

THE STORY OF SHEM AND HIS WIFE STUDY GUIDE

Note to teachers/parents. The following questions and activities can be used to help children learn while reading the book. This is not an exhaustive list, but is provided to give you an idea of questions and activities you can use. I encourage you to use these and/or some of your own to help your children learn while they read *The Story of Shem and His Wife*. You can find excellent resources at *Answers in Genesis* and *The Institute for Creation Research* if you want to study the topics in depth.

Chapter 1 Tracking Behemoth

1. What does behemoth mean?
2. Read Job 40:15-24. It talks about behemoth. What animal is it describing? Some people say it's referring to an elephant or a rhinoceros. Why or why not is that true? (verse 17).
3. What is the difference between a dinosaur and a reptile?
4. Some people say dinosaurs lived a long time before people. According to Genesis chapter 1, is that true?
5. Read Genesis chapter 3. God had created everything good. Why was there so much evil when Ariel lived?

Chapter 2 The Boat Race

1. Look up boat designs. What type of boat is better for speed? What type is better for stability?
2. Build a model boat.
3. What type of boat was the ark? Built for speed, stability, emergency animal shelter?
4. Read Genesis 2:10-14. What were the names of the four rivers?
5. What did they eat for their picnic lunch? Why do you think they didn't eat meat at that time? (Read Genesis 1:29 and Genesis 9:3, which was after the flood).
6. Why was it hard for Ariel to trust Shem and his family? (Genesis 6:5).

Chapter 3 A New Life

1. In the story, where did Shem live? Where did Ariel live?
2. Read Genesis chapter 4. Is there evidence in the Bible that people farmed before the flood? What other occupations are mentioned in Genesis 4?
3. What did they use the cattle and goats for? How is milking done differently today than it was in history?
4. What is a dowry?

Chapter 4 Noah's Calling

1. The ladies talked about the difference in their appearance. This is sometimes referred to genetic diversity. Is there genetic diversity now?
2. Noah's family spent one day out of seven to rest and worship the Lord. Where was that initiated? (Genesis 2:1-3). Is that also shown in the New Testament? Did God rest because He was tired? If not, why did He rest the seventh day?
3. Read Genesis 6:5-22. What did God tell Noah to do?
4. In the story, why was it hard for Noah's family to understand why a flood would destroy the whole world?
5. What kind of wood was Noah told to use? There isn't a wood called that in modern times, but what properties do you think it had? What kinds of wood that are available now have those same properties?

Chapter 5 A Huge Project

1. The family was overwhelmed with the thought of such a huge project. What did they do to help them handle it? What should you do when you are overwhelmed by what God tells you to do?
2. Read Genesis 5:32. How old was Noah when he began to have sons?
3. Did God speak to Noah about building the ark when he was 500 years old, or was it sometime later? Why? (Read Genesis 6:18).
4. How big was the ark? How big is a cubit? How big would the ark be if measured in feet?
5. Read Genesis 6:16. How many levels were they to build? What were they to build along the top of the ark?

Chapter 6 Preacher of Righteousness

1. Who was Methuselah? How long did he live? (Genesis 5:27).
2. Read II Peter 2:5. How is Noah described? Do you think it would be hard for him to continue preaching during that time? Why or why not?
3. Later in history pitch was made from petroleum, which probably formed during the flood. What did Noah's family use to make pitch?

Chapter 7 Final Preparations

1. What supplies did Noah's family need to gather?
2. Why did Methuselah's death mean the flood would be coming soon?
3. Read Genesis 6:22. Did Noah obey all or just a part of God's commandment?
4. Some books show pictures of Noah's family having to capture the animals to take them onto the ark. Do you think that's how it happened?

Chapter 8 Parade of Animals

1. How many of each type of unclean animal were they to take on the ark? How many of the clean animals? (Genesis 7:2)
2. Why do you think God told Noah to board the ark seven days before the flood? (Genesis 7:4)
3. Some people say that dinosaurs weren't on the ark because they are too big. Do you think that is true? What is indeterminate growth? Would that affect the size of a dinosaur in its prime?
4. Read Genesis 6:20. God told Noah to take every kind of animal. How is that different from taking every species?
5. What are your favorite kinds of animals? Are you thankful their ancestors were on the ark?
6. In the book (page 52) Carna is worried that Noah might be wrong because everything looked the same as always. Does that line up with Luke 17:26-27?

Chapter 9 God's Judgment

1. Read Genesis 7:16. Who shut the door of the ark?
2. Read Genesis 7:11. What were the sources of water that caused the flood?
3. What comes out of a volcano when it erupts? Is one of those things water?
4. What should we do when we are afraid? Memorize a verse that can help you when you are afraid.

Chapter 10 Life on the Ark

1. How do animals react to stress or fearful situations?
2. Why do animals hibernate? Do you think some of the animals on the ark hibernated?
3. What do you think would be the best part of being on the ark with the animals? What would be the worst part?
4. If you couldn't go outside for months because of bad weather, and you had no electronics, what would you do with your time?
5. What is a group of dolphins called? Have you ever seen them in the wild?

Chapter 11 Decreasing Waters

1. Read Genesis 8:3. How many days did the ark float before it landed?
2. Read Genesis 8:4. Where did the ark land? (Note, it's *mountains of Ararat*, not *Mount Ararat*. There is geological evidence that Mount Ararat didn't form until after the flood ended).
3. How did Noah test if the water was decreasing? (Genesis 8:6-12).

4. How do echoes work? Do you think they would be more common after the flood when there were high mountains than before the flood?
5. Read Genesis 9:5. What is capital punishment? Is it commanded by God? Why do you think God instituted capital punishment?

Chapter 12 A Changed World

1. Read Genesis 9:11-15. What does a rainbow represent? Did God promise not to send *any* floods upon the earth?
2. In the story, why was the trip out of the mountains hard? What hazards would Noah's family have had to face?
3. What causes mudslides? Do you think conditions after the flood would have caused mudslides?
4. What are tectonic plates? Do you think they moved into their current positions over billions of years or fairly quickly during the flood?
5. Some people try to find where the Garden of Eden is located. Do you think it's possible to find it? Why or why not?
6. In the story, why did they decide to name the river the Euphrates River?

Chapter 13 The Tower

1. Read Genesis 9:1. What were they commanded to do? Were they doing it?
2. Genesis chapter 10 is called the Table of Nations? Why?
3. Using Genesis 10:25 and Genesis 11:10-16, calculate approximately how long after the flood the earth was divided into separate people groups.
4. Using the calculation above, Genesis 9:29, and Genesis 11:10-11, were Noah and Shem alive during the tower of Babel?
5. What happened at the Tower of Babel? (Genesis 11:1-9).

Chapter 14 News From Far Away

1. Why did people leave the area after the languages were confused?
2. In the story, what was Ariel concerned about as the different groups left the area?
3. Why do you think different groups of people have different physical features?
4. How did people migrate to North and South America? (Look up information on land bridges).
5. Why was there an ice age after the flood? What conditions would have caused it?
6. In the story, why did Engel's people live in caves?

Chapter 15 Looking to the Future

1. After the flood, what happened to the life span of people?
2. Using Genesis 11:10-26, Genesis 21:5, Genesis 25:1, make a timeline to show who lived from the flood until the time of Shem's death.
3. Read Genesis 12:1-3. What did God promise Abram? How was that promise fulfilled in the New Testament?

Chapter 16 We Need an Ark

1. Judgment came to the world during Noah's time. Who else will face judgment?
2. How can we be saved from judgment?
3. Where do you stand before God? Are you saved from the coming judgment?
4. If you are saved, are you warning others?

If you have any questions about salvation, please contact me at
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I would love to hear if this book has been a blessing to you. Please send me an email at the address above.