

Noah: A good man of God

(Noah means 'rest')

Theme: Obeying and serving God can be hard.

Opening Prayer: *Dear God, May my family (Kingsquad) and I serve you. Amen.
(taken from Joshua 24 v 15)*

Games:

Whose zoo?: Split the group into two teams and send them to opposite ends of the room. Get each team to write a list of animals they could make noises for, up to five per team. Then on the signal, the teams face each other and make their noises at the same time. Each team then tries to write down the animal noises they heard the other team making. The team who correctly identifies the most noises wins.

'Squeak!': One volunteer stands with their back to the rest of the group. A leader secretly points to one person in the group who can make any animal noise they like. As soon as the noise is made, the volunteer turns around and tries to identify who made it. Give them three guesses.

Memory verse: *'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation.'* 2Corinthians 5 v 17
Try clapping this out to a rhythm.

Introduction: 'Ark Larks' – In twos or threes, make a floating 'ark' out of junk materials (egg boxes, straws, sticky tape etc). You will need some water to test each 'ark' on.

Story: Genesis Ch 6 – 9. There is a story in the resources.

Application: Have you ever had to do something you know is right even when others might make fun of you for doing it? *(Some children may have had a hard time for coming to Kingsquad)* Noah had a hard time serving God in front of his neighbours. Can you imagine what it was like building a huge boat on dry land, a long way from the sea? Can you imagine what Noah's neighbours would have said to him? But Noah was a good man and a good servant of God. Sometimes God asks us to do things that we don't understand or may find unusual but if we trust him then we can serve him no matter what he asks of us.

Prayer: Try using the Pyramid Prayer from the resources. You may have to give an example of each type of prayer to help the group at first.

Resources: Funsheet, story, Prayer Pyramid

Song: 'As for me and my house' – The Best of Spring Harvest Kids Praise & Little Kids Praise, 2000.

God was sad. Very sad. Everywhere he looked, he saw people making bad choices. Hating each other. Hurting each other. Making a mess of his beautiful world.

'I need to start all over again,' God decided. 'I need to make my world clean.' And that's when he talked to Noah.

Noah was not like the rest. Noah was a good man. So God told him to build a boat. A boat big enough to hold:

Noah,
his wife,
his three sons,
their wives,
a pair of every animal in the world,
and food enough to feed all of them for a very long time!

Noah's neighbours thought it strange of him to build a boat so far from the sea. And it wasn't easy chasing and catching and cleaning up after all those animals. But Noah was a good man. He did what God told him – even when it was hard.

At last, when they were all safely tucked away in the boat, God shut the door. And then it started to rain.

(simulate the rainfall with the children following what you do: start by gently tapping the palm of your hand with a finger, slowly at first, gradually getting faster. Then move to adding more fingers, gradually clapping with the whole hand – and keep reading.)

It rained for forty days.

It rained for forty nights.

It rained harder than Noah had ever seen it rain before.

(move to clapping on your knees)

It rained so hard that the streams and the rivers and even the seas burst their banks and began to flood.

(faster and harder clapping on the knees – move to slapping the floor)

Soon every patch of muddy earth had disappeared under the water.

And the boat began to float. It floated above the trees, above the hills, even above the mountains.

It floated for days and weeks and months. Until finally it stopped on top of a tall mountain. And, as Noah and his wife and his three sons and their wives and all the animals listened, the rain s-l-o-w-l-y, s-l-o-w-l-y, s-l-o-w-l-y began to stop too.

(slowly reverse the same process, slowing down, getting quieter etc until you are back to tapping with one finger which eventually stops.)

Noah opened a window to look out. The water was going down, but the world was far from dry. So he sent a dove out and when it did not return he knew it had found a place to nest.

‘Come out of the boat!’ God called. ‘The world is dry and clean once again. And now you and your family and all the animals must fill it with life again.’

Noah and his family celebrated and they made a sacrifice to God to thank Him for keeping them safe. And God in turn promised never to destroy the world with a flood ever again and He marked the sky with a rainbow as a reminder of this promise.