



Gospel Doctrine Sunday School Lesson

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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Slippery Rock Branch

Today's Word: deluge

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Lesson 6:

“Noah . . . Prepared an Ark to the Saving of His House”

Are You:

- Doing your Home Teaching or Visiting Teaching?
- Having Family Home Evening Every Week?
- Saying Your Individual Prayers Daily?
- Having Prayers Together Every Day as a Family?

Next Week

Lesson 7:

“The Abrahamic Covenant”

Abraham 1:1-4

Abraham 2:1-11

Genesis 12: 1-8

Genesis 17: 1-9

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Questions to Ponder

- What was the world like when the Lord called Noah to preach the gospel?
- What similarities can you see between the people of Noah’s day and the people of our day?



President Ezra Taft Benson said, “The revelation to produce and store food may be as essential to our temporal welfare today as boarding the ark was to the people in the days of Noah” (in Conference Report, Oct. 1987, 61; or *Ensign*, Nov. 1987, 49).

from President Thomas S. Monson’s Oct. 2002 talk, “Models to Follow:”

“Noah heeded God’s command to build an ark, that he and his family might be spared destruction. He followed God’s instructions to gather into the ark two of every living creature, that they also might be saved from the floodwaters.

Said President Spencer W. Kimball: “As yet there was no evidence of rain and flood. . . [Noah’s] warnings were considered irrational. . . How foolish to build an ark on dry ground with the sun shining and life moving forward as usual! But time ran out. . . The floods came. The disobedient . . . were drowned. The miracle of the ark followed the faith manifested in its building.”

Noah had the unwavering faith to follow God’s commandments. May we ever do likewise. May we remember that the wisdom of God oftentimes appears as foolishness to men; but the greatest lesson we can learn in mortality is that when God speaks and we obey, we will always be right.

Elder W. Don Ladd taught:

“We all need to build a personal ark, to fortify ourselves against this rising tide of evil, to protect ourselves and our families against the floodwaters of iniquity around us. And we shouldn’t wait until it starts raining, but prepare in advance. This has been the message of all the prophets in this dispensation, including President Hunter, as well as the prophets of old.

Unfortunately we don’t always heed the clear warnings of our prophets. We coast complacently along until calamity strikes, and then we panic.

When it starts raining, it is too late to begin building the ark. However, we do need to listen to the Lord’s spokesmen. We need to calmly continue to move ahead and to prepare for what will surely come. We need not panic or fear, for if we are prepared, spiritually and temporally, we and our families will survive any flood. Our arks will float on a sea of faith if our works have been steadily and surely preparing for the future.”

(“Make Thee an Ark,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1994, 28)

Elder John A. Widtsoe of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles explained: “Latter-day Saints look upon the earth as a living organism, one which is gloriously filling ‘the measure of its creation.’ They look upon the flood as a baptism of the earth, symbolizing a cleansing of the impurities of the past, and the beginning of a new life. This has been repeatedly taught by the leaders of the Church. The deluge was an immersion of the earth in water.”