



Week 1 -- Noah

Announcements

- **301 Biblical Foundations** – Monday, September 10, 2012. This 10-week class will give you the foundation you need to live the life God has designed for you. This is the third step in the Pathway.

Warm-up

What childhood memories do you have of an athletic or academic contest, play, or performance where your parents or relatives were cheering you on? What did their support mean to you?

Word & Application

Read Hebrews 12:1. The writer of Hebrews compares the Christian life to running a race. The last thing a distance runner wants is extra weight holding him back. What are some of the weights you believe hold people back from a successful race of life?

One thing that holds many Christians back from experiencing the blessings of God is doubt: self-doubt, doubts about others, doubts about the future, and doubts about God. What are some reasons you believe people allow doubt to creep in and come between them and God?

Read Genesis 6:5-6. If anyone ever had a reason to doubt it was Noah. In his day the whole earth was filled with evil and selfish people. In fact, in his day, Noah was the only one found righteous. But Noah made a difference in his world and so can we.

Let's look at three ways we can make a difference in our world today.

1. **We can make a difference in our families.**

Read Hebrews 11:7 and Acts 16:31. Your relationship and favor with God not only affects you, but also your family.

What impact did Noah's godly life on his own family? What are some ways our faithfulness can benefit our own families?

2. **We can make a difference in our generation.**

We have a responsibility to our generation. The enemy's strategy is to keep us focused on ourselves.

Read Acts 13:36. Making a difference for a whole generation probably sounds like a huge undertaking to most people and David did it even though he began as a simple shepherd boy. How do you think was he able to make a difference to a whole generation?

Read I Samuel 16:13. There is no limit to the impact we can have in this world when we live by the power of the Holy Spirit. What difference does being Spirit-led have in your life?

3. **We can make a difference for God.**

Imagine Noah building an ark on dry land when no one has ever seen rain, and it took him a hundred years to build! Can you imagine how foolish he must have looked to those around him? And yet, he and his family were the only people on all the earth who were saved from the flood.

Read Proverbs 29:25. Can you think of a time when the fear of man kept you from doing what you knew to be right? What was the consequence? How about a time when despite outside pressure you did what was right? What was the result?

Name one specific way in which you believe God is asking you to make a difference.

Prayer

Pray for one another to respond to God's call on our lives and be faithful in the face of adversity. Also, take time to ask for specific prayer requests from those in your small group.