

All God's Creatures Pt 1 - "Animals on the Ark"

Noah's Ark (from Genesis 7 and 8 - NLT)

The Lord said to Noah, "Go into the boat with all your family, for among all the people of the earth, I can see that you alone are righteous. ² Take with you seven pairs—male and female—of each animal I have approved for eating and for sacrifice, and take one pair of each of the others. ³ Also take seven pairs of every kind of bird. There must be a male and a female in each pair to ensure that all life will survive on the earth after the flood. ⁴ Seven days from now I will make the rains pour down on the earth. And it will rain for forty days and forty nights... Noah did everything as the Lord commanded him... After seven days, the waters of the flood came and covered the earth... The very day Noah had gone into the boat with his wife and his sons... with them in the boat were pairs of every kind of animal... Two by two they came into the boat, representing every living thing that breathes... Then the Lord closed the door behind them.

[Many months went by...] But, God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and livestock with him in the boat... and the floodwaters gradually receded from the earth... After Noah released a dove to see if the water had receded and it could find dry ground... and the dove returned to him with a fresh olive leaf in its beak, then Noah knew that the floodwaters were almost gone... After the earth was dry, God said to Noah, ¹⁶ "Leave the boat, all of you—you and your wife, and your sons and their wives. ¹⁷ Release all the animals—the birds, the livestock, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—so they can be fruitful and multiply throughout the earth." ¹⁸ So Noah, his wife, and his sons and their wives left the boat. ¹⁹ And all of the large and small animals and birds came out of the boat, pair by pair.

After reading the above story with/to your child/children, ask your child/children these questions while video recording their responses. Feel free to encourage them into more details with appropriate follow-up questions. If your child/children doesn't/don't want to (or can't) answer a question, feel free to skip it. Please record a separate video for each question, as this will help with the size of the files and make it easier to upload/share them with us.

If possible, please record indoors and minimize background noise. Also, sit/stand close to your child so audio is picked up easily. Thanks!

- What is your favorite animal, and why is it your favorite?
- Do you think Noah got bored being on the boat for so long? What do you think he did during the time the water covered the earth?
- Why do you think God made so many different kinds of animals? Do you think all animals are important to God? Why or why not?
- Do you know what the dove is a symbol for today? (Explain the connection between a dove and peace if needed.) When in the story do you think Noah's family felt God's peace the most?

To upload your response videos, visit saalemfirstfriends.org/fifthsundayvideos/ and follow the instructions. If you need help, call the church office at 330.332.0001 or email Pete at petefowler@saalemfirstfriends.org. If you can't get the website working to upload your videos, we will figure out an alternate way for you to get them to us. (If you've already used an alternate method of sharing in the past, feel free to do so again, just make sure to alert Pete.) Thanks for sharing your children with our church family!