



Dgroup Discussion Guide for August 30, 2015

Rest Well: God Remembers You

SCRIPTURE: *Genesis 8 & 9*

Genesis 8:1 says ***But God remembered Noah and all the beasts and all the cattle that were with him in the ark; and God caused a wind to pass over the earth, and the water subsided.***

What does it mean to be remembered? The word REMEMBER means to pay attention to, to fulfill a promise and to act in behalf of someone. When God remember Noah, He caused a wind to blow over the earth and the flood waters receded. Likewise, when we encounter storms or floods in our lives we must learn to live out our faith and rest well in God's faithfulness

- R** - Remember God's Faithfulness
- E** - Expect New Things
- S** - Savor God's Covenant
- T** - Turn Your Storms into Worship

REMEMBER GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

How can we know God's faithfulness? Romans 10: 17 says ***Faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.*** It is when we know God's word and we are living our this knowledge, it is then that we will experience His faithfulness in our lives. Joshua 21:45 further says ***Not one of the good promises the Lord had made to the house of Israel failed; all came to pass.***

Noah and his family were inside the ark for more than 300 days. There was no record of God speaking to them from when they were inside the ark before the water had subsided until God told Noah to get out of the boat when the ground has dried up (Genesis 8). During a storm in our life, we often ask where God is. When God is silent, we sometimes feel like He has abandoned us. But Noah, a man of faith, waited patiently upon the Lord's timing.

EXPECT NEW THINGS

God remembered Noah, his family and the animals and He let the waters recede leaving the arc resting on Mt Ararat, which means the curse reversed. The ark is symbolic of our salvation through Jesus Christ. It was on the 17th day of the 7th month that the ark landed on Mt Ararat. This was Noah's new beginning. Likewise, Jesus Christ was resurrected on the 17th day of the 7th month, His resurrection gives us our new beginning.

This is not just a mere coincidence. This was by God's design. When God remembered Noah and His covenant with Him, they were given a fresh start. Likewise, after Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, we too are given a new start. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says ***Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.*** Our sins are no longer being held against us because we are constantly being renewed in Jesus Christ.

that. Once we come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, we will be continually molded and transformed until we become conformed to His image.

SAVOR GOD’S COVENANT

In Genesis 9, God makes a new covenant with Noah. When God made the covenant with Noah, He Himself became the guarantor of the promise setting the bow in the clouds as a sign of His everlasting covenant that He will never again destroy the earth with water. This should give us confidence that once we are in Christ, He will honor that covenant and His promises will be held true forever. This means that we will be protected forever apart from God allowing it.

To this day, God continues to fulfill His promise. Unfortunately many of us do not see these fulfilled promises in our lives because we do not have a relationship with God. We do not know His word, we do not know Him. We do not know His promises. The only way we can savor and taste the goodness of the Lord is when we trust Him.

TURN YOUR STORMS INTO WORSHIP





Genesis 8:20 says ***Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar.*** Noah turned the storm into an opportunity to worship and thanksgiving to God.

Today, Jesus tells us ***Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls for My yoke is easy and my burden is light. (Matthew 11: 28-29)*** Problems and challenges happen to everybody, but what makes the difference is how you respond to them. Whenever you encounter trials, turn it to worship. Our lifestyle should be one of worship so that in everything we can encounter in life, we can return it to God as worship.

Remember that only God can turn a mess into a message; a test into a testimony; a trial into a triumph and a victim into a victory. It is in Jesus Christ that we will find rest and our salvation.

APPLICATION:

Patiently listen as God reveals where you can apply the passage’s lesson in your life. Write down specific action points to what He has revealed to you.

	<p>Personal: GOD remembers Noah. What does this tell you about God? Have you been waiting for God to answer a prayer? What is the condition of your heart as you wait? How do you deal with “stormy” days? Where do you find rest? Which of God’s promises do you turn to to find rest?</p>
	<p>Family: What are we learning from the story of Noah? As a family talked about his obedience to God despite of and in the midst of every ridicule. What did you learn about God’s faithfulness? As a family, do you seek out God, His word and His promises in your life? What storms are going through? Do people see your offering of worship and thanksgiving in the midst of the storm?</p>
	<p>Discipleship: How are you using your storms and your attitude, your faith in the midst of the storm to bless others? How can you encourage each other to REST in God’s faithfulness?</p>
	<p>Church/ Ministry: What are you doing to be a part of God’s saving hand? How do you share to others God’s covenant of new beginnings? How are you using your time, talent and treasure for the glory of God?</p>

PRAYERS:

Lift all the things that you learned back to God. Share your thoughts to Him. If He is impressing a sin in your life, confess it to Him. He is always ready to forgive.