



*"I will bless those who bless you, I will curse anyone who treats you with contempt, and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you." -- Genesis 12:3*

Date: January 19, 2025  
Message: WON'T STOP NOW  
Teacher: Patrick Edwards  
Passage: Genesis 4:25-9:29

The Big Idea: How many times would you try to help someone, who continually turned you down and insulted you, before you just gave up on them? Genesis 5-9 feels like God giving humans the chance for a massive do-over and yet, when all is said and done, nothing changes. Just how true to His promises will He remain?

It didn't take long for sin to wreak havoc on God's perfect creation. Notice how quickly the human race spiraled in its depravity. Humans were created to worship and obey God, but since that did not happen, God acted in judgment against the world's sin by sending a flood to wipe out the entire human race, save one family. These chapters give evidence of God's mercy and provision. Noah found favor in God's sight. The Bible affirms this characteristic of God, both his justice and his mercy. These always remain in perfect harmony.

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR JANUARY 22 (Genesis 6:1-7:23)

1. What is the most significant natural disaster you have witnessed or experienced?
2. What do you find most disturbing about society today?
3. If you were a zookeeper, what animals would you enjoy visiting every day? Which would you prefer to avoid?
4. Apart from the obscurity of details in Gen 6:1-5, what do you find most disturbing about the description of human corruption in Gen 6:5?
5. What would disturb someone who believes that human beings are essentially good?
6. Why do you think God feels this way about human wickedness? Do you feel that his decision in Gen 6:7 is justified?
7. Compare Gen 6:6 with 1 Samuel 15:28-29 (where God is not like a man who would change his mind).
8. From Gen 6:6-8, what do we learn about Noah's character?
9. Did Noah become this way because of God's favor? Or did he behave this way to earn God's favor?

10. Given the unmitigated violence, pervasive corruption, and heavy peer pressure surrounding Noah, what might Noah be thinking as God tells him to build the ark? What are the obstacles? How does Noah persevere when it gets tough?
11. God's deep sadness over sin brought this judgment. How do you feel about and see your sin before a holy God?
12. Have you ever felt like you were the only one trying to live a righteous life?
13. What might need to change in your life to have a reputation like Noah?
14. What difficult thing has God been asking you to do? What obstacles may be in your way?

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR JANUARY 22 (Genesis 8:1-9:29)

Here is the aftermath of the flood. Noah and his family faithfully obeyed God and God faithfully protected them from his judgment. We are reminded of God's love for human beings, who he created in his own image. God used Noah's family to repopulate the earth with his people. Here we read the Noahic Covenant, God promising to never destroy the earth with a flood. God sealed this promise with the sign of the rainbow, God will always keep his promises.

1. How might you describe your life these days? A raging storm? An enclosed ark? A dove with an olive branch?
2. Why did Noah build an altar and worship God after getting off the ark?
3. Why do you think God promised never to destroy the earth with a flood again? (Gen 8:21, but does that mean that every other way to destroy the earth is within the realm of possibility?)
4. In Gen 9:1-7, why does God repeat for Noah much of what he told Adam? What new instructions did he add? (about lifeblood and murder). Why?
5. What is the sign of the covenant? Why choose this rainbow?
6. What other signs or seals of a biblical covenant do you remember?
7. Why do you think God instituted capital punishment?
8. What is the connection between capital punishment and the image of God?
9. What does this new covenant teach us about the value of human life.
10. How does this flood story add to the overall themes in Genesis of judgment and redemption, justice and mercy?
11. What symbolic rainbow have you experienced?
12. As we read Gen 9:18-27, what is our impression of Noah? Compare this to Gen 6:8-10?
13. What do these contrasting images imply to children respecting their parents? What about righteousness? (Does righteous mean sinless?)
14. Why is it easy to fall into sin after a significant spiritual victory?
15. What did the actions of Noah's sons reveal about their character?
16. What may be the point for including this story in Genesis?
17. Did Noah curse Canaan for the actions of his father? How has your life been affected by the mistakes of your parents? By the successes of your parents?
18. Why is mocking your father (Gen 9:22) so serious? Even today? (Eph 6:1-3) Instead of scoffing, what should we do?

**PRAYER FOCUS:** Where is one place in my life that God desires for you to step out in faith? Share what you have heard from God in silence or what you felt about his question.