

**"Noah, a Father to Learn From"**

**Genesis 5-6**

**Introduction:** Happy Father's Day to all the fathers here today. This morning we are going to look at a message that will deal with fatherhood.

Let me begin by reading something to you by Martha Bolton titled: What Is Fatherhood?

**What Is Fatherhood?**

*Fatherhood is...getting to go anywhere you want for Father's Day, getting to drive there, and even getting to pay the bill!*

*It's getting up in the middle of the night to see what the noise was outside, when you'd really rather stay in bed and hide, like everyone else.*

*It's the best excuse in the world to buy all those toys you wanted as a child and never got.*

*It's catching yourself watching cartoons when no one else is home, and enjoying them.*

*It's biting your tongue and remembering to be a good example when someone cuts you off on the highway.*

*It's playing Santa at midnight on Christmas Eve, then paying for the privilege at 22% interest for 36 consecutive months.*

*It's assembling toys that require one screwdriver and a nuclear physicist to assemble.*

*It's praying for, hoping for, and anxiously looking forward to the day when your kids will be out of the house and on their own...and then trying to postpone that day as long as possible when it approaches.*

*It's carrying sleepy kids into the house when you're too tired to even carry yourself in.*

*Yes, fatherhood is sometimes a thankless job of fixing kites, breaking up fights, wiping up chocolate milk.*

*It's dental bills, broken arms, and skateboards.*

Noah was a father of three sons and today we are going to look at his life under a microscope to see several lessons for Father's Day.

**I. Noah walked by faith.**

Noah was a believer, so he was saved by faith as he looked ahead to a future Redeemer.

**Genesis 3:14-15**

<sup>14</sup> *And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:*

<sup>15</sup> *And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*

God had promised to Adam a future Redeemer who would destroy Satan. Adam and Eve believed this promise and it was handed down into the days of Noah and he too believed the promise. He had very little Truth but what he had he believed.

Noah then walked by faith as he lived his life. This is seen in several ways.

### 1. His Family

#### Notice Genesis 5:25-32

Noah was 500 years old when he fathered his sons.

#### Genesis 7:6

<sup>6</sup> *And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth.*

#### Notice Genesis 6:3

Here we see that God made it known that in 120 years the judgement would come, and it would be in the form of a global flood. So if the flood came in the 600<sup>th</sup> year of Noah's life then when the announcement from God came 120 years earlier then Noah was 480 years old when the flood announcement came.

Here is what I want you to see, he did not have any children until he was 500 years old, so he knew about the coming flood for 20 years and they he and his wife had children.

This truly shows his faith. Noah lived in a very wicked and evil day.

#### Notice Genesis 6:5, 13

Man's depravity was on full display in Noah's day.

#### Application:

I point all this out because I hear people all the time saying that it is wrong to even bring kids into this world because of the direction that things are going. If any one had a reason to not procreate it was Noah. He knew the flood was coming and the society of his day was terrible. But Noah had faith in God and Noah was walking in obedience to the command that God had given to mankind.

**Genesis 1:27-28**

*<sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*

*<sup>28</sup> And God blessed them, and God said unto them, **Be fruitful, and multiply**, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.*

To all fathers who are listening to me today I just want to say that your children need to see you walking by faith. We are commanded to live by faith.

**Hebrews 10:38-39**

*<sup>38</sup> Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.*

*<sup>39</sup> But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.*

The majority of people today are controlled by the climate of our society which means they are very unstable and paranoid. They are fixed upon all that is happening today in our society, and these are the things that dictate how they are going to live. Many times they are fearful because of the present conditions.

This is a great time for your children to see your faith in God.

**1 Peter 3:15**

*<sup>15</sup> But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:*

There is yet another way in which we can see the faith of Noah.

**2. His service.**

**Notice Genesis 6:13-18**

Noah was commanded by God to build an ark as a means of salvation from the coming judgment. As far as we know Noah worked on the ark for 120 years as the lumber was cut and the ark was slowly built.

Noah also warned others of the coming judgment as he built the ark.

**2 Peter 2:1-5**

*But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.*

*<sup>2</sup> And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.*

*<sup>3</sup> And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.*

*<sup>4</sup> For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;*

*<sup>5</sup> And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;*

I show you this text to help you to see that Noah preached while he built the ark and I also show you this to help you to see that there were false prophets that countered the message which Noah preached. Let us notice something else about Noah.

#### **Hebrews 11:7**

*<sup>7</sup> By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.*

Noah stayed the course even though it had never rained before and even though the people would not listen. I am sure that Satan did his best to discourage Noah but yet he stayed strong in his day. For 120 years he hammered, sawed, and preached all the while he was heckled and mocked.

#### **Application:**

Fathers our children need to see us serving the Lord and they need to see us committed to serving Him. When you feel like quitting, and you feel like you are making no difference we must not give up.

#### **Galatians 6:9-10**

*<sup>9</sup> And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*

*<sup>10</sup> As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.*

Hebrews 12:1-3

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

<sup>2</sup> Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

<sup>3</sup> For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

Philippians 1:20-21

<sup>20</sup> According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.

<sup>21</sup> For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

II. Noah was Separated from the World

Notice Genesis 6:1-9

Noah remained dedicated to the Lord even though he was the only one of his day. Let us notice another description of the society of Noah's day.

Matthew 24:37-42

<sup>37</sup> But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

<sup>38</sup> For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,

<sup>39</sup> And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

<sup>40</sup> Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

<sup>41</sup> Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

<sup>42</sup> Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

The people of Noah's day were living for the desires of the flesh, and this is surrounding Noah every day, but he stayed separated from the sin and he continued to serve the Lord.

**Application:**

Dads, your children are going to follow in your steps and therefore you better stay separated from the world's ways.

Notice what God told Israel about the inhabitants of Canaan.

**Deuteronomy 20:16-18**

*<sup>16</sup> But of the cities of these people, which the LORD thy God doth give thee for an inheritance, thou shalt save alive nothing that breatheth:*

*<sup>17</sup> But thou shalt utterly destroy them; namely, the Hittites, and the Amorites, the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee:*

*<sup>18</sup> That they teach you not to do after all their abominations, which they have done unto their gods; so should ye sin against the LORD your God.*

**Conclusion:**

Your life impacts your children far more than you realize. Listen to these words.

*According to data collected by Baptist Press, if a father does not go to church, even if his wife does, only 1 child in 50 will become a regular worshiper. If a father does go regularly, regardless of what the mother does, between two-thirds and three-quarters of their children will attend church as adults. If a father attends church irregularly, between half and two-thirds of their kids will attend church with some regularity as adults.*

*If a mother does not go to church, but a father does, a minimum of two-thirds of their children will end up attending church. In contrast, if a father does not go to church, but the mother does, on average two-thirds of their children will not attend church.*

*Another study, focused on Sunday School, found similar results on the impact of fathers:*

*When both parents attend Bible study in addition to the Sunday service, 72% of their children attend Sunday school when grown.*

*When only the father attends Sunday school, 55% of the children attend when grown.*

*When only the mother attends Sunday school, 15% of the children attend when grown.*

*When neither parent attends Sunday school, only 6% of the children attend when grown.*

*Another survey found that if a child is the first person in a household to become a Christian, there is a 3.5% probability everyone else in the household will follow. If the mother is the first to become a Christian, there is a 17% probability everyone else in the household will follow. However, when the father is first, there is a 93% probability everyone else in the household will follow.*