

# God’s Word

**Objective:** The students will be able to state that the Bible stories have lessons to teach us. They will be able to tell the story of Noah.

## **For the Catechist**

The students have been learning about God in this unit. They have learned that God is the Creator. With this lesson they learn that God has been involved with His creation. The Bible records God's involvement with His creation. The students have heard Bible stories in both preschool and kindergarten. In this text, they are introduced to the idea that the Bible teaches us lessons about God and life.

This lesson presents the story of Noah which reinforces the concept that God wants us to live united to Him from the previous lesson. Other stories from the Bible presented this year are the Exodus (Lesson 7), Zaccheus (Lesson 10), the Prodigal Son (Lesson 11), and Peter's denial of Jesus (Lesson 15). The Gospels will be mentioned in Lesson 8. The Psalms are introduced in Lesson 17.

In the second grade text the children will come to a greater appreciation for the Bible as it will be enthroned in the icon corner early that year.

**Biblical Interpretation.** In Eastern theology, the Bible has never been literally interpreted. The focus is not on the details of the writing but rather the intended lesson.

## **Background Reading**

(Direct quotations from the sources noted.)

### **Old Testament**

"The mystery of God's plan in revealing Himself to His people is expressed concretely in the Sacred Scriptures, which record numerous milestones in the history of salvation. If our Christian faith is to be rooted deeply in the Gospel message and if we are to fully understand how Christ has fulfilled God's plan by restoring humanity to His likeness, we must turn back to the Old Testament. There we can follow the process of salvation from its announcement and on through the centuries. Then it was made ready in lives of those people

## **Lesson Plan Overview**

**Opening:** Doxology and Trisagion

**Introduction:** Learning from stories

**Need:** Bible

**Read Text Aloud:** Ask questions noted on following pages as text is being read.

### **Activity Tracks:**

Choose a basic, group, or craft activity to reinforce the lesson (detailed on the pages that follow).

- *Basic 1:* We learn from the Bible
- *Basic 2:* I know about Noah
- *Group:* Basket Toss Review
- *Craft:* Noah’s Ark

**Closing:** Doxology and Trisagion

## **Come Bless the Lord Icon:**

Packet I: The Four Evangelists

Packet II:

## **Teaching Pics**

Gospel Reading (DL10)

specially chosen by God, until at last it was fulfilled in Jesus Christ" (*LLI* 18).

### **Sacred Scriptures**

"The Sacred Scriptures, or the Bible, is a series of 'books' written by many different authors recording various stages in Jewish history. Inspired by God, its contents have reached us through human channels—coming first through the oral tradition of the people and then as written down by men seeking to convey God's truth through the literary means available to them. These biblical authors were completely human instruments used by God to record His activity. They were influenced by the age in which they lived and the circumstances of life around them. In bringing about these inspired writings, the Holy Spirit worked through their humanity and not in place of it. The reader must learn to discern the spiritual message being given without confusing it with the human elements in the work, which will become more recognizable through prayer and a proper study of the literary and historical background of the writer" (*LLI* 18-19).

### **Four Distinct Gospels**

"The story of our Lord's life is told in four distinct Gospels written by four different men under the inspiration of the Spirit. In each we encounter diverse emphases and approaches, which result in different portrayals of the same events. Each of the four evangelists is rather like an artist executing a portrait of the same topic, Jesus Christ as Savior and Redeemer. Each one performed this task according to his talent and vision. Recognizing this dimension in the formation of the Gospels helps us to arrive at a more genuine understanding of its message" (*LLI* 48).

### **Different Insights**

"Each Gospel has basic insights which are woven through the many incidents presented. Each applies certain shades or hues to the image of Christ found in them. Mark's purpose, echoing throughout his Gospel, is to demonstrate that Jesus was indeed the Christ (Messiah) who inaugurates the kingdom of God. Matthew's Gospel expands this presentation to show this Jesus as truly divine and truly human. Luke in his Gospel and his Acts of the Apostles shows the message of salvation as meant to go beyond the borders of Israel. He highlights the vast sweep of Christianity's universal mission ranging from humble beginnings in Jerusalem to a glorious fulfillment in Rome. In John's Gospel, a mystical approach constantly finds sacramental meaning in ordinary facts and events. John is imbued with the overwhelming realization that 'The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us,... and we have seen his glory' (John 1: 14)" (*LLI* 48-49).

### **Inspiration for the Life of the Church**

"Each Gospel reflects a certain perspective that is significant to its purpose as it describes Jesus' preaching, the signs and wonders He worked and His commissioning of the Apostles. Yet the style of the particular Evangelist and the manner of his presentation were applied to memories and accounts of Jesus, which were the fruit of the living Church's reflection and life. These materials were received from the Church. The Evangelists interpreted and applied the words and deeds of Jesus to provide the Church with life and instruction in all the moments of its existence. Jesus' story was not to be seen merely as a chronology of past events but as a source of ongoing power that daily challenges and directs Christians in and through their communities" (*LLI* 49).

# The Lesson Plan

## Opening

*Let's come to the icon corner and get ready to pray. [You may need to remind children to quietly stand before icon with palms open and facing upwards. Go to the icon corner and have children follow your lead.] We've learned the Trisagion prayer—the "Holy God" prayer. When we pray this prayer, we make the sign of the cross and we bow each time we say "Holy God." Do you remember? [You may need to demonstrate.] Let's pray the Doxology [Glory be . . .] and then the Trisagion. First, let's quietly look at the icon. [Remain quiet for 10-15 seconds.] Try to pray with me now.*

## Introduction

*One day when I was little I learned a lesson from my mom. My sister and I sat down to study. I wanted to play outside and said, "Let's play now and study real quick tomorrow morning before school." My sister said, "No." My mom came over and told me a story about a tortoise and a hare. This is how it went.*

*One day a hare, (a very fast rabbit), decided to tease his friend, the very slow tortoise (turtle). He said, "Let's have a race!" The tortoise said, "Okay," and the race began. Well, the hare shot off like a bolt of lightning. The tortoise began walking. After a few minutes the hare said, "That tortoise will NEVER catch up to me, I'll just rest awhile." While the hare slept, the tortoise walked by. When the hare awoke, he tried to catch up; but it was too late. The slow and steady tortoise won the race.*

*My mom said to me, "Don't think you can do well by doing every thing quickly. Take your time and study well instead of racing through your work!" I learned a lesson from the story of the tortoise and the hare. Have any of you learned a lesson—from a story or from something that happened to you? [Allow sharing, and ask each: "What was the lesson you learned?"] Today's lesson is about stories—the stories and words in a VERY important book, the Bible. [Hold up the Bible.] The Bible teaches us through its words and stories.*

*Today we'll learn the lesson from the story of Noah. Do you know that story? Who can tell me about that story? [Help the children piece together the story. If they don't know the story, it is offered below.]*

*Long before Jesus was born, God did not like how the people had turned away from Him. Only Noah was close to God. God decided to start creation over again.*

*God told Noah to build a huge boat called an ark. God told him to take two of every animal and take your family and enter the ark. Then it rained for 40 days. Rain flooded the earth.*

*When the rain ended, only those in the ark were saved. God sent a rainbow to show that the rain was over. God would not send a flood again.*

*Let's read about what this story teaches us.*

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## God's Word

God created the world. He cares for His world.  
God created people. He cares for His people.



People wrote stories about how God worked in the world.  
These stories are in a book called the Bible.

The stories in the Bible happened long ago.  
They are important because we can learn from them.  
The story of Noah is in the Bible.

## Reading of Text

*As the children read aloud, help them interact with the text using the comments or questions below which are keyed to the text phrases (in bold type). See "Reading of Text" in Lesson 1 for use of the Vocabulary Visual Aid.*

### **The story of Noah is in the Bible.**

*Let's look at the photograph. Can you see which book the girl is reading? (The Bible) Do you have a Bible to read at home? [Allow responses.] If you haven't seen your Bible at home, ask to see it. Why are the stories in the Bible important? (We can learn from them.)*

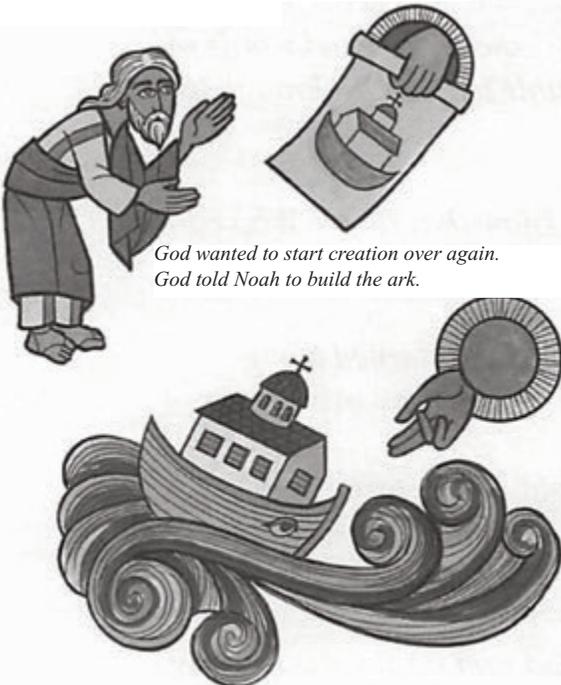
### **God wanted to start creation over again.**

*What was God upset about? (How the people had turned away from Him) What did God want to do? (Start creation again.)*

### **Noah and those in the ark were saved.**

*What was the name of the one man who was good? (Noah) What did God tell him to do? (Take two of every animal and take his family and enter the ark.) What happened after they entered the ark? (It rained for 40 days. There was a flood.)*

Long before Jesus was born, God did not like how the people had turned away from Him.  
Only Noah was close to God.



*God wanted to start creation over again.  
God told Noah to build the ark.*

*Noah's family went on the ark.  
Two of every animal went on the ark.  
Then the flood came. Noah and those in the ark were saved.*

**God wants us to be united to Him always.**

*What is the lesson in the story of Noah and the Ark? (God does not want us to turn away from Him.) The Bible stories are important. The Bible teaches us lessons about God and life. The Bible is God's Word. God's Word is holy.*

*Let's review: We learned about the Bible. Why is the Bible important? (It teaches us lessons about life and God.) What was the lesson of the story about Noah and the flood? (God wants us to stay united to Him always.)*



Everyone but Noah turned away from God.  
Noah stayed united to God.

What can we learn from this story?  
God wants us to be united to Him always.

The Bible is God's Word.  
God's Word is holy.

**Activity Tracks**

**Basic 1:** "We Learn from the Bible"  
[This worksheet is in the student text.]

*To help remember the story of Noah, let's color this picture from the story.*

**We Learn from the Bible**

A. Color the picture below and see if you can tell the whole story of Noah and the ark.



Noah stayed united to God.  
God loves us.  
God wants us to stay united to Him always.

## Basic 2: I Know about Noah

**Materials:** "I Know about Noah" rhymes worksheet

[If you think it necessary, write the missing words out of order on the chalkboard or have them printed on index cards on the table.] *Here are some rhymes about the story of Noah. Let's see if we configure out the missing words.* [Answers: stayed, came, ark, two, roo, sent, flood, mud, send, rainbow]

**Group:** Basket Toss Review

**Materials:** Basket or plate, wadded piece of paper, "Lesson 6 Review" worksheet, Bible story of Noah from a children's Bible

[If your students are not familiar with the longer version of the story of Noah, you may wish to read them a version from a children's Bible before trying this game.] *On these papers I have written questions about today's lesson. We'll have teams try to answer them. A team member picks a folded slip of paper, and I'll read the question on it. If your team answers correctly, you can earn a point. Then a person from your team will get a chance to make another point by tossing this paper in the basket. Let's try it.*

**Craft:** Noah's Ark

**Materials:** "Noah's Ark" worksheet, one and one-half white paper plates per student, stapler, scissors, popsicle sticks, markers, brown tempera, glue, newspapers, parents to help

[Ahead of time you can together the one and 1/2 plates to make the ark, leaving room for a popsicle stick at the bottom.] *Today we learned the story of Noah and the Ark. We learned that God wants us to stay united with Him like Noah. To help remember the story, we're going to make Noah's Ark. There are two parts to this project. [Hold up finished project.] One part is to paint the ark brown. The second part is to color the house of the ark and Noah and the animals. Then a parent will help you glue the house to the ark and Noah and the animals onto a popsicle stick so they can go up and down. This*

Lesson 6 Basic 2  
"I Know About Noah" Worksheet

## I Know About Noah

A. Fill in the missing word in these rhymes.

God was not happy with the people He had made.  
Only one man with Him had stayed.

He called on this man, Noah by name,  
and when God called Noah, he came.



"Noah," God said, "It will rain and flood the ark.  
You must build right away a big ark."

Take the elephant and the kanga two.

Noah built a big ark and inside they all went.  
And for forty days heavy rain God sent.  
It rained and poured until there was a flood.  
Everywhere on earth there were water and mud.

After forty days the rain did end.  
God said, "Never again such a flood will I send.  
As a sign of my promise look to the sky,  
Here is a rainbow colorful and high."

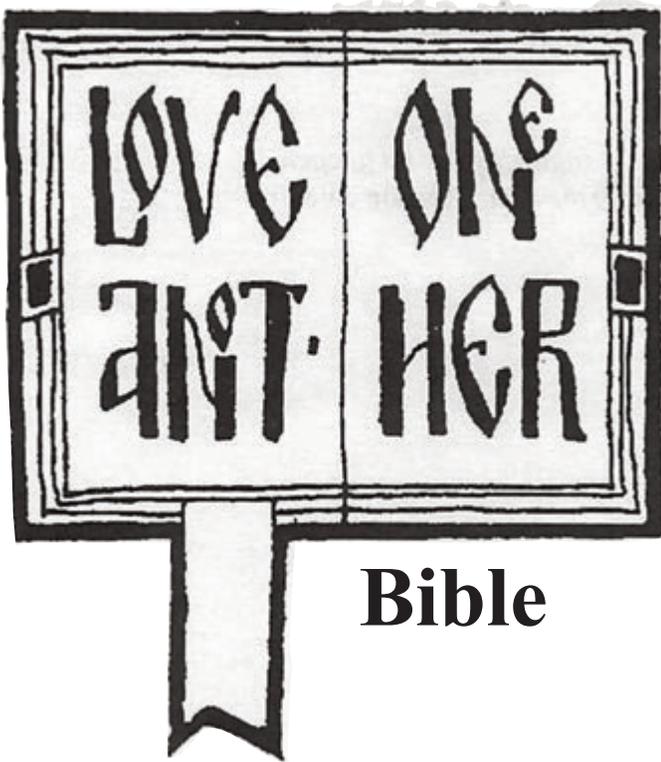


*way Noah and the animals can come out to see if it's still raining and then go back below. First, let's paint the ark so it will dry in time.*

### ***Closing***

*Let's pray the Doxology and then the Trisagion as we did to open our class today. First, let's quietly look at the icon. [Remain quiet for 10-15 seconds.] Pray with me now.*

*God bless you. Have a good week!*



**Bible**



**ark**

# I Know About Noah

A. Fill in the missing words in these rhymes.

God was not happy with the people He had made.

Only one man with Him had \_\_\_\_\_.

He called on this man, Noah by name,

And when God called, Noah \_\_\_\_\_.

"Noah," God said, "It will rain and get dark.

You must build right away a nice big \_\_\_\_\_.

Take your family and animals two by \_\_\_\_\_.

Take the elephant and the kanga \_\_\_\_\_.

Noah built a big ark and inside they all went.

And for forty days heavy rain God \_\_\_\_\_.

It rained and poured until there was a \_\_\_\_\_.

Everywhere on earth there were water and \_\_\_\_\_.

After forty days the rain did end.

God said, "Never again such a flood will I \_\_\_\_\_.

As a sign of my promise look to the sky,

Here is a \_\_\_\_\_ colorful and high."

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And for forty days heavy rain God \_\_\_\_\_.

It rained and poured until there was a \_\_\_\_\_.  
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As a sign of my promise look to the sky,  
Here is a \_\_\_\_\_ colorful and high."

<p>What are the stories about Jesus called? (The Gospel)</p>	<p>In which book can we find the Gospels? (The Bible)</p>
<p>In the story of Noah, what was God upset about? (How the people had turned away from Him.)</p>	<p>In the story of Noah, why did God send the flood? (He wanted to start creation again)</p>
<p>In the story of Noah, what did God tell Noah to build? (an ark.)</p>	<p>In the story of Noah, what did God tell Noah to do with the ark? (Take two of every animal and his family and get in the ark.)</p>
<p>In the story of Noah, what happened after they entered the ark? (It rained for 40 days.)</p>	<p>In the story of Noah, how did they know God would never let it flood again? (He made a rainbow.)</p>
<p>What was the lesson in the story of Noah and the Ark? (God wants us to stay united with Him)</p>	<p>Why is the Bible important? (Because it teaches us about God and life.)</p>
<p>What is the name for God that says He is Father, Son and Holy Spirit? (Trinity)</p>	<p>Why does the priest hold up high the Gospel book? Because it is important</p>

