

# Yes, Sir!

BC02

**Bible Verses:** Genesis 6-8

**The aim of this session is to challenge the young people to obey God by using the example of Noah.**

---

## Leader's notes

**We recommend that, at the end of the session, leaders give their young people a "Take Away" question, found at the end of the plan.**

**Encourage the young people to think about the questions, and use them in your discipleship sessions or cell groups, or bring their ideas back next week.**

Obedience is often taken to be a negative word. It brings connotations of someone in authority giving orders and others grudgingly submitting or having an inability to assert their own rights or desires. Young people, or in fact people of any age, don't always (or should that be rarely) want to be told what to do.

Looking at the life of Noah, we find someone who willingly obeyed even when he was asked to do something which required an immense amount of faith, dedication and, most probably, alienation.

The first issue Noah came up against was trust. Was God worth trusting? Was God telling the truth about what was going to happen? Was God going to save Noah after he'd put in all this hard work? This is a fundamental question when we face the issue of obedience to God. Is it worth our while to obey God? Is He worth our trust?

The second issue Noah came up against was whether he was ready for the adventure. Obeying God was going to take him on a unique journey that would leave him on the earth, with his family, a few animals and not a lot else. God was offering Noah a special place in His plan for the earth and the human race. Was he up for it? Obeying God, rather than being a negative thing, is often the start of a new adventure with Him. Where will it take us? What will we end up doing? Where will we end up, and who with?

This session looks at God's interaction with Noah and focuses in on his faith and obedience. For Noah, it seemed he had to start with a big one. Obedience in building a massive boat in anticipation of a flood. For the young people we're working with, obedience may start in small ways. But as they take steps of faith, as Noah did, they'll see God keeping His promises and using them in His plans. The challenge is how far will they go? How far are they willing to take this obedience? Will they do anything for God no matter what? And, as their leaders, will we?

Should you work with young people unfamiliar with Christianity then you may find the activities helpful:

### Getting Started

- Simon Says

- Speed Test
- Trust Me

### Digging In

- A Big Decision
- Stand Out!
- Superhero Born Out Of Obedience

### Response

- Balloon Animals Part 2
- Superhero For God

From the corresponding plan for the 15+ age group - 'The World's Going To End' and 'Flood' - both tagged as Getting Started activities but for the younger age group could be used as Digging In activities.

## **Trust me**

5 mins

Think of people you trust or have trusted before. Why do/did you trust them?

Who would you trust if?...

If you broke a bone.

If you were arrested for a crime you didn't commit.

When eating in a restaurant.

If you were stuck in a burning building.

When using your mobile phone (includes the phone company – that they won't overcharge you).

We trust a lot of people in our lives – some people with big issues and some with little ones. How do we decide whether to trust someone or not?

## **Dare to say yes**

10 mins

Watch Video in email to your parent or carer and answer the questions below.

Noah was someone who stood out from the crowd. He was different.

.How easy is it to stand out from the crowd and be different?

.Is it easier just to follow the crowd and do what the others do?

Noah must have wondered what was going on with God when God started to tell him to build a massive boat, a boat big enough to house two of all living creatures and his wife, sons and their wives. Stranger still, Noah lived nowhere near the sea. Surely people would laugh at him?

If you had been Noah would you have cooperated with God?

Noah did build the ark. Noah was an individual who was willing both to stand out and be obedient to God. It took Noah a LONG time to build the ark – a boat that could've saved loads of people. But during the time that Noah built the ark no-one joined with Noah – everyone followed the crowd – no-one accepted the rescue plan that God had created through this boat.

Sometimes when we follow the crowd and don't stand up for what is right, bad stuff can happen. Be bold.

Read the following verses in a Bible you have at home.

Genesis 6:8-9 "But the Lord was pleased with Noah, and this is the story about him. Noah was the only person who lived right and obeyed God."

Genesis 6:22 "Noah did everything the Lord told him to do.

Noah clearly already knew God long before the ark challenge. He was already living a Godly life. So Noah was used to obeying God. His life was built on trusting God and doing things God's way. So even though the request to build the ark must have been a bit of a surprise, to say the least, Noah accepted God's instructions because that was the way he lived his life. At some point in his earlier life he must have committed his life to God and this ark building project was a continuation of it.

As a result of Noah's obedience, mankind and the animal kingdom were saved.

---