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Long-Range Weather Forecast

Key References: Genesis 6:13-22; *Patriarchs and Prophets*, chap. 7, pp. 90-97; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 1, pp. 101-104; Our Beliefs nos. 14, 11, 7



Sabbath

DO Do the activity on page 18.

powertext

"Noah did everything just as God commanded him" (Genesis 6:22).

powerPoint

Together we are part of God's plan.

Have you ever tried to make a model or follow a pattern and the instructions have not been very clear? How did you feel? When God asked Noah to build an ark, Noah didn't have any problem following God's plan.

Noah sighed as he walked into the house. He had just been talking to his neighbor. It seemed that there was no end to the wickedness around. Almost every day there was a new robbery or murder. People seemed indifferent. When Noah tried to point out that these things went against God's law, they just laughed. Why should they worry about God's law? They had a good life the way it was.

Noah knelt down and gave the problem to God. One night God spoke to Noah:

"I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. So make yourself an ark of cypress wood" (Genesis 6:13, 14).

"An ark? What is an ark?" Noah may have asked, sounding puzzled.

So God explained to Noah His plan. This big boat would serve as a home for people as well as for many animals. God gave important instructions for how to build the ark. He asked Noah to use the best cypress trees he could find and make an ark with the following dimensions: 450 feet (130 meters) long, 75 feet (22 meters) wide, and 45 feet (13 meters) high. Further, Noah was instructed to make a roof that would allow for the inflow of fresh air. He then asked Noah to coat the completed structure inside and out with tar.

God continued giving instructions: "Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks" (verse 16).

Noah thought of the time when the ark would be built. He may have wondered, *How will I know when it is the right time?*

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Sunday

READ Read Genesis 6:13 and this week's story, "Long-Range Weather Forecast."

DRAW Draw or find a tool. Attach to it this week's power text, Genesis 6:22, and review it each day.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to help you share His plan to save us.

Monday

READ Read Genesis 6:14.

THINK Think about the dimensions of the ark. Why did the ark have to be so large?

MAKE Make a rain measure by half burying a wide-necked jar or tin in some fairly open ground. Measure how much water is in it at the end of the week.

WRITE Write in your Bible study journal* things that make you afraid or things that make your world an unsafe place to live.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Turn your fears over to God. Ask Him to protect you and your family.

Tuesday

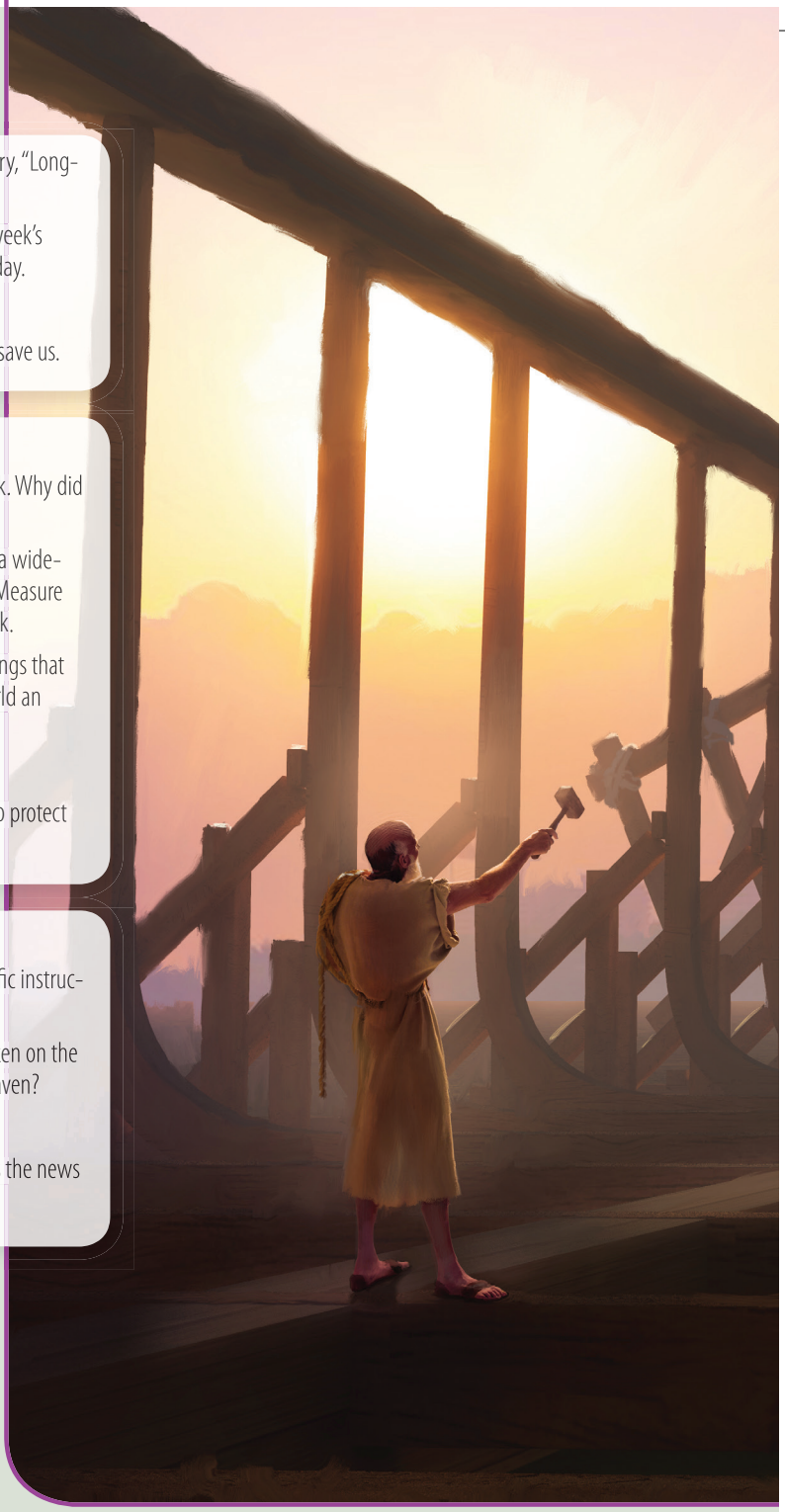
READ Read Genesis 6:15, 16.

THINK What was the purpose of God's specific instructions to Noah for the building of the ark?

LIST List the things that you would have taken on the ark. What things can you take with you to heaven?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to help you share with others the news that He is coming soon.



*NOTE: Your Bible study journal is found at the back of your PowerPoints Bible study guide. If you need additional space, use a notebook or open a special file on your computer. Writing out your thoughts and ideas every time you study the Bible helps you gain a deeper understanding of God's Word.



Then God offered His friend Noah a glimpse into the future and gave him further instructions:

"I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you. You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them" (verses 17-21).

Noah probably looked surprised. He knew that this was not God's original plan. God did not want to destroy the world by flood, but He could not let the

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Wednesday

READ Read Genesis 6:17.

THINK What was the purpose of the opening below the roof? What does this detail say about God's loving care?

SHARE Tell someone the good news that Jesus died to save each one of us from sin.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God that He is still saving people today.

Thursday

READ Read Genesis 6:18-22.

THINK Think about the provisions God has made to preserve you until He comes to take you to heaven.

WRITE In your Bible study journal, describe the place that is the modern-day "ark," where we can invite people to come to know God's saving grace.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God that you are part of His family.

Friday

READ Read Genesis 6:13-22.

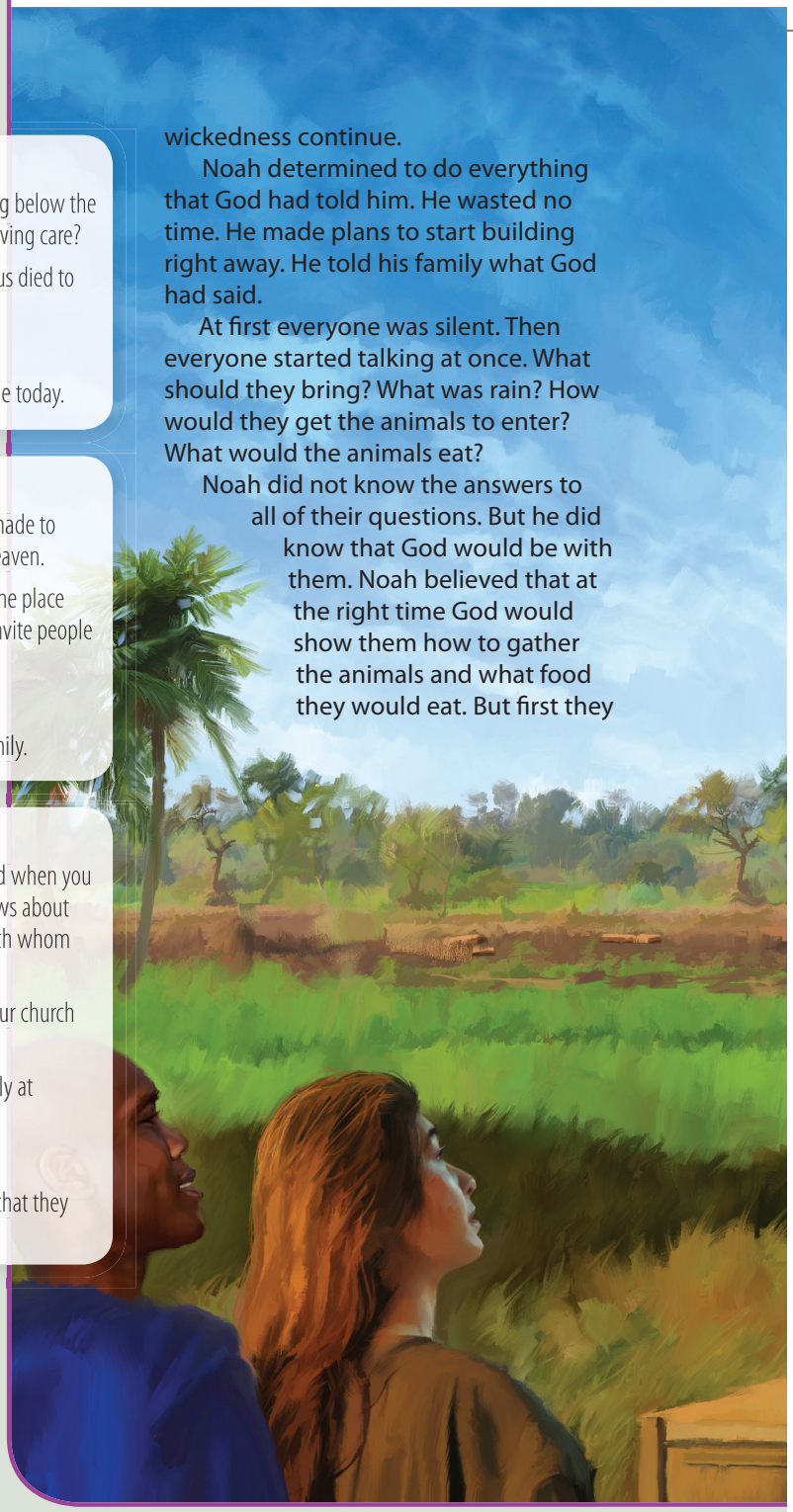
SHARE Tell your family what you experienced when you shared with someone this week the good news about God's plan to save us. How did the person with whom you shared respond?

DISCUSS Talk about how your family and your church compare to the ark.

REPEAT Share the power text with your family at worship.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray for each member of your family that they will experience God's saving power.



wickedness continue.

Noah determined to do everything that God had told him. He wasted no time. He made plans to start building right away. He told his family what God had said.

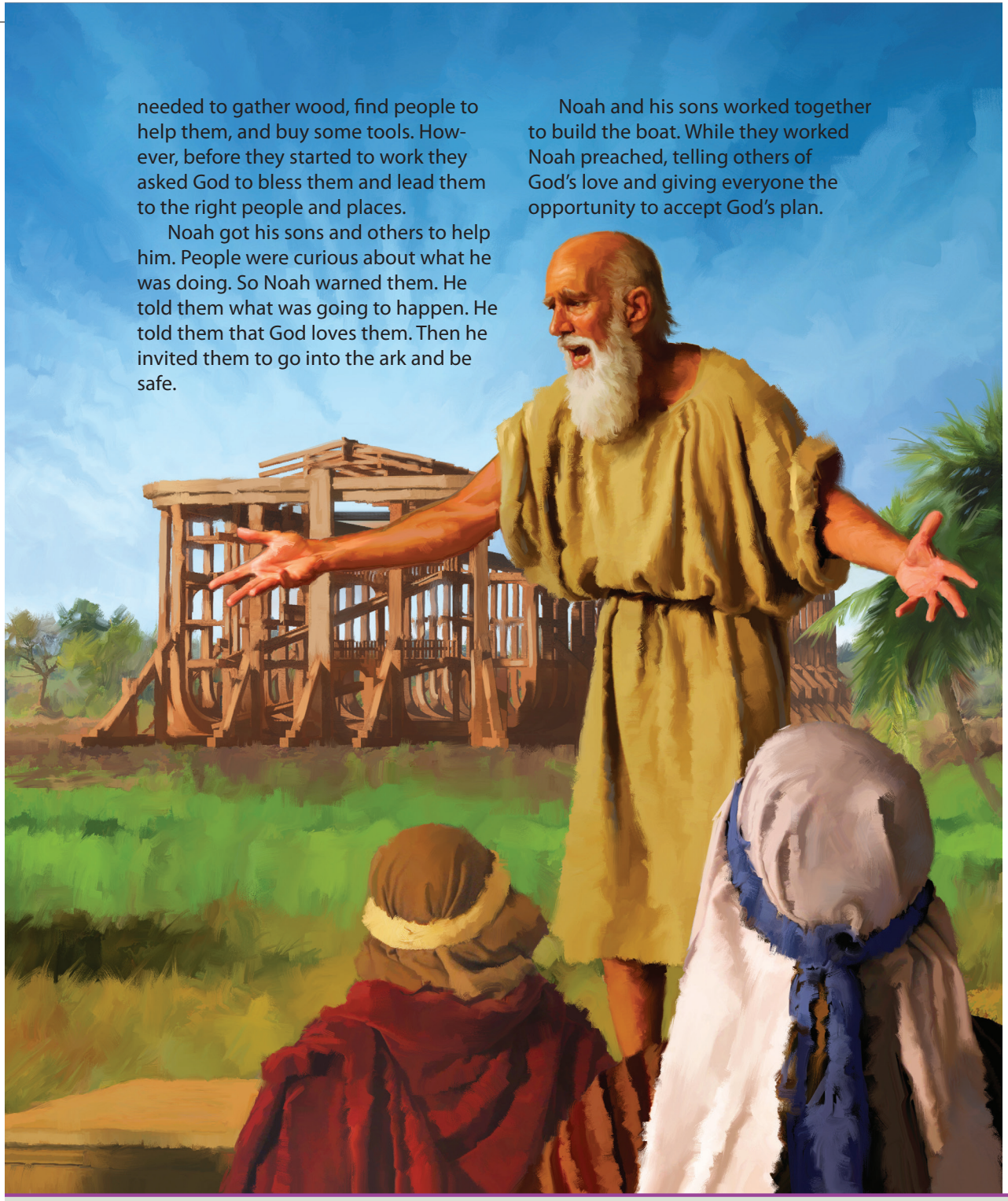
At first everyone was silent. Then everyone started talking at once. What should they bring? What was rain? How would they get the animals to enter? What would the animals eat?

Noah did not know the answers to all of their questions. But he did know that God would be with them. Noah believed that at the right time God would show them how to gather the animals and what food they would eat. But first they

needed to gather wood, find people to help them, and buy some tools. However, before they started to work they asked God to bless them and lead them to the right people and places.

Noah got his sons and others to help him. People were curious about what he was doing. So Noah warned them. He told them what was going to happen. He told them that God loves them. Then he invited them to go into the ark and be safe.

Noah and his sons worked together to build the boat. While they worked Noah preached, telling others of God's love and giving everyone the opportunity to accept God's plan.



PUZZLE 1

GOD'S PLAN

Instructions: Start at the dark-green "And" and travel from square to adjacent square reading a Bible verse that tells us about God's plan for us. Visit each word only once. Diagonal moves are not allowed. Finish at the dark-green "purpose."

him,	love	"And	that	in
who	who	we	know	all
have	those	of	good	things
been	to	his	the	God
called	according	purpose."	for	works