Minster Bethel Congregational Church (MBCC)

05/07/2020



Noah

"I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." If we obey God's Word, his plan for our life will be successful too.

Jeremiah 29:11

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9t-G5wml158

I Do Not Know What Lies Ahead, The way I cannot see; Yet one stands near to be my guide He'll show the way to me:

I know who holds the future, And He'll guide me with his hand, With God things don't just happen. Everything by Him is planned. So as I face tomorrow, With its problems large and small I'll trust in God of miracles, Give to Him my all.

I do not know how many days Of life are mine to spend; But One who knows and cares for me

Will keep me to the end:

I do not know the course ahead, What joys and griefs are there; But one is near who fully knows, I'll trust His loving care:



The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. The Lord regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled. 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." But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. [Noah and the Flood] This is the account of Noah and his family. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God. Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth. Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be three hundred cubits long, fifty cubits wide and thirty cubits high. Make a roof for it, leaving below the roof an opening one cubit high all around. Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks. I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you. You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them." Noah did everything just as God commanded him. The Lord then said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation. Take with you seven pairs of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and one pair of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate, and also seven pairs of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth. Seven days from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and I will wipe from the face of the earth every living creature I have made." And Noah did all that the Lord commanded him.

Have you ever done origami? I have and it is a lot of fun. I have made fish, planes, and boats. Some have a lot of steps and are very difficult to make. Some are a little easier. There is one thing that every origami kit must have -- instructions! Suppose I were to give you this piece of paper with the instructions, do you think you could build it? Well, you might need some time and a little help, but you could probably do it.

What if I gave you a set of instructions like these Noah was given and told you I wanted you to build a boat that was 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high. Do you think you could do it? You would probably say, "No way! That is bigger than a football field! I can't build a boat that big!"

Well, that is exactly what happened to a man named Noah. I know you have heard the story, but every time I hear it, I learn something new. Maybe you will too.

One day God looked down on the world that he had created and he saw how mean and evil the people had become. It broke his heart to see the way people were acting.

But God saw that Noah was different. God saw that Noah was a good man, so he decided that he would spare Noah and his family. God told Noah about his plan to send a great flood to destroy everything on the earth. He told Noah to build a big boat called an ark. God told Noah exactly how to build it. Then He told Noah after he had built the ark to fill it with animals. Noah obeyed God. He built the boat and then he put the animals into it.

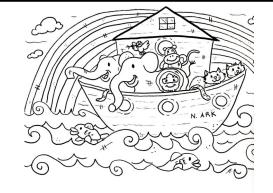
Soon the rain began to fall. The raindrops made little puddles, then bigger puddles. The big puddles became streams and rivers, then mighty seas. Soon the whole earth was covered with water. The ark tossed up and down on the waves, but Noah, his family and all the animals were safe and dry inside the ark.

God had a plan for Noah's life. Because he was faithful and obeyed God, Noah and his entire family were saved. God has a plan for your life too. God has told us about his plan for us in the Bible. Listen to what he said, "I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." If we obey God's Word, his plan for our life will be successful too.



Let us Pray

Father, sometimes it seems that the job is too big for us. Help us to remember that when we put trust in you, anything is possible. Amen.



May God's blessing surround you each day.

As we trust in and walk in his way;

May His presence within,

Guard and keep us from sin;

Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.