LESSON 7

THE RAINBOW – GOD'S PROMISE



Aim: **To teach the children that when God makes a promise, he always keeps it.**

Scripture Reading: **Genesis 8:1–22; 9:8–12**

Memory Verse: **Genesis 8:22**
"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest … will never cease."

Presenting the Lesson

Starting Point

Talk to the class about promises. Give examples of promises that have been made and kept and promises that have been broken.

Main Points of Today's Teaching

1. God made promises to Noah: He and his family would be kept safe if he followed God's plan and built an ark for them and the animals God told him to gather from all over. **Show Picture 5.** Noah obeyed God and they were indeed kept safe inside the ark. But all other creatures on land and in the air died. Show Picture 6.
2. Noah and his family and the animals were shut up in the ark for many months. Had God forgotten them? The rain stopped, and after seven months the boat came to rest on some mountains (7:24 – 8:5).
3. After eleven months in the boat Noah let out a raven, a large black bird that feeds on dead meat (8:5–7).
4. Then Noah sent out a dove, but at first it came back because it did not find anywhere to rest. **Describe how Noah learnt from the dove about the state of the world outside (8:8–12).**
5. A year after he had taken his family and the animals into the ark, Noah let everybody out. The first thing Noah and his family did was to worship God. They thanked him for fulfilling his promise to keep them safe. **Show Picture 7.** They built an altar and made a sacrifice. God was pleased (8:13–19).
6. God promised he would never again destroy the earth by water. He promised there would always be planting and harvesting and normal seasons. God put the rainbow in the sky as a sign to remind people that he would always keep his promise. Whenever we see a rainbow, we should remember that we can rely on God's word.

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Instil the Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

Ask the class to look around them and name everything that is a colour of the rainbow. (The seven colours of the rainbow are: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet.) Let these things remind us that God always keeps his promises. We can count on God to do what he says.



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