

## Mosaic Teaching Guide

Teaching Series: *Sunday School Stories*

Teaching Two: *Noah and the Ark*

Text: Genesis 6.11-9.18

### Genesis 6.5-8

The LORD saw that the wickedness of humankind was great in the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually. And the LORD was sorry that he had made humankind on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. So the LORD said, ‘I will blot out from the earth the human beings I have created—people together with animals and creeping things and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them.’ But Noah found favour in the sight of the LORD.

### Genesis 9.8-13

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ‘As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.’ God said, ‘This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

## Introduction

Wayne Alexander

***“And the Lord was sorry that he had made humankind on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.”***

The great OT Scholar Waltar Brueggeman asserts, “*With amazing boldness the narrative invites the listening community to penetrate into the heart of God. What we find there is not an angry tyrant, but a troubled parent who grieves over the alienation (he suffers). . . . With . . . perverted imagination, God’s world has begun to conjure its own future quite apart from the future willed by God . . . . We are confronted in this text not with a flood, but with a painful crisis in the dealings of God with creation. . . .*

*But a close reading indicates that it is the heart and person of God which are placed in crisis. The crisis is not the much water, which now has become only a dramatic setting. Rather, the crisis comes because of the resistant character of the world which evokes hurt and grief in the heart of God” (Walter Brueggeman, Interpretation).*

## The Theology of the Story

In this story we hear about a God who suffers because of the choices of humankind.

## Noah

*“But Noah found favor in the sight of the LORD.”*

In this story there are two hearts that matter, the grieving heart of God and the faithful heart of Noah.

## Faithful People

I want to celebrate faithful people today.

## Sunday School Teachers

One faithful man is enough for God to begin again.

## Never Again

*“I will never again curse the ground because of humankind, for the inclination of the human heart is evil from youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done.”*

## The Rainbow

Because of this story I always looked at rainbows sacramentally.