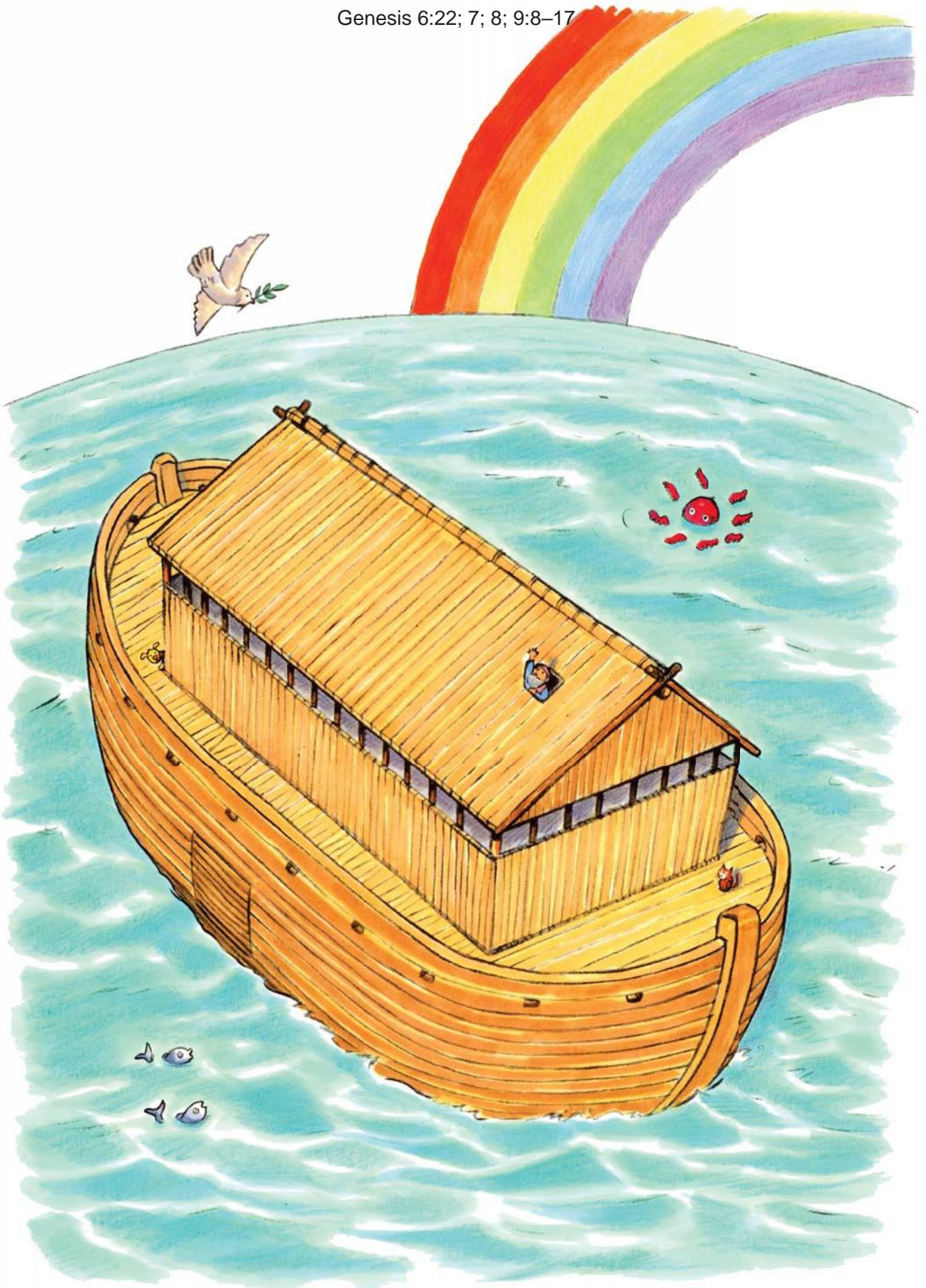


THE RAINBOW: A COVENANT

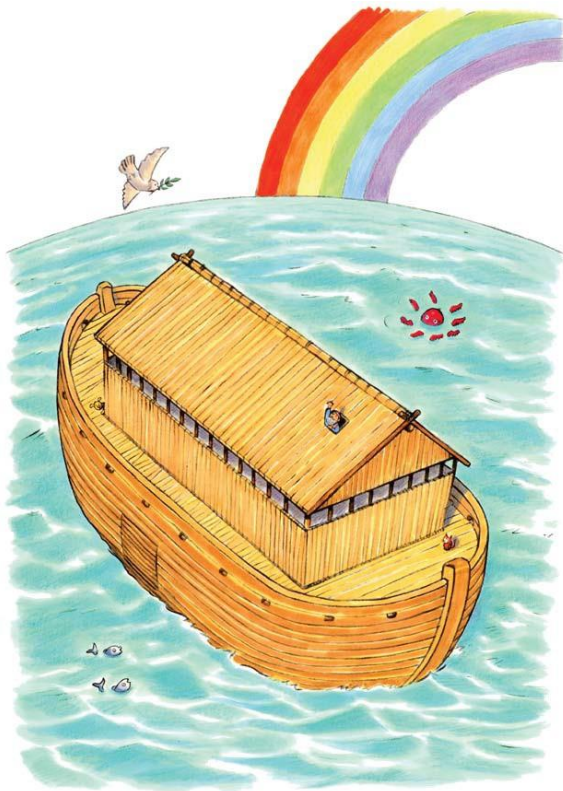
Genesis 6:22; 7; 8; 9:8-17



Contents

Message	When God makes a promise, we can trust He will keep it.
Learning Objectives	The children will learn: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Noah and his family believed God, and He saved them.■ God's covenant with Noah is like a promise given to all human beings.
Bible Text	Genesis 6:22; 7; 8; 9:8-17

The Rainbow: A Covenant



Noah built the ark as God instructed him. When the ark was finally finished, God said to Noah, "Come into the ark. You and your family are godly when others around you are not."

God told Noah to take pairs of each animal to keep the species alive on the face of all the earth.

Once again Noah did what God commanded. After all the animals entered the ark, Noah and his family also entered the ark. God Himself closed the door behind them.

After seven days it began to rain. The water level rose higher and higher. The ark was lifted from the ground and began to float. Everything else was flooded. It rained for forty days and forty nights. Not even the mountain tops were visible any more. Everything living on earth was destroyed except for Noah, his family and the animals in the ark.

After one hundred and fifty days God sent a strong wind and the rain stopped. Slowly the water level began to fall and the ark was stranded on the mountains of Ararat.

After forty days Noah opened the window of the ark and sent out a raven. It circled in the air but could not find anywhere to land. Later Noah sent out a dove but it soon returned. It too could not find a place to rest.

After another seven days Noah sent the dove out again. It returned but this time had an olive leaf in its beak. That meant that the tips of the trees were sticking out of the water and the water had gone down.

Seven days later Noah sent a dove out again. This time it did not return. Noah removed the roof of the ark and saw that the ground was dry.

God told Noah, "Go out of the ark with your family and bring all the living creatures with you." God made a covenant with Noah that He would never again destroy every living thing on earth.

As long as the earth existed, seed time and harvest, frost and heat, summer and winter, day and night would continue. God placed a rainbow in the sky as a sign of His promise.

The Rainbow: A Covenant

Suggestions for the Teacher

Lead-In

Show the picture to the children. Discuss with them what they see. Ask what she/he may feel....
Let the children play the story how Noah send out the raven and the dove in a role-play.
Instruct them before. Provide disguise / fancy dress and additional materials like an olive leaf.

Lesson Instructions

Begin telling the story...

Discuss with the children...

- How does Noah realize, when the water had gone down? (He sends a dove out.)
- What does Noah do after the flood? (He builds an altar and brings an offering to God.)
- What does God promise after the flood?
 - God will never send another flood to destroy mankind.
 - Seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will not stop.
- What is the sign of his promise? (The rainbow)

Have the children repeat...

- Noah and his family believed God and He saved them.
- God's covenant with Noah is like a promise given to all human beings.

Real-Life Application (explain the following)

- What did God promise us? (Jesus will take us to be with Him in His kingdom.)
- Noah built an altar to thank God. How can we bring thanks unto God?

Repeat the Message

When God makes a promise, we can trust He will keep it.