



HOME GROUP STUDY

18th January 2026

Genesis 6 v8-22

GOD CALLS HIS FIRST COMMUNITY TO HIMSELF

8 But Noah found favour in the eyes of the Lord. 9 These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God. 10 And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

11 Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. 12 And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. 13 And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh,[c] for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth. 14 Make yourself an ark of gopher wood.[d] Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. 15 This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark 300 cubits,[e] its breadth 50 cubits, and its height 30 cubits. 16 Make a roof[f] for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above, and set the door of the ark in its side. Make it with lower, second, and third decks. 17 For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die. 18 But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. 19 And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every sort into the ark to keep them alive with you. They shall be male and female. 20 Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground, according to its kind, two of every sort shall come in to you to keep them alive. 21 Also take with you every sort of food that is eaten, and store it up. It shall serve as food for you and for them." 22 Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

Icebreaker: can you recall a good early experience of living in community?

1. CORRUPTION

1.1 Universal corruption

11 Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. 12 And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.

1.2 Universal judgement

13 And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

Q1: Why is violence so abhorrent to God?

Q2: To what extent does v13 show that the punishment will fit the crime?

2. SALVATION

2.1 The physical nature of the Ark

14 Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. 15 This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark 300 cubits, its breadth 50 cubits, and its height 30 cubits. 16 Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above, and set the door of the ark in its side. Make it with lower, second, and third decks. 17 For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die.

Q3: What impression do you get of the physical dimensions of the Ark?

2.2 The spiritual symbolism of the Ark

18 But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. 19 And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every sort into the ark to keep them alive with you. They shall be male and female. 20 Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground, according to its kind, two of every sort shall come in to you to keep them alive. 21 Also take with you every sort of food that is eaten, and store it up. It shall serve as food for you and for them."

Q4: What is the spiritual significance of the Ark?

3. OBEDIENCE

3.1 He pleases God

8 But Noah found favour in the eyes of the Lord.

3.2 He steps out from the crowd

9 Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation.

Q4: Why this reference to "generation"?

3.3 He stays close to God

Noah walked with God. 10 And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Q5: This is a beautiful thing to say about Noah, how might it come to be said about us?

3.4 Now comes the crunch point: he obeys

22 Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

Q6: Have we reached a crunch point? Is God calling us to obey him?

PRAYER

Loving God thank you that you have a salvation response to the corruption of this world. Thank you that though your people may be few in number, daunted by the task before them, you have called me to be saved by faith in you and join them. Whatever the future challenges I face, help me realise that your miraculous protection and provision plus my obedience is enough, for anything I face. Make me like Noah: ready to obey you in everything, for the sake of your obedient Son my Saviour Jesus Christ and in the power of your indwelling Holy Spirit, Amen.