

 **Genesis 6:9–9:17****Leader Guide for One Room****Teachers Dig In****Dig In to the Bible**

- Read: Genesis 6:9–9:17
- In This Passage: God is sad he ever made the world because there's so much evil. So he decides to destroy most of it with a flood and start over again. He chooses Noah to build an ark and save his family as well as animals and birds. After a long time on the ark, Noah and his family step into a fresh start for the world. God gives us do-overs.
- Bible Point: God gives us do-overs.
- Summary Verse: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth"—(Genesis 1:1).

Dig Deeper

- You'll Be Teaching: *God gives us do-overs.* Kids know that sinking feeling when they've done something wrong. Although this Bible story demonstrates a punishment for sin, it also shows God's mercy and compassion in giving humankind another chance. Help kids see that God gives *them* do-overs.
- Think About: Think about a time you got a do-over. What did you do differently?

Dig In to Prayer

- Pray that your kids will understand God's mercy and experience do-overs.

Quick Tip

- Sometimes kids come into your classroom with a reputation. You may have heard from previous teachers that they're difficult. Give kids a do-over by ignoring any warnings you've heard. Keep an open mind as you get to know new kids.



OPENING

Welcome

[5 min]

Supplies

- Bible

Welcome

Thank kids for coming.

Just for fun, have kids link arms with a partner and swing each other in a circle.

Make announcements.

Introduce new kids.

Celebrate birthdays by having kids shout “Happy birthday!” as loud as they can.

Introduce the Lesson

Say: **Today we’re going to learn that God gives us do-overs. In today’s Bible story, God was sad he made people because they had become so evil. So God gave the world a big do-over! Let’s start by talking about *fun* do-overs: things we’ve done that were so fun, we’d like to do them over again.**

Share

Tell kids about something fun *you’d* like to do over again.

Have kids form pairs and tell about something fun *they’d* like to do over again.

After partners have discussed, ask two or three kids to share with the whole group what they talked about with their partners.

Summarize

Open a Bible, and say: **It’s fun to think of doing those things over again! Let’s look in the Bible to see how God gave a do-over to the whole world. God’s special book—the Bible—is one way God talks to us. And right now, God is here—ready to talk to you.**

Pray, thanking God for giving us do-overs.

Classroom: My One Room Classroom



MUSIC VIDEO

Beyond Every Mountain

[10 min]

Supplies

- “Believe It” Gateway Kids Worship

Sing Songs to God

Sing the song.

**CORE BIBLE DISCOVERY****Genesis: God Tells Noah to Build an Ark (Genesis 6:9–9:17)**

[20 min]

Supplies

- Bible
- paper
- pens
- craft sticks
- modeling dough
- large tarp(s)
- spray bottle filled with water
- different colors of paper cut into 1x11-inch strips
- tape

Make a Mess

Distribute sheets of paper and pens, and have kids each write or draw bad things they've done or good things they didn't do. Reassure kids no one will read what they wrote. Then have kids crumple the papers and toss them on the floor.

Walk around the room, stepping over the papers. Say: **What a mess!**

There's sin all over the place. Our true Bible story starts kind of like this. The world God made was a mess—not with trash all over the place, but with evil all over the place! God was sad. He'd made a wonderful world for people to live in, and he made people in his own image! But people sinned so much that the world God had made was full of evil. Listen to how the Bible describes God's feelings.

Read Genesis 6:5-6.

Ask: • **How does it make you feel to hear that God felt that way about people?**

Say: **Thankfully, God gives us do-overs. So he chose a guy who loved him and told that guy the do-over plan.**

Ask: • **Tell about a time *you* wanted a do-over.** Share your own example first.

Build an Ark

Read Genesis 6:13.

Say: **Then God told this guy, Noah, to build a big boat called an ark. God was getting ready to send a flood to destroy everything he had made, but he wanted to save Noah and his family, plus a pair of every kind of animal and bird. Now *that's* a giant do-over! God gives us do-overs, too. With God's do-over plan, Noah's family and the animals would have a safe place to ride out the flood.**

Let's build our own miniature arks.

Have kids form mixed-age groups of four, and give each group a generous handful of craft sticks. Groups can work together and be creative in stacking the craft sticks to resemble a boat.

Ask: • **How safe do you think your boat is?**

Say: **Our boats aren't very seaworthy—they're not even glued together! But Noah knew *exactly* how to make the ark because God told him all the details. God told him how long and tall to make it, what kind of wood to use, how to stick the wood together, where to put the door, and how to attach the roof. God knew just what was needed to make a boat that would survive the flood so that Noah's family could have a do-over when it was over.**

But God also wanted to keep animals safe. So he sent at least two of every kind of animal to Noah to load into the ark.

Distribute modeling dough, and have kids create a few animals to add to their arks.

Weather the Storm

Say: **After Noah finished building the ark and got everyone loaded in, the rain started. Let's imagine what it was like in that boat, listening to the storm.** Have kids gather closely together, and then cover them with the tarp. If you have a large group, you can have kids under multiple tarps.

After kids are hidden under the tarp, have your adult or teen helper begin quietly picking up all the papers from the floor and throwing them in the trash. As your helper works, spray the tarp with water. Kids can also bang on the tarp to make thunder sounds.

Say: **It rained for a long time...over a month! For 40 days, the rains poured down. Then the rains stopped.** Stop spraying the tarp, and have the thunder end, too.

So, was it time to come out of the ark? No! The rain may have stopped, but it had rained so much that the water was 22 feet higher than the tallest mountain! They couldn't come out because there was no land.

So they waited and waited in the ark for five months. That's like from Christmas to the end of May. Count to five slowly. Pause. After five months, the ark hit land. It landed on a mountain. Was it time to come out? Not yet... keep waiting in there! There was just the one little peak of a mountain above water. There was still nowhere to go.

Count to two and a half slowly. Pause. After another two and a half months Noah could finally see a few other mountain peaks. Was it time to come out? Nope! Keep waiting in your ark.

Count to 40 quickly. Pause. It's okay that younger kids may not be able to count this high. After *another* 40 days, Noah let a bird out of the window to see if it could find dry ground to land on. But the dove couldn't land anywhere so it came back to the ark. *Still* not time to come out!

Count to seven quickly. Pause. Noah waited another week and released the dove again. This time the dove came back with an olive leaf. Plants were growing! But Noah wanted to make sure it was really safe. Count to seven quickly. Pause. He waited another week. When he released the dove that time, it didn't come back. So after 10 and a half months of flooding, Noah opened the covering to the ark. He could see that the ground was drying.

Was it time to come out? Nope. Count to two slowly. Pause. He waited another two months. *Finally*, God told him to leave the boat. It was time for a do-over. The earth was just like new and ready for a fresh start for everyone. So come on out!

Let kids come out from under the tarp.

Ask: • **What was it like waiting and waiting under the tarp?**

• **What did you think when you came out and saw the clean room?**

Make a Promise

Say: **Noah and his family were on the ark for more than a year. But it was all part of God's plan. When they came out, they got a do-over: a clean start. God gives us do-overs, too. Noah built an altar to show God he was committed to worshipping him and loving him. And God made a promise that he'd never give a do-over quite like the flood again. He put a rainbow in the sky as a sign that he promised never to flood the whole earth again.**

Listen to this.

Read Genesis 9:12-17.

Say: **The rainbow is God's sign of the covenant for "all generations to come." That's us! And he calls it an "eternal" covenant with all creatures on**

earth. So whenever we see a rainbow, we can remember that's God's promise to us. Whenever God sees a rainbow, *he* remembers his promise to us, too!

We started our Bible time by writing things we've done wrong. But **God gives us do-overs**. Just as God made a promise to Noah and all generations to come, let's make promises back to God about what we'll do with our do-overs. For example, if you've lied to your parents about something, you might promise to tell the truth. If you've been mean to your brother a lot, you might promise to be nicer to him.

Give kids each a strip of colored paper, and have them write their promises to God. Younger kids can dictate while older kids write for them. Then have kids tape the different-colored strips on the wall to make a rainbow representing their promises.

Pray: **God, thank you that you give us do-overs. We've all messed up; help us keep our commitments to you to do the right thing. In Jesus' name, amen.**



TALK-ABOUT VIDEO

Sarah's Story

[10 min]

Supplies

- "Sarah's Story" teaching video (watch or download [here](#))

Tip

- Don't have internet in your classroom? That's okay! You can download the videos before class using the "download" button at the link provided, or purchase DVDs [here](#).

Discuss and Watch "Sarah's Story"

Say: **We've been learning that God gives us do-overs.**

Ask: • **Tell about a time you realized you weren't making good choices.** Share your own example first.

Say: **Let's watch a video about a girl who realized she needed a do-over for some bad choices she'd made.**

Watch "Sarah's Story."

Ask: • **Do you think Sarah deserved a do-over? Explain.**

• **Think about someone who's been mean to you. Don't say the person's name, but think about how you would react if he or she asked for a do-over. What would you do?**

• **Now think about an example in your life right now. Who do you need to ask for a do-over, for forgiveness?**

Pause and pray silently for the God of do-overs to give you courage to ask for forgiveness.

Say: **God gives us do-overs. He helped Sarah realize that she needed to make some changes. Then he helped her make them! God can show us when we need a do-over, too. And we're not on our own. God can make the changes in our lives.**



HIGH-ENERGY GAME

Stinky Hooves

[10 min]

Supplies

- masking tape
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep

- In the center of your meeting space, use masking tape on the floor to create 2 ark shapes (as shown below) approximately 3x3 feet each, a few feet apart from each other.



Tip

- You can purchase downloadable music and other items to enhance your DIG IN program [here](#).

Recommended for 8 or more kids.

Toss Shoes and Get Do-Overs

Gather kids together around the ark shapes you created on the floor.

Say: **Today we're learning how God told Noah to build an ark because he was going to flood the whole earth and start over. We're also discovering that God gives us do-overs, too. Let's think more about that as we play a game.**

Have kids form two even teams. Have each team stand in front of one of the arks. Ask kids to each remove one shoe.

Say: **The ark was loaded with lots of stinky animals. Let's use your stinky shoes for this game and pretend they're smelly animals.** Explain that the object of the game is to get their stinky animal (shoe) into the ark, and the team with the most stinky animals in the ark wins. Ask kids to back away from the ark about 5 feet and turn their backs to the ark. Then tell kids to toss their stinky animals over their shoulders into the ark. Allow time for all the kids to toss their shoes at the same time. Applaud kids who get their shoes in the ark. Then say: **If you didn't get your smelly animal into the ark, you get a do-over. Take off your other shoe and try again.** Allow time. Then count how many shoes from each team made it into their ark. Declare one team the winner.

Then have kids grab their shoes, and tell them they get another do-over and a chance to win as you play another round. For the second round, have kids face forward, place their shoe between their elbows, and attempt to toss the shoe into the ark using only their elbows. Again, allow kids a do-over with their second

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shoe if they missed the first time. For the third round, have kids put their shoes loosely on their feet and attempt to kick them (gently) into the ark. For the final round, allow kids to face the ark and gently toss their shoes into the ark with their hands.

If you'd like, play music as kids play.

Help preschoolers put their shoes back on.

Talk About It

Ask: • **How did it feel to get do-overs in this game?**

• **Why is it so good to get do-overs?**

Say: **Just as you got another chance in this game to get your stinky animal into the ark, in real life God gives us second chances, too! God flooded the whole earth and started over with Noah and his family. God wants to give you a fresh start, too, when you've made mistakes. I'm so glad God gives us do-overs.**



CRAFT

Noahs Ark

[20 min]

Supplies

- Brown construction paper
- Paper Plate
- Crayons

Easy Prep

- Make a sample craft to show kids.

Make an Ark

- Place the plate face up. Glue the ark to the paper plate



LOW-ENERGY GAME

Two by Two

[10 min]

Supplies

- sticky notes (1 per child)

Easy Prep

- Use a marker to write the name of 1 animal on each sticky note; you'll need 2 of each animal. To make it more challenging, choose animals that will be hard to tell apart when kids are acting, such as lions, tigers, panthers, and bears; lizards, snakes, and fish; or horses, donkeys, and zebras.

Recommended for 10 or more kids.

Match the Animals

Gather kids together.

Say: **Today we heard how God was sad about the way people were acting so he decided to flood the earth and start over. God told Noah to build an ark and bring two of every kind of animal onto the ark. Let's play a game as we pretend to help Noah find all the animals to fill his ark.**

Explain to kids that from this point on no one can talk or make a sound other than you. Then place a sticky note on each child's forehead without letting him or her see what's on it. Tell kids that everyone has an animal name on his or her sticky note. Explain that the object of the game is to race to find their matching animals. Kids will do this by reading others' cards and acting like that animal—without using words or sounds. Based on what other kids act out, kids will try to silently guess which animal is on their own foreheads. (Preschoolers won't be able to give clues, but they can still play and guess what's on their sticky note.)

Remind kids that if they have a guess, they still can't talk. Once two kids think they are a match, they'll come check in with you. If they're a match, you'll give them a high-five and have them sit with you. If they're not, you'll give them a do-over and send them back into the group of kids to try again to find their match.

Once kids understand the rules, begin playing. Play until everyone has correctly paired up with a matching animal.

Talk About It

Ask: • **Just as you might have needed to start over again looking for a match in this game, God started over with Noah and his family. Why do you think God gives us do-overs or second chances?**

• **Tell about the biggest do-over you ever got.** Share a story from personal experience about when you got a do-over.

Say: **We all mess up and make wrong choices. Thankfully, God loves us so much that he forgives us and gives us second chances. Just as God started over with Noah and the ark, God gives us do-overs, too.**



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Colorful Do-Overs

[5 min]

Supplies

- rainbow made in Core Bible Discovery
- flashlight

Easy Prep

- Practice reflecting rainbows from CDs or DVDs to see how this powerful affirmation will work.

Reflect a Rainbow

Have kids gather by the rainbow they made in Core Bible Discovery.

Say: **We're learning that God gives us do-overs. After the flood, Noah and his family had a new start to live God's way. And God sent a rainbow as a promise that he would never flood the whole earth again. The rainbow can remind us of the do-over humans got after the flood ended. And God gives each one of us a fresh start. Let me show you what I mean.**

Dim the lights as much as possible. Shine a flashlight onto the back of a CD or DVD so that it reflects a rainbow onto a child. Say: [Name of child], **God gives you a do-over.**

Continue to shine a rainbow onto kids one at a time, and give them each the same affirmation.

Reflect God

Say: **To make my rainbow, I reflected light off of a CD and onto you. When God gives us do-overs, it's a chance to reflect God's love into the world.**

Pray: **God, thank you for giving us do-overs. Help us use our do-overs well and reflect your love to the people around us. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to make good choices and come back next week to tell you about their choices.



TAKE-HOME

Take-Home

[0 min]

Supplies

- this week's "Dig In @ Home" handout (1 per child) (download [here](#))

Easy Prep

- Add your church announcements to the "Dig In @ Home" handout.

Distribute a copy of the "Dig In @ Home" handout to kids as they leave, or email it to parents during the week.