



“Noah built an ark.”

Noah Builds an Ark - Genesis 6:5-9, 14, 22;
7:16-18, 23-24; 8:1, 7-12; 9:13-15

Thunder boomed loudly outside. Lello jumped a little then cuddled in closer to Granny B. Only moments ago, Lello, Delbert, and Granny B had been out in the garden when suddenly, dark clouds filled the sky and it began to rain. They waited together in the barn for the storm to pass.

Delbert kept peeking his nose out the door. “I don’t know if it will ever stop raining!” he declared.

Granny B laughed, “Of course it will, Delbert. Don’t you remember the story in the Bible about Noah?”

“Haw! Yes I remember. It rained and rained and the earth was covered in water. I think that could be happening right now!”

It was Lello’s turn to laugh, “Delbert, remember the end of the story?”

“Uh ... well ... I guess I forgot. Granny B could you tell us the story of Noah while we wait for the storm to pass?” Delbert asked.

Granny B pulled her Bible from her apron pocket and sat down on a bale of hay. “I’d love to. Let’s look in the Bible:”

The Lord saw how bad the sins of man had become on the earth. He was very sad. God decided to flood the whole earth to rid it of the violence. But the Lord was pleased with Noah. So God commanded Noah to build an ark. Then God told Noah to bring two of every living thing into the ark – one male and one female.

Noah did everything just as God commanded. Then God shut him in the ark. The waters flooded the earth for 150 days.

Noah sent out a dove to see if the water had gone down. The dove couldn't find anywhere to rest so it returned to the ark. Noah waited seven more days and he sent the dove out again. That night the dove returned with an olive leaf. Noah knew the water had gone down.

Noah waited seven more days. Then he sent the dove out again. This time the dove did not return. It must have found a new home on dry land. God told Noah the rainbow would be a sign of the promise between God and the earth. God promised the waters would never become a flood to destroy all life again.

"Haw! Well, the storm has to clear up eventually. God promised," Delbert said.

"Granny B, did Noah understand why God wanted him to build a big ark?" Lello asked.

"I'm not sure, Lello, but Noah knew he had to obey God. You and Delbert don't always understand some of the rules Pops and I have placed on the farm, but you still obey them," Granny B replied.

"Yes, because you are trying to keep us safe. God was keeping Noah safe. Sometimes it's hard to do something you don't understand," added Lello.

"We can pray to God to help us obey and trust," Delbert explained.

"That's exactly it, Delbert. Just like Pops and I want to keep everyone safe on the farm, God wants to keep us safe, too," Granny B explained.

Granny B sat still for a moment. Then, she stood up and walked to the door. Lello and Delbert followed her, wondering what she was looking for. When they reached the door, they noticed the rain had stopped. There in the sky was a bright rainbow. "God's promise!" Delbert and Lello shouted and they ran out into the sunshine, dancing and laughing as they went.