

Genesis: The Book That Started It All

Group Guide | September 28

Open with prayer and briefly summarize Genesis 3 (5 minutes).

Begin your time together as a group with a word of prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you grow to look, love, and live more like Christ.

Read and reflect on Genesis 6-9. Then, pray (45 minutes).

Assign group members to read the following verses aloud. After each section is read, pause for a few moments to reflect on the text. Ask, "What do you notice about God? About humanity? What do you think our takeaway from this text should be?"

- Genesis 6:1-22 (Wickedness on the earth)
- Genesis 7:1-24 (The flood)
- Genesis 8:1-22 (God remembers Noah and his family)
- Genesis 9:1-29 (God's covenant with Noah)

After your reading and reflection time, pray to God any resonances, stirrings, or invitations from this passage aloud for your group. As the leader, try and sum up the experience and the takeaways your group had. In your prayer, seek to share with God on behalf of the group what people are thinking and feeling.

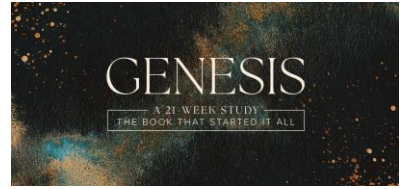
Reflect on the sermon from Genesis 6-9 (35 minutes).

From this passage, Dan talked about four key elements: (1) widespread corruption; (2) the power of a righteous life (Noah); (3) salvation and judgment; and (4) God's new covenant with humanity.

- What stood out to or challenged you from Dan's sermon on Sunday?

Let's reflect on each of the four elements from Dan's sermon now in turn:

1. **Widespread Corruption:** How does the description of humanity's corruption in Genesis 6:5-6 reflect the state of the world today? What are some modern examples of moral or spiritual corruption we see around us?



2. **The Power of a Righteous Life:** Noah is described as “righteous” and “blameless” (Genesis 6:9). What does his example teach us about living faithfully in a corrupt world? How can we cultivate righteousness in our own lives?

Like Noah, what is one area in your life where you feel God calling you to stand out or obey Him in a difficult way?

3. **Salvation and Judgment:** The flood represents both God’s judgment on sin and His salvation for Noah and his family. How do you see the balance of God’s justice and mercy in this story? How does this balance apply to our understanding of God today?
4. **God’s New Covenant:** The rainbow in Genesis 9:12-17 symbolizes God’s covenant with humanity. What does this covenant reveal about God’s character and His promises? How can we trust in God’s faithfulness when facing challenges in our lives?

Spend a few moments praying thanks to Christ for his sacrifice on the cross using the quotes from Dan’s sermon below as a foundation for your prayers (10 minutes).

In his sermon, Dan had two key quotes about how the story of Noah and the flood relates to Christ:

- “Rather than using a comparatively righteous person (Noah), God used a completely righteous person (Jesus Christ).”
- “Rather than punishing the entire world and saving the righteous man (Noah), the righteous man (Jesus) was punished so the entire world could be saved.”

With these two truths in mind, spend a few moments in prayer out loud as a group.

Come together as a large group for prayer requests and prayer (5 minutes).

As you end your group time, share your prayer requests. Have someone record them and send them out to everyone. Then, finish by having someone pray over your group.