

God Talks to Noah

Our Happy Home

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June 6, 2010

Scripture Text: Genesis 6:1-8, 14-17

Bible Words: Do not be afraid (Genesis 15:1).

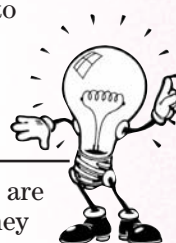
Lesson Aim: To learn about Noah listening to God.

Key Words: talk, listen



Bible Background

Much study has been done regarding the identity of the “sons of God” particularly as they are juxtaposed with “the daughters of men.” Some suppose that this is an indicator of woman’s lowly place in the ancient world while others suppose “sons of men” to be another word for giants or that “daughters of men” is a euphemism for women of low repute. In any case, what we can know for sure from the text is that men of great reputation who had favor in God’s eyes began engaging in behaviors and actions that grieved God and caused Him to repent for making “man on the earth.” How or why Noah found favor is equally unknown. “But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord” (Genesis 6:8). Perhaps his remarkable ability simply to listen and to obey played some role in his status.



Teacher Insight

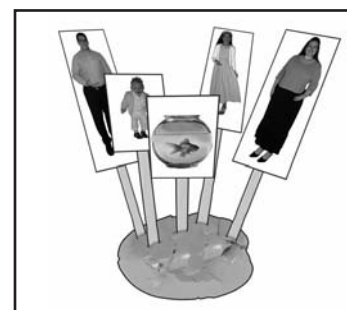
Toddlers are learning to assert their will and define who they are as individuals; however, there are still things about which they should listen first and question later. We do not want toddlers to learn everything by experience. Likewise, God could have allowed Noah to experience a little rain first and then built up his understanding. God did not work that way. God told Noah to build a boat and to prepare for something he could not comprehend. This kind of obedience is an integral part of everyone’s walk with God. Toddlers can begin to identify by recognizing that there are some times when nothing else is called for but plain, direct obedience.

Teaching Tip

The best way to teach listening skills to toddlers is by modeling the desired behavior. This means making eye contact when speaking with the toddler, stopping other activities, and by asking open-ended follow-up questions. As you do these things, say, “I am being a good listener by looking at you when you are talking to me. I am being a good listener by stopping everything else to hear you better.” Be patient with toddlers as they search for words to express what they want to say. Watch body language and provide words accordingly.

Before the Lesson

- **Welcome:** Cut out and attach house design to a milk carton for an offering container. See instruction on page 13.
- **Activity 1:** Download common sounds (train whistle, siren, bird, dog bark) from the Internet.
- **Snack Break:** Cut pita bread in half (one-half per student).
- **Bible Story:** Cut out the flannel figures of Noah and the ark. (The rest of the figures will be used in ensuing lessons.)
- **Debriefing:** Cut out the Torres family figures and attach to tongue depressors or paint sticks. Prepare letters for mailbox.



- **Option 3:** Prominently mark branches with either a blue or red mark.

Lesson at a Glance

W O R D	Welcome to the Word	Welcome Attendance: attendance chart(s), stickers Offering: assembled offering house from resource packet Activities <i>Activity 1:</i> recording of sounds <i>Activity 2:</i> Play-Doh, sticks, flowers, leaves <i>Activity 3:</i> no supplies needed
	Noah's Family	Worship Prayer Memory Work
	Open the Word Do Not Be Afraid	Snack Break: pita bread, peanut butter, jelly, plastic knives, wet wipes Bible Story: flannel figures of Noah and ark, toy tools
	Reveal the Word God Talks to Noah	Debriefing: Torres family cutouts, tongue depressors or paint sticks, mailbox, letter Student Paper: Popsicle sticks, glue Optional Activities <i>Option 1:</i> toy tools, short lengths of wood <i>Option 2:</i> no supplies needed <i>Option 3:</i> branches, twigs, sticks
Do the Word Noah Listened to God		

W elcome to the Word

Welcome

Welcome students to "Our Happy Home." Let them explore the new room. Point out the attendance chart and show them the house offering container. **We are going to be playing house and learning about God.**

Use one or more of the following activities to engage your students in the lesson.



Activity 1

Let's play a listening game. Play the recording of the sounds you have made. Ask children to identify the sounds. **What do we use to hear sounds? Our ears. God gave us ears to hear sounds. It is important to use our ears to listen.**

Activity 2

Distribute Play-Doh for students to make a boat. They can press sticks, flowers, leaves and other outdoor things into the outside of their boats. **God told Noah, a good man, to build an ark; that's a big boat. What do you think Noah put in his boat? What will you put in your boat?**

Activity 3

Play Follow the Leader by having students follow in lines of no more than five children. Give instructions as the students follow you. **Hop. Take big steps. Crawl under the table. Clap while you walk. Go around the chair. Walk fast. Walk slowly. Freeze. Spin.** Repeat any actions that seem to be a hit with the students. During this activity continually affirm students for listening as you mention their names and say specifically what you observed. **It is important to listen and obey. Meredith is listening very well. Meredith walked slowly. God likes it when we listen and obey Him like Noah did. God told Noah to build a big boat, an ark, and Noah listened.**



Open the Word

Worship

Sing this song to the tune of "Rise and Shine and Give God the Glory, Glory."

The Lord told Noah to build Him an arky, arky.
The Lord told Noah to build Him an arky, arky.
"Build it out of gopher barky, barky."
Children of the Lord.

So rise and shine
And give God the glory, glory.
Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory.
Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory.
Children of the Lord

Prayer

Ask the children to repeat each phrase after you.

Dear Father in heaven,
Thank You for talking to me.
Help me listen.
Help my family.
Help my friends.
I love You.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

Memory Work

Do not be afraid (Genesis 15:1).

Invite students to a central area of the classroom. Show your Bible. **The Bible tells us what God says to us. He wants us to listen to the words in the Bible. The Bible says, "Do not be afraid." This is because God is with us. God will take care of us. We do not have to be afraid. We can be brave. Has anyone ever been afraid?** Invite children to share experiences. **Let's all stand up big and tall and tell our friends, "Do not be afraid."** Encourage toddlers to do this in a deep voice and show them how they can walk around like a muscle bound weightlifter.



Reveal the Word

Snack Break

This is a good time to have toddlers all sit at a table for their snack.

Give each child half of pita bread. Point out how the pita looks like a boat. Provide peanut butter and jelly. Let toddlers spread the peanut butter and jelly inside their "arks." Have wet wipes handy for cleanup.

Let's thank God for our food.

God is great,
God is good,
and we thank Him for our food.
In Jesus' name. Amen.

Allergy Alert



Be certain to check with the parents before serving the suggested snacks. Some children have allergic reactions to nuts, coconut, and dairy products.

Bible Story: Noah Listens

In the Bible God saw that everyone was being bad. No one listened to God's words. When God looked over here (look to the left with hand shading eyes) and God looked over there (look to the right with hand shading eyes), everyone was being bad. They were all making bad choices. No one was listening to God.

Teaching Tip

If you are constantly repeating yourself and then counting down to punishments, it may be that your toddlers have been conditioned not to listen until the umpteenth time. If you give realistic goals and expectations stated in a succinct manner with immediate follow through, you can re-condition these students to be better listeners. Accompanying your words with a symbol, touch, or visual cue gives even more impact to the art of listening.



Then God saw Noah. Put flannel figure of Noah on the board. Noah was very good and he listened to God. God told Noah to make something. Noah said, "Okay." That made God happy.

God told Noah to get some gopher wood and build an ark. Noah said, "What's an ark?" God told him it was a big boat. Noah didn't know why he would need a big boat because he lived far away from water.

Noah did not know how to build an ark. Maybe he was a little bit afraid. But God said, "**Do not be afraid.**" God told Noah what tools to use. Show a toy hammer or saw. Ask students to show you how the tools are used. God told Noah what kind of wood to use and where to get everything he needed. God even told Noah exactly how big to build the ark.

Noah listened to God to know how to make a big boat called an ark. Add the flannel figure of the ark to the board. God was very happy with Noah. Leave the flannels on the board. Next week you will add to the scene.

- Who was listening to God in our Bible story?
- What did God tell him to do?

Teaching Tip

The debriefing session is an extension of the Bible story and involves practical application of the Bible truth in a way that toddlers can comprehend. Toddlers' attention span is only about two to three minutes long. By reinforcing the Bible story with the debriefing session, you extend the amount of time toddlers will listen to you. Using puppets, stuffed animals, or another voice creates new interest in the subject being discussed.

Do the Word

Debriefing

Show the Torres family puppets. If possible have an assistant help you manipulate all of the puppets.

PAPA TORRES: **Hello! Welcome to our home. I'm Papa Torres and this is Mama Torres, Big Sister Torres, Baby Brother Torres, and our fish, Foo Foo. We were just about to check our mailbox to see if we got any mail. Who would like to help me get my mail?**

Solicit a volunteer to get the mail from the mailbox. If your class will have several children wanting to get the mail, provide enough letters in the mailbox for each to get one. Help student(s) check the mailbox and retrieve the letter(s).

MAMA TORRES: **This letter is for Big Sister. It is from Grammy.**

BIG SISTER TORRES: (opens the letter and reads) **"Dear Granddaughter, Thank you so much for coming to my house and helping me clean the garage. We had to be very careful and put things in the right piles. You were a great listener. You did a good job and you helped me very much. I am so proud of my good listener granddaughter! Please come over again soon. I love you! Grammy."**

PAPA TORRES: **You are a good listener just like Noah! I see that these children are good listeners in their families, too!** Points to the students. **Bye bye for now. See you next week.**

Put the puppets in a shoebox or manila folder.

Student Paper

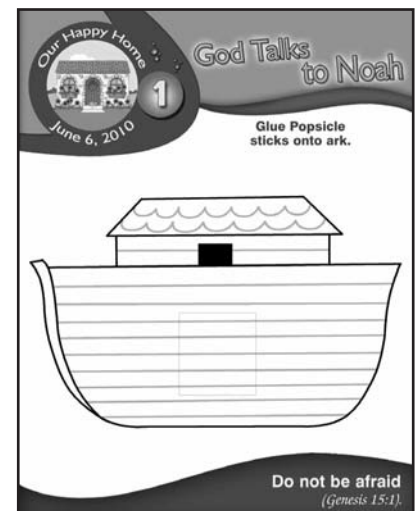
Students glue Popsicle sticks onto the ark. Follow my directions and make a wooden boat.

- Who told Noah to build a boat?
- Who listened to God?

Wrap Up

Remind students of the Bible words as they leave. **If you get scared this week, remember that God is with you and He says, "Do not be afraid."**

Thank you for coming to Our Happy Home today!



Looking Ahead

- Next Sunday's lesson teaches how Noah's sons helped him build the ark.
- Look over Lesson at a Glance for next week to see what supplies/preparations are needed.
- One of the activities next week requires pictures of the parents of your students. Ask parents to bring in a picture. If you have a camera, take a picture of each parent when he comes to pick up his child. Develop or print the pictures and bring to class next week.

Optional Activities

Option 1

Provide toy tools and small pieces of wood. Let children pretend to build. **Noah had to cut and saw wood when he built the boat. He had to hammer nails into the wood. What are you building?** Solicit responses from children about things they would like to build.

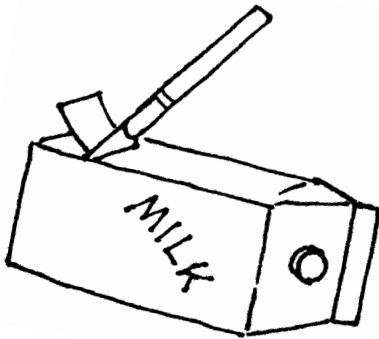
Option 2

You must be a very good listener for this game. Play this version of Simon Says (jump, spin, sit down, scratch head, raise arms, bend knees, pat elbows, close eyes, touch toes, shake hands).

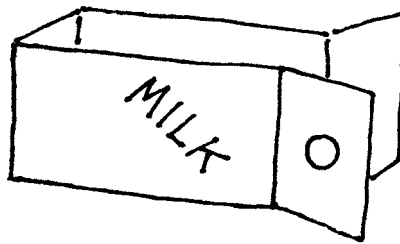
Option 3

Have an assortment of small tree branches, sticks, and twigs placed around the room. Instruct students to find them and collect them in a box. **God told Noah to pick up some wood for building the ark.** For an additional challenge, have the branches marked with a red or blue dot and then ask students to sort the reds from the blues. This would be appropriate only for older toddlers. You can even separate the students into two groups; one group finds while the other sorts. **We work together and listen just like Noah did with God.**

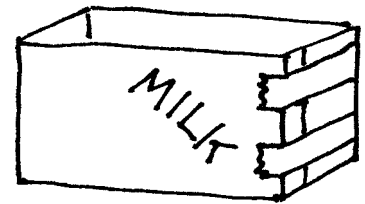
Offering House Instructions



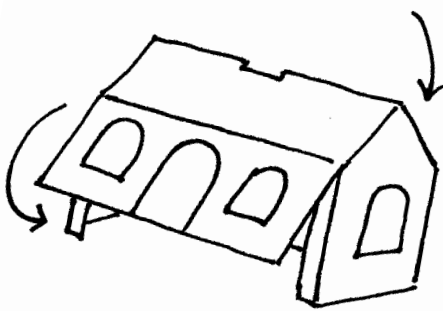
1. Thoroughly wash and dry milk or juice carton. Using X-acto knife carefully cut off one side of the carton.



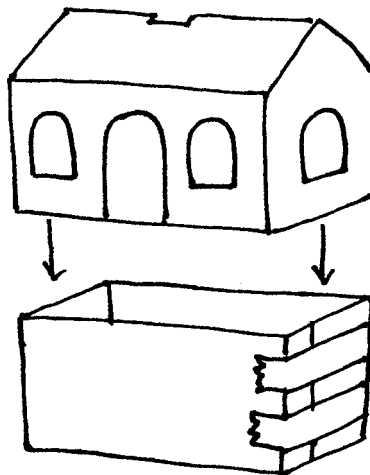
2. Open up pouring end of carton. Remove plastic pouring spout (if necessary).



3. Trim away enough excess carton end so that the remainder can be folded flat. Use masking tape to tape end together.



4. Cut out house on solid lines. Fold on dotted lines. Apply small dabs of glue along tabs. Tuck tabs under roof edge. Hold in place until secure. Repeat this for sides of house.



5. Slide completed house over open side of carton.