

# Bible Essentials

Scripture Passage: Genesis 7:1-8:14

Think about your past week. How has God answered prayer or worked in your life? What prayer requests do you have? Write them here. Then take time to pray about your requests and ask him to open your heart for today's study.

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Read today's passage. Jot down your initial impressions of the passage.

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Here is some context for Genesis 7:1-8:14.

*In Genesis 6, we learned that God was troubled at the evil on the earth, so he decided to destroy the earth with a flood. In spite of all the evil, he did find one good man, Noah, and he gave Noah instructions to build an ark to save himself, his family, and the animals. As the blameless person Noah was, he followed all of God's instructions. He built the ark to God's specifications and he prepared to enter the ark with his family at God's appointed time. That appointed time comes in this week's passage.*

What are your thoughts about the context? Write some key points here.

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Read the passage again. Use a different Bible version if you have one available. Then summarize the passage in your own words.

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Look closely at the passage and answer the following questions.

What does the passage say about God?

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What does the passage say about people?

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What does the passage say about God's plan?

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What else strikes you about this passage?

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Understanding how a passage fits into the overarching story of the Bible is important.

*In order for God to bring about his full plan for the human race, he needed to preserve a remnant through the flood. Although he wiped out almost all living creatures in the flood, he saved Noah and his family as well as enough animals for them to eat and for the animals to reproduce. This one boat full of living creatures was all that would remain to repopulate the earth.*

*Even though God chose Noah, a righteous man, to survive the flood, the fallen state of human hearts was still preserved through the flood. Eventually, evil overtook the world again, and we were still in need of a Savior. Through Noah, God brought the line of Abraham, and through Abraham he brought the line of David, and through the line of David, he brought Jesus. Jesus came to save all humankind from the path of sin and evil that they were on before and after the flood.*

What are your thoughts on how this passage fits into the overarching story of the Bible? Write your thoughts here. If you have any questions, write those as well. You may find answers in future lessons, or you may want to find another Christian that you can ask.

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Use the following questions to apply today's Scripture passage to your own life.

How does this passage affect how you view God?

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How does this passage affect how you view yourself?

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How does this passage affect how you will live your life?

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Close in prayer, asking God to help you apply what you learned today.