

BIBLE TIME LINE ASSEMBLIES

6. NOAH

Bible Base: Genesis 6-9

Key Christian belief: In the beginning, God had a rescue plan.

Aim: To help children understand that God has a rescue plan for those who trust in Him.

You Will Need:

- EITHER the Noah PowerPoint (attached) OR the images from it printed on card and laminated
- Items suitable for different weather conditions (see below).

Introduction

Talk about the weather forecast and how helpful (or otherwise!) it can be when you are making plans for a picnic, choosing what to wear and so on.

Slides 1-3

Show the children three different weather symbols in turn and choose a volunteer in each case to come up to the front, put on the right clothes and choose the items they would need in the type of weather indicated by the symbol. E.g.

Sun – hat, sun-glasses, sun-cream

Snow – coat, wooly hat, gloves, scarf

Rain – umbrella, raincoat, wellington boots

Slide 4

Show the weather-warning symbol and talk about various weather warnings that are sometimes issued – heat wave, strong winds, flooding. Ask what the children might do to keep themselves safe if they knew this type of weather was coming.

There were some people in the Bible who were given a severe weather warning but sadly they did nothing about it...

Telling The Story

Do you remember why Adam and Eve had to leave the garden they had been living in?

God drove them out of the garden because they had disobeyed Him.

Adam and Eve were now separated from God.

They began finding it harder to get on with each other.

Making things grow was harder than it used to be.

Raising children was hard.

And now their bodies began to grow older too and they knew that one day they would die.

From then on things grew worse and worse.

More and more people chose to disobey God and do what they wanted instead.

They chose to argue and fight, tell lies and steal. It seemed like no one cared about anyone else and no one cared about God or about what He said any more.

There was one man and his family, however, who were different. Noah trusted God and tried to follow His way.

One day God came to Noah and said 'I am sorry that I made all these people. I will not let them go on hurting each other and spoiling my world forever. I am going to send a huge flood to wipe them off the face of the earth and then I will start again with you and your family.'

God told Noah to build a big boat so that he and his family would be safe when the flood came.

Slide 5

So Noah started to build the boat on a beautiful sunny day when there were no clouds in the sky and no sign of rain anywhere.

'What are you building a boat out here for – in the middle of the desert?' the people asked.

Slide 6

Noah told them that there was going to be a flood and that they would need the boat to keep them safe when the flood came. But the people just laughed!

Slide 7

For 120 years, Noah went on building the boat - even though most days were sunny and warm and there was no sign of rain anywhere.

Slide 8

For 120 years he warned the people that a flood was coming – but they would not listen.

Then one day when the boat was ready, God told Noah to bring his family and two of every kind of animal on to the boat.

Again the people around just laughed at Noah. He pleaded with them to get on to the boat where they would be safe. But again they would not listen.

Finally when Noah and his family and all the animals were on board God shut the door. And then the weather began to change.

Slide 9

First the sun began to disappear behind the clouds.

Slide 10

Then it began to rain.

Slide 11

Then the sun disappeared, the clouds grew darker and the rain grew heavier.

For a whole day it kept raining, the water in the rivers overflowed the banks and the ground for miles around was flooded.

Still it kept raining – and the flood grew deeper. Soon the water reached the top of the houses – then it covered the trees. For forty days it kept on raining and eventually the waters covered the mountains. The only living creatures left in the world were Noah, his family and all the animals on board the ark.

Slide 12

Then at last the sun began to peep out from behind the clouds. The rain was lighter now.

Slide 13

Finally it stopped altogether.

Slide 14

Then the clouds disappeared. The sun shone brightly and the water began to go down. In time Noah could see the tops of the mountains again, then the tops of the trees and at last the ark came to rest on dry ground. Noah and his family stepped out and looked up into the sky.

Slide 15

And there in the sky, between the clouds, was a beautiful rainbow. 'I will never again flood the earth like this.' God said. 'And I have put the rainbow in the sky to remind you of this. Every time you see it, remember what I have promised you today. For as long as Earth remains I will take care of it and make sure that human beings have everything they need to live on it.'

It's a promise that God has been keeping for thousands of years.

Exploring Christian Belief

Christians believe that this story shows that God hates wrong things - and will not allow people to keep on doing wrong things forever. But it also shows that He has a rescue plan for those who trust Him and follow His way as Noah did. Those who trust Him and follow His way need never be afraid of God's anger. He has promised to keep them safe with Him forever.

And the rainbow is there to remind us that God's promises are true!

For Reflection / Application

Ask pupils to consider whether it is ever right to be angry – as God was with the people in Noah's day. Have they ever felt that they were right to be angry with someone because of the way he or she has behaved towards them?

Bearing in mind that God waited 120 years before sending the flood in order to give the people with whom He was angry a chance to change their ways – how do they think they might learn to be more patient and loving towards those who have hurt them?

Songs

You could finish this assembly with either Mr Noah (KS1) or Arky Arky (whole school or KS2).

Prayer