

Sunday School Lesson for the Month of May, 2022

How to be Faithful!

(Genesis 6:9)

(Sunday, May 1, 2022)

God always rewards His faithful people! Noah was a man who remained faithful to God during adverse circumstances. Do you want to be recognized as a faithful person or an unfaithful person? Of course, you want to be faithful. This month we are going to learn some lessons from Noah on How to be faithful.

I. To be faithful, one must be loyal to God!

- a. Other claims clamor for loyalty. The people in Noah's day lived apart from God. *"God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually"* (**Gen. 6:5**). People decided to walk in a different direction. God was deeply grieved over the people's sins. Whenever God looked, He saw corruption, violence and departure from God's ways. Noah could have walked in the direction of the world – without a doubt the pull of the world was a strong factor.

- b. Faithful people must have a single-minded loyalty. The conjunction word, "but" in Genesis 6:8, introduces Noah as a different kind of person. He decided to be faithful to God! He was righteous and blameless, and he walked with God. He dared to be faithful to God when the majority moved in the other direction.

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II. To be faithful, one must obey God's Word!

- a. God gives instructions. In Genesis 6:11-21, God's instructions are recorded which must have seemed strange to Noah. God told Noah about the end of the Earth. *"God said unto Noah, the end of all flesh is come before me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth" (vs. 13).* Then the Lord commanded Noah, *"make yourself and Ark of Cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out" (vs. 14) NIV.* The following verses records God's specific instructions to Noah regarding the Ark. Furthermore, the Lord told Noah to gather two of every species of animal for the Ark.

Sometimes God's instructions seem strange to our ears. For example, He says to love instead of hate, turn the other cheek, go the second mile, and overcome evil with good.

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- b. God expects obedience. In spite of the unusual instructions, Noah obeyed. *"Noah did everything just as God commanded him" (Gen. 6:22).* Noah obeyed despite ridicule. Spectators must have laughed at the idea of a great flood and the crazy concept of building an Ark. Being faithful amid ridicule is difficult. When Nehemiah sought to build the walls of Jerusalem, his opponents belittled the efforts **(Neh. 4:1-4)**. Nehemiah remained faithful though and the wall was finished.

(Sunday, May 22, 2022)

III. To be faithful, one has to resist the world!

- a. Noah was a faithful man. Some Old Testament Scholars call him, an "extraordinary person." Even extraordinary people, however, are susceptible to becoming ordinary when they conform to the world. For a long time, Noah lived above the temptations of his time, but in a moment of weakness, he got drunk.

(Sunday, May 29, 2022)

- b. The world must be resisted. The story of Noah's sin teaches us that temptation can defeat us. For many years Noah resisted the power of evil, but in a weak moment he succumbed to the pull of the world.

Temptation often strikes immediately after a great victory. One constantly needs to be aware of the susceptibility of yielding to temptation. To remain faithful, one must resist temptation.