

Genesis 8, 9, 11:1-9

Do you remember where we left Noah and his wife and his family in our last lesson? A great flood had covered the earth and Noah and his family were left bobbing on top of the water in a large ark filled with animals. After many days God sent a strong wind and it began to dry up the waters. Finally the water went down enough for the tops of the mountains to show. Then one day there was a crunching, scraping sound and the ark stopped moving. Everyone was excited for they knew the ark was resting on land once again. It wasn't safe yet for Noah and his family to get out of the ark though, so God kept the door of the ark shut. The ark was sitting on the top of a mountain called Ararat. This mountain is still here today and it's still called Ararat. It would be fun to climb up the mountain and see if we could find bits and pieces of the ark frozen in the snow and ice, wouldn't it?

Noah and his family had to wait 40 more days for the water to get lower. Then Noah checked to see if the water was low enough for them to get out of the ark. How do you think he checked to see if there was dry land showing?

Noah opened the one window on the ark (I bet you thought the ark had lots of windows...in story books they show animals looking out of lots of round windows in the ark, but it really only had one window that could be opened). Noah took a big black Raven and put him out of the window. The Raven flew all around the area, but there was nowhere for him to light, so he just kept flying back and forth. Noah waited 7 days then he sent out a dove to see if the water had receded yet. The dove flew around but couldn't find any place to land so she came back into the ark. It must have been hard for Noah and his family to wait so long, but he waited 7 more days and sent the dove out again. This time guess what? She came back with



an olive leaf in her mouth. This meant that there were trees growing on the land! I imagine everyone in the ark cheered and shook hands and petting the little dove because they were so happy! Noah still waited 7 more days and sent out the dove again. This time she didn't come back, so Noah knew that there was land to walk on and trees growing for the dove to build a nest in.

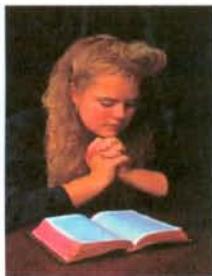


Noah still waited for God to tell him it was time to leave. Noah always turned first to God before he did anything and he trusted in God to guide him.

Finally it was safe and God opened the door and Noah and family and all the animals came pouring out of the ark. Can you imagine how happy they were to get out? The animals would have jumped and ran and bleated and mooed and bellowed! Noah and his family would have probably jumped and yelled for joy also!



What do you think Noah did first thing after he left the ark? Noah picked up stones and built an altar and made a sacrifice to God to tell God "THANK YOU" for saving them from the terrible flood. Noah thought of praying to God before he thought of doing anything else like building a house or building a corral for the cows or planting some seed so they could grow food. Before he did anything he prayed to God.



We should be like this too. God should be very important in our lives and we should pray to him, not only to ask him for things, but also to say "thank you" to God for all the great things he does for us. The Bible tells us how much this pleases God and God will hear our prayers and answer them. Your memory verse for this lesson is:

"The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous and his ears are open to their prayers."

(I Peter 3:12) This means God will watch over us if we try to do what's right. He will hear us when we pray to him and he will answer our prayers.

When you have said this verse over several times and think you've learned it, have Mom or Dad put a check mark in the box.

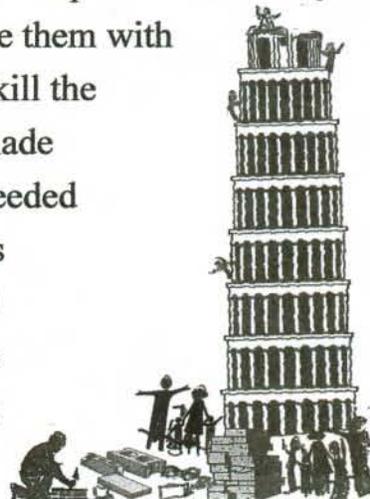
God was very pleased with Noah and he told him that NEVER AGAIN would he destroy all the earth with a flood. There would always be Springtime when men and women plant seeds to grow...there would always be Fall when the vegetables and fruits are ready to harvest and there would always be hot summers and cold winters and day and night. We don't ever have to worry then people will blow up the earth or a meteor will destroy the earth. God has promised that the earth will always be here for men and women and boys and girls to live here. Then God gave Noah a sign in the sky to look at and always know God will keep his promise. Do you know what the sign was? A beautiful, sparkling, colorful rainbow! Everytime we look at a rainbow in the sky we can know God will keep his promises!



The earth was full of mud and rocks and while the animals soon scattered and went to live in different places in the land, Noah and his children and grandchildren were gathered together in one area. God wanted the earth to be full of people who would replant trees and grass and crops for themselves and for the animals. So God gave Noah and his descendents a command to travel to different parts of the land, to have lots of children and grandchildren and fill the earth with people and plants and animals. This was what Noah and his sons started to do, however as the years went by, some of the grandchildren and their children decided they wanted to build a big city and all gather together to live in this huge city. They wanted to make a name for themselves, to be big and special. They would even be sure that they would never get drowned in a flood again...they would built a tower to the sky. They would get up as high as God and never have to worry as they would be so important!

What do you think God thought of all this? What commands were the people disobeying? They were not going out into the earth to plant it and care for the land. They did not believe the sign of the rainbow that God wouldn't destroy the earth again and they wanted to make an important name for themselves...instead of making an important name for God by showing they loved and obeyed him. The silly people thought they could do everything by themselves and they thought they could reach heaven where God was.

At this time everyone spoke the same language. There weren't some that spoke German and some that spoke French and some that spoke Spanish or English. God wanted men to obey his word...he knew if all gathered in one big city the rest of the earth would get ruined and overrun with weeds and there would be no food for the animals and they would die. The people began to make bricks and made big homes and shops and a tall wall around the city. Then they began to build the tower to reach the sky. God decided to stop this. How do you think God stopped the men from building the tower? He didn't strike them with lightning, he didn't sweep them away with a hurricane ... this would kill the people but it wouldn't help populate the land, would it? No - God made each one of the families speak a different language. The man who needed a brick would say something like "thgnmnnfft" and the man who was handing up the bricks might say "grrrroop? No one could understand what the other one wanted and it frightened them. Soon the families that could understand each other began to move away to another part of the country and so God's plan for the earth came to pass.



The people thought they could change God's wishes and do their "own thing," but God knew what was best for the earth and what was best for the people and God's way is always the right way, isn't it?

God called the name of the city "Babel" and the tower was called the "Tower of Babel." Today when someone is making a lot of noise that makes no sense we say they are "babbling." Do you have a brother, sister or friend you can do an experiment with? Think of something you want them to hand you and then use a funny language that you make up. See if they can figure out what you want? Then have them try the same thing with you. It's pretty hard to figure things out when you don't talk the same language, isn't it?

In the picture below some of the things are wrong. How many things can you find that don't fit with Noah's story?



1. What did God send to help dry the flood waters?
2. Where did the ark stop? On a mountain, in the trees, or in the desert?
3. What was the first thing Noah put out of the window when the Ark landed?
4. Do you remember how many days Noah waited until he put a dove out the window?
5. Did the dove bring anything back to Noah the first time it returned?
6. What did the dove bring back the second time it came back?
7. What was the first thing Noah did when he left the Ark?
8. Do you think God wants us to bother him with prayers?
9. What was the sign Noah was given that God would never again destroy the earth by flood?
10. Did God want people to go to many different places on earth to raise families and crops or did God want them to build a big city to live in?
11. Why did the people want to build a tall tower?
12. How did God stop them from building the tower? What was the name of the tower?

Answers to "whats wrong with the picture" (read upside down)

1. The rainbow wasn't in the sky until after the flood was over - Gen.9:12-13
2. The rain started 7 days after Noah and animals were inside the ark, not while going in. Gen.7:9-10
3. Noah and his wife didn't wave from the deck, they were shut inside before the rain came. Gen.7:16
4. There were 8 people in the ark, not just Noah and his wife. Gen.7:13
5. There were not just two of each kind of animal, there were 7 of the clean animals like the sheep Gen.7:2
6. There was only one door in the ark. Gen.6:16
7. There was only one window in the ark. (no portholes) Gen.6:16

Color by number the picture below

1 = red

3 = orange

5 = gray

7 = green

2 = blue

4 = yellow

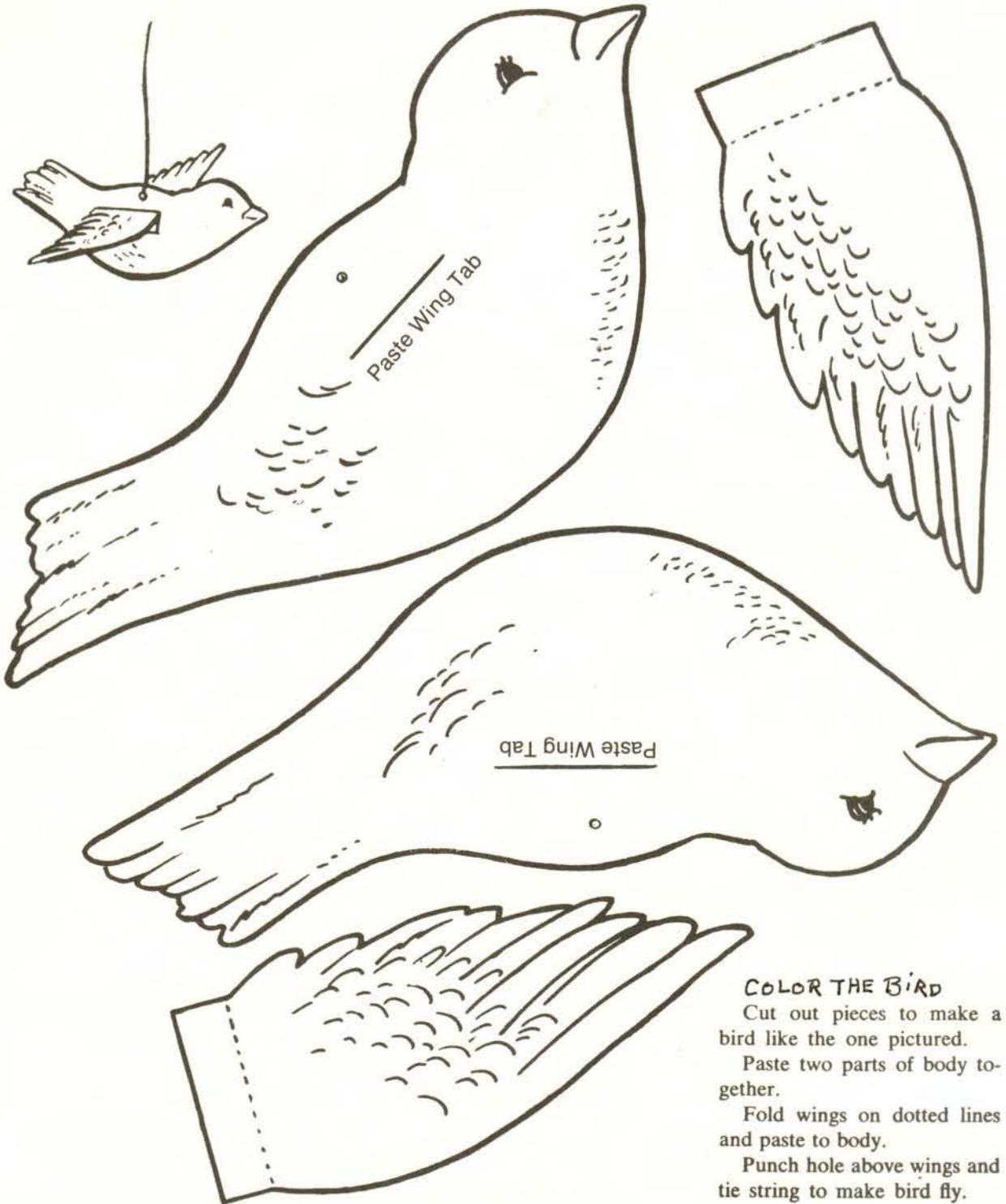
6 = brown

8 = purple



God promised Noah that there would always be a time to plant (Springtime) and a time to harvest (Fall), heat (Summer) and cold (Winter) and day and night. The pictures below might remind you of some of these things. Write Day or Night, Summer, Winter, Spring or Fall under the pictures. Some pictures may remind you of more than one thing.





COLOR THE BIRD

Cut out pieces to make a bird like the one pictured.

Paste two parts of body together.

Fold wings on dotted lines and paste to body.

Punch hole above wings and tie string to make bird fly.