



Grace Church Elementary

# Camp Grace

## LESSON 5

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

**Principle:** God's judgment. We should obey and receive God's grace and salvation.

**Bible Character(s):** Noah and his family

**Scripture Reference:** Genesis 6-8



**PERSONAL PREPARATION:** Before this weekend, read Genesis 6-8, the story of

Noah and the Ark. The world was corrupt and the people were living in sinful rebellion. It grieved God's heart that His creation had become so evil. God gave the people 120 years to confess their sins, but the people chose not to turn from their sinful ways. God decided to destroy all of creation through a flood. However, a righteous man named Noah found favor with God. God gave Noah instructions to build an ark to save himself, his family, and some animals from God's wrath and judgment. Noah was obedient, and God fulfilled His promises to wipe out the earth but to spare Noah and his family. In response to God's faithfulness to save himself and his family, Noah built an altar and worshiped God.

How does it make you feel that God decided to wipe out His creation through a flood? Do you think God had the right to do this? How does it help you understand God's character more? How does it help you understand who you are in relation to God?

Noah was asked to build something that had never been built before, designed by God's instructions, going on faith alone. If God asked you to do something that seemed impossible, would you be able to step out in faith and depend on God to help you through it? Would you obey every command of the Lord, even if it did not make sense? Would you trust in God to be faithful?

### PLUG IN TIME - 5-10 minutes as the kids begin to arrive

Arrive early to check the supplies in the bin and review the lesson. Write today's principle on the whiteboard. Remember to greet all campers upon arrival; meet their parents; welcome and introduce all visitors. Create a welcoming cabin for all campers!

### Sin in Our Lives

Teachers, spend some time talking to the campers about times when you and they have sinned.

Encourage them to give specific examples (i.e. I hit my brother in anger) rather than general examples (i.e. I was bad).

## **BIG GROUP TIME - 35-40 minutes**

As you line up, remind campers we are going to have fun as an entire Camp Grace group! We are going to live out GRACE by **Glorifying God** through worship, **Respecting All Leaders**, and **Accepting Responsibility** to listen with attentive ears, minds, and hearts - fully **Celebrating Christ** with passion! We should **Encourage Others** to do the same, by not distracting them from their worship of God.

### **The Bridge to Small Group**

Today we will discuss how Noah walked with God and was obedient to Him. We will also learn that God offers grace and salvation to those who believe and trust in Him.

## **Small Group Time - 25-30 minutes**

### **Getting Started**

If your cabin did well in Big Group, acknowledge it. If not, take a couple of minutes to talk about how they can do better next time.

**What did you learn in Big Group? How did Noah describe the flood?** (Lots of animals so lots of work, noise, and bad smells; he felt great sadness for all of the people who died because they chose to disobey God; he and his family were uncertain when or if they would ever see land again; all they could do was have faith in God and worship Him.) **Is that how you have imagined it happening? Does it seem like a nice, happy story to you?** (Allow responses.)

Last week, we talked about Cain and Abel. Cain was jealous of Abel. What did Cain do? He killed Abel. Why did he kill Abel? He was mad that God accepted Abel's offering, but not his own. His anger got out of control, took control of his heart, and led him to kill his brother. We talked about how easily our feelings can get out of control and make us sin. We need to go to God for help so that we can keep sin from mastering us. God sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sin so we do not need to be in bondage to sin. We can trust in Jesus as our Savior to help us from allowing sin to master our hearts.

Today we are going to learn about how the whole world had become too sinful. The people on earth were thinking of only evil things instead of thinking of God. They were thinking about what they wanted instead of what God wanted. God was so sad that the people He created had become so evil.

Let's read from Genesis 6 [NLT] about how God responded to what was happening in the world He created.

### **Genesis 6:5-9**

*5 The Lord observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil. 6 So the Lord was sorry he had ever made them and put them on the earth. It broke his heart. 7 And the Lord said, "I will wipe this human race I have created from the face of the earth. Yes, and I will destroy every living thing—all the people, the large*

*animals, the small animals that scurry along the ground, and even the birds of the sky. I am sorry I ever made them.” 8 But Noah found favor with the Lord.*

*9 This is the account of Noah and his family. Noah was a righteous man, the only blameless person living on earth at the time, and he walked in close fellowship with God.*

Noah was not a perfect man. Only God is perfect. The Bible says that Noah was righteous and blameless. That means that he had a close relationship with God, and he chose to put his faith and trust in God. Everyone else was choosing to sin instead of following God, which made God very sad. When we choose to sin instead of following God, we also make God really sad. How does it make you feel to know that every time you sin, it makes God sad? (Allow responses.)

God decided to save Noah and his family because Noah had faith and he chose to walk with God. They did not deserve to be saved by God, and God did not need to save them, but He showed them grace by choosing to save them. Grace is being given something we do not deserve.

For example, let’s say your mother told you she would take you out for pizza if you do all of your chores for an entire week without being told. She has to remind you three times about your chores, but at the end of the week she chooses to take you out for pizza anyway. You did not deserve to be taken out for pizza because your mom had to tell you three times to do your chores, but she took you out anyway. By choosing to take you out for pizza, she showed you grace. God’s grace is so much more though. God gives us the free gift of grace in Jesus. We are sinners and deserve to be punished for our sin, but God gave us Jesus. Does anyone know what Jesus did for our sins? (Allow responses.) He paid the punishment for our sin by dying on the cross, so that we can live forever with Him, if we believe and trust in Him.

## What We Deserve



The purpose is to help the campers have a better understanding of what grace means.

### Supplies:

Yellow situation & results cards (1 set per bin)

Pink situation & results cards (1 set per bin)

Green situation & results cards (1 set per bin)

White board

Draw three columns on the white board. At the top of the first, write “Situation,” then “What we deserve” above the second, and “Grace” at the top of the third.

Read the three situation cards, and tape each one in the “Situation” column. After each situation, read the two corresponding consequence cards. Ask the campers to decide which result is “What we deserve” and which result is an example of “Grace.” Tape the results in the correct columns.

\*\* Teachers – Please clip each of the three sets back together at the end of your session for the next group/destocking.

## Tie It Together



In all of these situations, the person sinned; the person chose to disobey God. They all

deserved to be punished. Each time we sin, we deserve to be punished. We read through what each person deserved, and how grace could be offered to the person who did something wrong. God gave us grace when He sent Jesus to pay the punishment for our sin. He continues to show us grace every time we sin and ask forgiveness. We do not deserve His grace, and there is nothing we can do to earn it, but God still freely gives us grace anyway when we choose to put our faith in Him. Because Noah had faith in God, God had grace for Noah and saved him and his family from the flood.

God gave Noah very detailed directions about how to make an ark. There probably had never been an ark made like this before, so Noah had to follow God's instructions carefully to make it like God asked. He also had to get all sorts of different animals to bring onto the ark with him. It was a hard job, and Noah might have been tempted to not do everything God asked to make it easier, but Noah did what God asked him to do no matter how hard it might have been.

## Obedience



The purpose is to show that God always has a better plan than what we think is best.

### Supplies:

Set of picture cards (1 per bin)

Show one picture at a time and ask for one camper to point out what the picture is telling him/her to do. Then ask why he/she thinks this "rule" should be followed. Ask what the consequences would be if this "rule" was broken.

## Tie It Together



Do any of your parents ask you to obey the same types of rules that these pictures show us? (Allow responses.) Parents have rules because they want to protect you and show you the best way to live. You might not understand all of their rules, but they make rules because they love you. What happens when you disobey one of your parent's rules? (Allow responses.) There are consequences. What happens when you obey your parent's rules? (Allow responses.) You do not have to experience the consequences, and there may even be blessings from your parents for obeying them. God asks us to live our life to bring Him glory, and this means obeying His commands. Sometimes God asks us to do things that seem difficult to us and might not make sense. Who knows best – you or God? (Allow responses.) We can always trust that what God has for us is better than anything we can have on our own. God wants us to have faith in His plan, even when it does not make sense. When we are obedient to God, we are able to fully receive His blessings. Noah was obedient to God in making the ark and rounding up all of the animals.

## Noah Says



The purpose of this activity is to help the camper's understand the meaning of obedience.

Have all of your campers stand up and move to an open area of the room. Divide your class into 3 groups. One group will be dogs, one group will be cats, and one group will be ducks.

Dogs - bark and beg

"Noah says bark" or "Noah says beg"

Cats - meow and like paws

"Noah says meow" or "Noah says lick"

Ducks - quack and waddle

"Noah says quack" or "Noah says waddle"

Explain that the groups are to only make a noise or do the action when Noah tells them to. For example, if you say, "Noah says bark" then only the group of dogs will bark. If any other campers in one of the other groups bark, those campers who disobeyed have to sit down at the table. If you just say "bark" (without saying "Noah says") then any campers who bark have to sit down. The same goes with the actions and the other sounds. The last camper remaining wins for his or her group.

## Tie It Together

 What was the purpose of this game? (To obey.) What happened when you did not obey? (Allow responses.) There were consequences when you disobeyed because you had to sit out and you could not win. When we choose to disobey what God asks us to do, we sin. Remember we talked about how sin makes God sad? Sin separates us from God. God wants us to obey Him. He created us to follow and worship Him. God protects us when we follow Him and trust Him with our life.

God asked Noah to go into the ark, and told him in seven days it would rain for forty days and forty nights, until every living thing had been wiped from the earth.

Let's see if Noah continues to obey what God asks him to do.

## Genesis 7:5, 17, 22-23

*5 So Noah did everything as the Lord commanded him.*

*17 For forty days the floodwaters grew deeper, covering the ground and lifting the boat high above the earth.*

*22 Everything that breathed and lived on dry land died. 23 God wiped out every living thing on the earth—people, livestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and the birds of the sky. All were destroyed. The only people who survived were Noah and those with him in the boat.*

Noah obeyed every command God gave him, and because of his obedience, he and his family survived the flood. Everything else was destroyed. God is Creator and He can choose to do whatever He wants with His creation. The people were sinful, and God gave them the opportunity to repent of their sin, but they kept sinning. God sees the sin in our hearts and He gives us the choice everyday to confess our sin and turn from our sinful ways.

Genesis 8 tells us that God remembered Noah and his family, and all of the animals on the boat. God showed compassion to them by bringing them safely out of the ark. Noah and his family were saved from the flood because Noah chose to trust and obey God, and this pleased God. They did not deserve to be saved, but God showed them grace by choosing to save them. Just as Noah and his family did not deserve to be saved, we do not deserve anything but death for our sin. But God has already shown us grace through giving Jesus as the sacrifice and payment for our sin. All He wants us to do is choose to believe and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

## We've Been Shown Grace



The purpose is to help the children recognize grace that has been shown to them.

### Supplies:

"Remember When" worksheet (1 per camper)

Write the definition of grace on the board. Ask campers to think about times they've been shown grace in their lives (by a parent, a friend, a teacher, etc.). Give out the worksheets and have campers write or draw pictures of those examples.

Grace = being given something you do not deserve.

### Tie It Together

 We have all been shown grace by God and by the people in our lives. (Definition of grace: Grace is being given something we do not deserve.) Any grace we ever receive is something we do not deserve. We do not deserve anything but death for our sin. Romans 6:23 says, "The wages of sin is death..." But God provided a different way for us. He sent Jesus to die so we do not have to. Now that is amazing grace! God never wants us to return evil for evil; He wants us to show grace to others, just as He has shown us grace. Because God has shown us the greatest grace we could ever receive, we can show others grace everyday.

### Wrapping Up



The purpose of this activity is for the campers to demonstrate their understanding of the story.

### Supplies:

True or False Questions guide (1 per bin)

Explain to the campers that you are going to say several statements about the Bible story from today. If they think the statement is true, then they should stand up. If they think it is false, then they should stay seated.

### Tie It Together

 Our Bible story shows us that God wants us to obey Him because He has a plan that is better than any plan we could create for ourselves. Noah was a righteous man, and he was faithful to God. Everyone else on earth had evil hearts and chose to sin, and this made God sad. God decided to destroy everything by bringing a flood, and He had the right to do this because He is Creator. God showed Noah grace by saving him and his family from the flood. Noah obeyed all of God's commands, and God saved him and his family. We should be obedient to God and follow His commands through faith and trust. We deserve death because of our sin, but we have already been shown grace by God through Jesus. We have the choice to receive salvation through believing and trusting in Him.

## Prayer Time

Spend some time in prayer to close small group time. Thank God for His grace and providing a way for us to be right with Him. Ask Him to help us to obey and follow Him.



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