GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

A Rainbow Promise

Genesis 8:1-9:17



YOUR BIBLE READING

The rainbow marks God's covenant with people and living creatures.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Waiting for Dry Ground

Genesis 8:1-9:17



God remembered Noah and all the living creatures in the ark. He sent a wind over the earth, and the floodwaters began to go down. The ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. Still, Noah had to wait before the ground was ready. The turning point begins with God's remembering, not with Noah being forgotten. Wind, falling water, and the resting ark show the slow movement toward a habitable earth again.

Noah sent out a raven. Later he sent a dove, but it found nowhere to rest and returned. After another wait, the dove came back carrying a fresh olive leaf. The next time Noah sent it, the dove did not return. These are separate flights with waits between them. The olive leaf gives Noah information about the changing land, but he does not immediately lead everyone out of the ark.

At last God told Noah to leave the ark with his family and bring out the animals. They stepped onto the earth after their long stay. Noah built an altar and offered sacrifices to God. The animals could spread across the land and have young. Noah leaves when God tells him to go. The family and creatures who have lived together inside can now begin their life outside, and Noah responds with worship.

God made a covenant, a lasting promise, with Noah, his descendants, and every living creature. Never again would a flood destroy all life on the earth. God set the rainbow in the clouds as the sign of that covenant, a reminder of his promise to the living world. The rainbow's meaning is tied to this particular covenant. It speaks about a flood destroying all life, not a promise that every river will always stay within its banks.

Remember: The rainbow reminds us of God's promise to the living world.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

A Promise for the Living World

Genesis 8:1-9:17



This part of Noah's account moves slowly. The water goes down, the ark rests, and mountain tops become visible. Even then, leaving is not immediate. A world that has been covered in water takes time to become a place for people and animals to live again. The pauses matter because the story describes more than a sudden change from rain to sunshine. It follows a return toward ordinary life.

The birds help Noah learn about the conditions outside. A raven goes out, and later a dove is sent more than once. On one flight the dove finds no resting place. On another it brings a freshly picked olive leaf. On the final flight it does not return. These details make a sequence we can follow without inventing a message spoken by a bird or an instant answer to every question.

When God tells the family to leave, the animals come out as well. Life can spread and multiply again. Noah's altar and offerings are his response to God after the flood. The account then looks beyond one household. God's covenant includes descendants who have not yet been born and the creatures that share the earth. The promise reaches farther than the people who first hear it.

A covenant is a binding promise or relationship. Here its sign is the rainbow in the clouds. Clouds need not become a signal that the same destruction is beginning again; the rainbow is linked to God's stated commitment. At the same time, careful readers keep the promise's scope clear. Local floods still require practical protection and help. This story can hold hope for the living world without making us careless about weather or people in danger.

Pause and think: What reminder could help you remember to care about the living world?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Make a Reminder That Means Something



People use reminders for different purposes: a calendar marks an appointment, a photograph helps us remember a person, and a stone from a permitted place can recall a walk. In Noah's story the rainbow is a sign with a specific meaning. What helps you remember something important? Describe a reminder and explain its meaning to someone who has never seen it.

Waiting can involve paying attention rather than doing nothing. Think of waiting for seedlings to grow or a wet painting to dry. An adult may help you notice signs that something is ready. These ordinary examples are not miracles from Noah's story. They show how patience and observation can work together when hurrying would not make the needed change happen sooner.

The covenant includes animals as well as people. Choose a creature you would like to learn more about, perhaps one that lives near your home. What does it need to survive? Knowing the answer might guide one small caring action. If you cannot help directly, you can still learn, ask thoughtful questions, and appreciate people whose work protects living things.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

The rainbow marks God’s covenant with Noah, his descendants, and the living creatures of the earth.

What reminder could help you remember to care about the living world?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What did the dove bring back?

2. Who was included in God's covenant?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ God gave the rainbow as a covenant sign.
- ☐ The floodwaters began to go down.
- ☐ Noah's family and the animals left the ark.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw a rainbow over the ark, with animals stepping onto dry ground.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

The rainbow reminds us of God's promise to the living world.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Genesis 9:12-16

A thoughtful conversation

The covenant promises that a flood will not again destroy all life. It does not promise that local floods will never happen; children should still follow flood safety guidance.

Activity answers

1. A fresh olive leaf.
2. Noah, his descendants, and every living creature.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

If you wish: God, thank you for your care for people and animals.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on Genesis 8:1-9:17. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration © Sweet Publishing; 01_Ge_08_12_RG.jpg. CC BY-SA 3.0. Source: unfoldingWord. Resized proportionally, without cropping.
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