新造的人

若有人在基督里,他就是新造的人,旧事都已过去,一切都变成新的了。——哥林多后书 5:17

嗨,孩子们!今天的圣经故事是一个家喻户晓的故事。让我们一起来猜猜看,有雷声(隆~隆~), 有暴风雨(唰~唰~),还有大风浪(呜~呜~),会是什么呢?有了这些线索,我想你一定猜到了,答案 是:挪亚方舟!相信大家对这个故事都耳熟能详了,甚至连还很小的孩子都知道:一个名叫挪亚 的人,建造了一艘巨大的船,叫做"方舟"。方舟搭载了所有种类的动物,每个种类都有两只在里 面。



关于挪亚方舟的故事,我们还知道什么呢?我们知道方舟建造完成后发生了一场大洪水,在 故事的结尾,还出现了一道彩虹。挪亚方舟的故事真的就这么简单吗?只是一群可爱的动物在游 轮上,享受日光浴,最后见到彩虹这么简单?事实上,完整的故事可复杂多了!圣经告诉我们, 洪水来了,雨不停地下,下了四十个昼夜。雨水太多了,以至于地球上所有的东西,土地、树木、 房屋、甚至连高山都被淹没了,惟独这艘方舟还浮在水面上。圣经还告诉我们,挪亚和他的家人 在方舟里的时间远远超过四十个昼夜,他们呆在方舟里长达一年多。哇,想象一下,能在一艘船 上和这么多动物一起且呆这么久,那一定是一次美妙的旅程!



接下来做好准备,让我们一起来探索挪亚方舟故事的真相!此故事的记载始于圣经《创世纪》 第6章。《创世纪》第6章是在神创造这个世界和天地万物之后的几个章节,所以当时这个世界还 很新颖。虽然这个世界还很新,但罪恶已经无处不在了,没有人在乎对与错,每个人的心里都充 满着邪恶的念头。



创世记 6 章 7 节告诉我们,耶和华说:"我要把我所造的人和走兽,并昆虫,以及空中的飞 鸟,都从地上除灭,因为我后悔造它们了。"哦,糟了!如果故事就在这一节停止,那么这就是 世界的末日了。但好消息是,接下来的一节经文告诉我们,创世记 6 章 8 节说:"惟有挪亚却在耶 和华眼前蒙恩。"在这个充满污秽罪恶的世界里,上帝只喜悦一个人——挪亚!



挪亚有什么特别之处得蒙神 的喜悦呢?在接下来的第 9 节给 了我们答案,创世记 6 章 9 节 说:"**挪亚是个义人,在当时的** 众人中他是个完全无过失的人, 忠实地与神同行。"在一个完全 颠倒是非的世界里,惟有挪亚在 神的眼里是好人,他忠实地与神 同行。这意味着挪亚信靠神信任 神,所以,当神告诉挪亚要去建 造方舟因为将有洪水来时,诺亚 就开始动工。



想象一下,当挪亚方舟开始成形时,人们有多惊讶!这艘船是那么的庞大,比当时任何人所 见过的任何船只都要大。当方舟终于完工建好了的时候,上帝就把动物,各有一公一母,送到挪 亚那里。一旦挪亚和他的家人,还有所有的动物都安全地在方舟里面的时候,上帝就关上方舟的 门。然后天就开始下雨了,雨下了整整四十个昼夜,直到水覆盖了整个地球。无论洪水涨得多高, 方舟都浮在水面上。方舟外面所发生的一切对方舟里面的人和动物不会造成损害。水进入不了方 舟,方舟里的人也不会掉出来。一旦他们进入方舟,他们就完全安全了!



神记得挪亚和方舟里的一切走兽,于是派风来把水吹走,水就往下退,一直往下退,直到方 舟停在了山顶上。于是挪亚从方舟里放出几只鸟,第一只鸟是一只乌鸦,它飞来飞去,直到水都 干了;第二只是一只鸽子,它飞出去又飞回来。七天后,挪亚再次放一只鸽子,这次,它带着一 片橄榄叶飞了回来。又过了七天,挪亚再放飞一只鸽子,鸽子这次没有飞回来,说明鸽子找到了 陆地。当时候到了,神告诉挪亚带他的家人和所有的动物都从方舟里出来。他们那天看到的情景 一定让他们惊叹不已——地上一切的污秽和罪恶都消失了,取而代之的是一个崭新的世界,光洁 夺目! 当挪亚和他的家人仰望清澈的蓝天时,他们看到了彩虹,这是世界上第一道彩虹!



那天,神应许挪亚,祂再也不会发大洪水毁灭全地了。彩虹是神永远不会忘记祂应许的记号, 对挪亚和他的家人来说,这是一个多么幸福的结局! 那么我们能从挪亚的故事中学到什么呢?我们知道神把挪亚一家放在方舟里,把他们从洪水 中拯救出来。当挪亚和他的家人出了方舟,他们来到一个洗净了污秽和邪恶的世界,他们可以在 一个崭新的世界里有一个全新的开始。圣经告诉我们,我们所有人出生时就带有罪。罪是如此的 坏,凡它所到之处和所碰之物,都会出问题。好消息是,神继续把祂所爱的人从罪恶中拯救出来, 祂差遣祂的儿子耶稣来救我们脱离罪!因为耶稣,我们所有的罪都被洗净了,就像挪亚一样,我 们也有了全新的开始,完全从罪恶中得释放,有一个的崭新的开始!



这令人想起了哥林多后书 5 章 17 节,让我们一起来看看这节经文:"若有人在基督里,他就 是新造的人,旧事都已过去,一切都变成新的了。"这真是个好消息,因为这节圣经告诉我们, 无论过去发生了什么悲伤或遗憾的事,我们都有一个全新的开始!每一次,我们失败了,我们不 必再困在我们的缺点或错误中,我们可以宣告说:"我是一个新造的人,旧的缺陷和错误都已经 过去了,我是新造的,感谢主,让我有了全新的开始!" 接下来,让我告诉你一位曾经说话口吃的男孩子所发生的事。他一开口说话就结结巴巴的, 这使得他变得焦虑不安。就因为他觉得自己说得不好,所以说话就紧张,他越紧张,就口吃得更 厉害。这使得他每次在课堂上发言时,都感到害怕极了。这事一直纠缠他,直到他上了五年级。 一次他听到了牧师宣讲耶稣在十字架上为拯救我们所做的一切的讲道。他开始自我宣告说:"我就 是在基督里的神的义人!我没有口吃,我能说得很好!"他越相信这一点,就越不紧张。有一天, 他突然意识到自己说话不再结结巴巴了,他能在课堂上发言而不害怕了,他也不再像以前那样紧 张和害羞了。赞美主耶稣!



孩子们!今天我们学到了什么?我们知道,因为耶稣的血洗去了我们所有的罪,我们就是神 在基督里的义;不仅如此,我们还知道,因为耶稣,我们不再困在罪里,当我们属于耶稣的时候, 我们就会成为一个全新的人,一个新造的人!让我们再回顾一次哥林多后书 5 章 17 节的经文: "若有人在基督里,他就是新造的人,旧事都已过去,一切都变成新的了。"所以,下次,当你 与目前无法摆脱的问题或坏习惯作斗争时,不要对自己说:"哦,我总是会把事情搞得一团糟!" 或者说:"哦,我就是学不好数学!"更不要对自己泄气地说:"哦,我就是不能做到准时上学, 我就是改不了!" 而是要郑重地对自己宣告说:"我_____(念你的名字)是一个新造的人! 旧 事都已过去,一切都变成新的了!"



现在,你是属于耶稣的孩子,你以前的所有问题,对于你来说不再是真实的。因为你属于耶稣,你有一个全新的开始!记住:过去的你,带着重重坏习惯和坏态度的负累,自认为自己没有能力去做好一件事情;但现在的你,是一个新造的人,是上帝的孩子,上帝的所有宠爱都在你身上,赋予你能力去做好所有的事情!孩子们,让我们一起来祷告:"我是属耶稣的!祂的血洗净了我所有的罪,我是新造的人,我的未来是光明灿烂的!我们奉耶稣的名祷告,阿门!"



孩子们,如果你正在听这个故事,你从来没有邀请耶稣进入你的生命,成为你的主 和救主,你现在可以这样做,跟着我重复这个祷告:"亲爱的主耶稣,感谢你为我死在十 字架上。你是神的儿子,你死了,也被埋葬,第三天又复活了。你宝血洗去了我所有的 罪,使我得以永远与阿爸天父在一起。我请求你现在进入我的生命里,成为我的主和救 主,我永远是个义人,永远是有福的,永远是神的孩子。奉耶稣的名,阿门!"

A NEW CREATION

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. – 2 Corinthians 5:17, NKJV

Hey Rock Kidz! Today's Bible story is a well known one. So let's see if you can guess what it is! Listen to these clues, and as soon as you know what it is, shout it out! Have you guessed it yet? The answer is: Noah's ark! Now, Noah's ark is so well – known that even really little children know the story of how Noah built an enormous boat called an 'ark' which carried two of every kind of animal in it.

What else do we know about Noah's ark? We know there was a great big flood after the ark was built. And at the end of the story, a rainbow appears. But is this what the story of Noah's ark is about? A bunch of cute animals on the cruise with lots of sunshine and rainbow at the end? Actually, the answer is no. the Bible tells us that it rained non – stop for forty days and forty nights. There was so much water that everything even mountains were flooded. Only the ark was left floating on the surface of the water. The Bible also tells us that Noah and his family were inside the ark for a lot longer than just forty days and forty nights. Some Bible experts say it was slightly more than a year! Wow! Imagine being inside a boat for so long and with so many animals! What a ride that must have been.

So get ready let's find out together what really happened in the story of Noah's ark.

The story of Noah and the big flood starts in Genesis 6. Now, Genesis 6 is just a few chapters after the time when God made the world and everything in it. But even though the world was still quite new, sin was already everywhere. No one cared about right or wrong, and everyone's heart was filled with evil all the time.

In Genesis 6: 7, it says, "So the LORD said, 'I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created – and with them the animals. The birds and the creatures that move along the ground – for I regret that I have made them. "Oh, no. If the story stopped at this verse, this would be 'the end'! But the good news it that the very next verse tells us this: Genesis 6: 8 says, "But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD." In a world filled with wickedness, God was pleased with one man. Noah!

Now what was so special about Noah? Verse nine gives us the answer: Genesis 6: 9 says: "Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God." In a world that had gone all wrong, Noah was still all right with God. Noah also walked faithfully with God. This means that Noah trusted God and believed in Him. So when God told Noah to build an ark because a flood was coming. Noah got to work.

Imagine everyone's surprise when Noah's ark started to take shape. It was enormous! More enormous than any boat anyone had ever seen at that time! When the ark was finally ready, God sent the animals to Noah, a male and female of every kind. Once Noah, his family, and all the animals were safely inside, God shut the door. Then it rained! It rained and rained for forty days and forty nights until water covered the whole Earth. It did not matter how high the floodwaters rose because the ark just floated right on top of it all. Nothing that happened outside the ark could hurt the people or the animals inside. The water could not come into the ark and the people inside could not fall out. Once they were inside the ark, they were completely safe!

Then God remembered Noah and all the animals that were with him inside the ark. The Lord sent a wind to blow the water away. Down, down, down went the water until the ark finally rested on a mountaintop. Then Noah sent some birds out of the ark. The first bird was a raven which flew to and fro until the waters dried up. The second was a dove, which came back. Seven days later, Noah released the dove again, and

this time, it returned with an olive leaf. After another seven days, Noah released the dove again, and this time the dove did not return, which meant that the dove had found dry land. When the time was right, God told Noah to bring his family and all the animals out of the ark. What they saw that day must have made them go, "Wow!" All the wickedness and evil that covered the earth was gone. In its place was a fresh new world, all sparkly and clean. As Noah and his family looked up at the clear blue sky, they saw a rainbow. It was the very first rainbow the world had ever seen.

That day, God promised Noah that he would never wash the earth with a great flood ever again. The rainbow would be a sign forever that God would never forget the promise He had made. What a happy ending for Noah and his family!

So what can we learn from Noah's story? We learn that God saved Noah and his family from the flood by putting them in the ark. When Noah and his family came out of the ark, they stepped into a world washed clean of all wickedness and evil. They could have a brand-new start in brand new world. The good news is that God continues to save the people He loves from the wickedness and evil of sin. The Bible tells us that all of us are born with sin. Sin is such bad news that everywhere it goes and everything it touches, things go wrong. In our story, God sent us His Son Jesus, to save us from our sin. Because of Jesus, all our sin is washed away. Just like Noah, we also get a brand-new beginning, a brand-new start, free from the mess of sin.

Now I want you to flip your Bibles to 2 Corinthians 5:17. It says, "**Therefor, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new**." This is really good news because it tells us that no matter what has made us sad or sorry in the past, we get to have a brandnew beginning. Each time we fail, we no longer have to stay trapped our weakness or mistakes. We can say, "I am a new creation, the old weaknesses and mistakes have passed away. I am made new. Thank you Lord, for my brand new start!"

Let me tell you about a boy who used to stutter. When he spoke, he spoke like t-t-t-t his. The stuttering made him anxious, and because he was anxious, he stuttered even more. This made him afraid each time he was asked to speak in class. This would have continued, except that when he was in the fifth grade, he heard Paster Prince preach the good news of all that Jesus had done on the cross. He began to say, "I am the righteousness of God in Christ. I am not a stutterer. I can speak properly!" The more he believed this, the less nervous he became. One day he suddenly realized he could speak without stuttering. He could speak in class without being afraid. He also stopped being the nervous and shy person that he used to be. Praised Jesus!

Hey Rock Kidz! What did we learn today? We learned that because the blood of Jesus has washed away all our sin, we are the righteousness of God in Christ. And not only that, we also learn that because of Jesus, we are no longer trapped in sin. When we belong to Jesus, we are made so righteous that we become a brand new, a new creation! Let's look at 2 Corinthians 5: 17 again: "**Therefor, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new**." Now say it with me: "I am a new creation. Old things have passed away and all things have become new." So the next time you struggle with a problem or weakness that you can't break free of, don't tell yourself, "Oh, I can't help being messy. This is just who I am …" or "Oh, I can't do math. I 'm just no good at it …" Don't even tell yourself, "Oh, I ve always had trouble with being on time. That's just me, I guess."

Hey, because you belong to Jesus, this is no longer true for you. because you belong to Jesus, you have a brand new start! So instead of saying, "Sorry, that's the way I am." Remember that the old you, with all the bad habits and bad attitude, has no power to tell you what to do. You are a new creation, a child of God with all the favor of God on your side. Hey Rock kidz, why don't you say it with me. Say, "I belong to

Jesus. His blood has washed away all my sin. I am made new. My future is bright. In Jesus' name we pray, amen!"

Hey Rock Kidz, if you are listening to this story and you've never asked Jesus to come into your life to be your Lord and Saviour, you can do so now. Just repeat this prayer after me, "Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for dying on the cross for me. You are the Son of God, who died, was buried and on the third day, you rose again. Your precious blood washed away all my sins making me forever right with Daddy God. I ask You now to come into my life to be my Lord and Saviour. I am forever righteous, forever blessed, forever a child of God. In Jesus'name," and everyone say, "Amen."