



The Ark Door

NOTE: These are basic Bible studies intended to help our teachers personally grasp the “big picture” of our VBS theme. Feel free to use anything here in connecting with your students. If you have any follow-up questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out to Jason.

Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above, and set **the door** of the ark in its side. ([Gen 6:16](#))

[Genesis 6](#) describes terrible wickedness on the earth. Things had gotten so bad that “every intention of the thoughts” of mankind were “only evil continually” ([6:5](#)). People had filled the earth with violence ([6:11](#)) and the LORD was so grieved about those created in his image wandering so far away from him that he regretted making man on the earth. “But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD” ([6:8](#)). In a world of wickedness, Noah cared about what was right. “Noah walked with God” ([6:9](#)).

In [Genesis 6:13](#), God told Noah that he had decided to make an end of all flesh. But God also had a plan for Noah to save himself and his family. “Make yourself an ark of gopher wood” ([6:14](#)). The ark would be an enormous floating vessel—450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high—with one door on the side ([6:15-16](#)). Noah, his sons, his wife, and his sons’ wives would go in—along with two of every sort of land animal and bird of the heavens—so that they all could be saved from the flood. “Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him” ([6:22](#)). And just like God had promised, once Noah, his family, and all those animals went into the ark, they were shut in by God ([7:16](#)) and “the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights” ([7:11-12](#)). The waters on the earth got so high that “all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered” ([7:19](#)), but “the ark floated on the face of the waters” ([7:18](#)). Everything and everyone outside the door of the ark was washed away. “Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark” ([7:23](#)).

The “trust and obey” connection:

- Noah had never seen anything like the flood, but he trusted God enough to believe his warnings and build something that didn’t make sense to most people ([Heb 11:7a](#)).
- If we’re going to “walk with” God like Noah did ([Gen 6:9](#)), we also have to trust ([Heb 11:1](#)) and obey ([11:6](#)), passing through whatever “doors” he might put in front of us.
- As we walk with God, building the lives and influences he wants us to build, we’ll be different from the world around us ([Heb 11:7b](#)), but God’s way is always the best way.