



House of Peace Sketches

OUR VALUES

MARCH 2017

Eagles Christian Family Center



**THE FAITH OF NOAH
FAITH IN PEOPLE**

*¹³ And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. ¹⁴ Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. 18 But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee. 22 Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he. **Genesis 6:13-14;18;22 KJV***

<p><u>Weekly Announcements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Massive Baptism- March 26th • Retreat “3 Days of Power” for adults- March 31st- April 1st • Theater Production “He’s Alive”- April 14th-16th • Retreat “3 Days of Power” for adults- April 21st-23rd 	<p><u>Objectives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To activate our faith so that our family and those who surround us can be saved. • To help us believe that God is able to change our situation with our spouse or children, no matter what the circumstances may be.
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Illustration: There was a man who use to juggle for a living. He would juggle while walking over a thin metal chord that stretched across a rocky abyss. He was very famous for this act, and many tourists would come from all around the world to see his stunts. When the moment came where he had to do something spectacular (which was worth the thrill) he would challenge those who were present to hop on his shoulders while he juggled and walked over the metal chord, which was very risky. However, each time he would challenge someone, they would always say no, until a brave nine-year-old boy was willing to accept the challenge. Everybody was astonished and full of fear. They told the little boy not to do it because it was too dangerous, but the kid was very confident and he told the people not to worry, since the man he was about to cross the abyss with was his father. This little boy had faith in his dad and he knew that he was not going to fall into the great abyss. This is the kind of legacy we should leave for our families, that our children trust us as their parents and that we inject faith into them because they see how we role model our Heavenly Father. God is the Father of glory, who will never let us fall nor will he abandon us.

Introduction: Faith is one of our values here at Eagles Christian Family Center. We believe that nobody is an accident nor will they ever be, because every being has God-given potential and a purpose on earth. God disguises us with different professions and roles in society with a purpose. Therefore, today we will be learning about how Noah had the faith to obey God in the middle of an unfaithful society.

1. NOAH HAD FIRM CONVICTIONS ABOUT GOD AND HIS WILL

- A. **He went against the mainstream** (Gen. 6:5, 11, 12). Noah was in a society that was corrupted more and more each day due to violence, dishonesty, envy, promiscuity, etc. It was a hard place to do God’s holy and perfect will, however, he still had faith in his Father.
- B. We are able to see how the past society is very much like the current society we live in. It is in this kind of environment where people with firm convictions in the Word of God are needed to make a difference.
- C. **Noah was a just man in the middle of injustice** and he was able to achieve this because of his strong convictions. Nowadays, we need leaders that are developing their leadership at home and in the Church. In order for someone to be a parent who sets the example, one has to believe in God and His Word as if they were a child, and they must act in favor of the Lord’s plans.

2. NOAH WAS A MAN OF VISION AND FAITH *Genesis 6:14, 18, 22*

- A. God showed Noah what to do and he moved in faith, he decided to obey God and protect his family. It is obvious that his faith was based on divine principles, since a lot of faith was needed during his time! He knew that his Heavenly Father would support him, that he was not an accident, but chosen by God to build the ark.
- B. **God is also speaking to you in this time** so you help accommodate many families who need God's love in the ark, which is your church. Do you believe God? Can you obey Him? The Lord has called you and your entire family to serve Him as one. He chose you! Keep praying for your family, and continue to set the example.
- C. The Great I am has called you to believe in the unusual things like raising the dead, healing the sick, marriages being restored, the drug addict serving Him, etc. Noah had to do something that was considered abnormal, because what was considered "normal" was violence, corruption, promiscuity, drinking alcohol, and more. His faith made him different.
- D. The system in this city wants you to do something normal before the world, that you live as a liberal having illicit sex, committing adultery, drinking alcohol, and stealing. Nevertheless, it is in this kind of situation where your faith is tested and whether you choose to follow the mainstream during this era. You have the power to spread your faith unto your family members and to those who surround you in order to save them from the danger of staying behind.

3. NOAH WAS OBEDIENT TO GOD'S VOICE *Genesis 6:22*

- A. Obedience is the key to receiving the blessing. God spoke to Noah and He revealed His designs to him. Noah's obedience was so great that he followed His exact instructions, "A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above" (Gen. 6:16).
- B. Steps cannot be skipped when it comes to obeying. First **Obedience**, then you receive **freedom** (the **blessing**). Noah obeys God by building an ark despite the criticism, the mockery, and the unfaithfulness. He chose to believe; therefore, his family was saved and blessed (Gen. 9:1).
- C. Today, you too can be blessed if you obey God. Since the beginning, the Lord has believed in you, and He wants you to keep believing in others and your family. Take a step of faith in obedience and you will see how He keeps your family, how He brings your children back home and how He restores your marriage.
- D. We do not know what our ancestors inherited to us, but we must know to leave the most important inheritance to our family, which is FAITH.

Conclusion: *The story of Noah is very exemplary for our current time. Noah was a man of faith who set the example, he always placed God as his priority and that freed him and his family from death. The Heavenly Father has also chosen you. He called you to deliver your family and many others from death.*

Personal Application:

- Pray together as a family, praying about your personal petitions.
- Activate your faith to believe God can change any situation your family is going through.

Interactive Questions:

- What can you do different this week to increase your faith?
- How can you place God first in your family life?

SALVATION PRAYER

Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my heart and my life so you can be my Lord and Personal Savior, Amen.

BAPTISM IN WATER

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you... Matthew 28:19-20 KJV

<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn the meaning of baptism in water • Discover the benefit of being baptized • Understand why we should get baptized 	<p>Weekly Announcements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Massive Baptism- March 26th • Retreat “3 Days of Power” for adults- March 31st to April 1st • Theater Production “He’s Alive”- April 14-16 • Retreat “3 Days of Power” for adults- April 21-23
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Introduction: The following sketch is a guide for the facilitator and or leader during their House of Peace. This guide is accompanied by a video that explains what it means to be baptized in water and why it is important to take this step into obedience.

1. **CONTINUE WITH THE REGULAR HOP PROCEDURES.**
 - A. **PRAYER AND WELCOMING. 5min.**
 - B. **TESTIMONIES OR ICEBREAKER. 5 min.**
 - C. **TEACHING ON VIDEO. 20-25 min.**
 - D. **PRAY FOR OFFERING AND FAREWELL. 5 min.**

2. **DISTRIBUTE THE DETACHABLE FLIERS AND CONCLUSION. 10 min.**
 - A. Conclude the meeting by quickly going over what was taught on the video.
 - B. Next, encourage your House of Peace members and inform them that on Sunday March 26th we will have our Massive Baptisms during all three services.
 - C. Give the detachable flier to every person in your HOP that wants to be baptized so that they fill out the detachable part immediately. Then, take the detachable piece and drop it off at the information booth located in the church lobby.
 - D. Finally, pray for your group members, the offering and for the farewell.

3. **INSTRUCTIONS FOR THOSE WHO WILL GET BAPTIZED. 10 min.**
 - A. Those who are getting baptized must be 12 years old and over. Those who are considered minors must have their parents’ authorization to get baptized.
 - B. Those who will get baptized must bring proper clothing to wear under the gown that will be given to them when they get baptized. It is preferable that women and men wear dark clothing instead of white clothing. Participants must bring sandals to avoid slipping on the wet floors and their own towels to dry up at the end. It is also recommended that the participants bring another pair of clothes to get changed afterwards.
 - C. Everyone that will be getting baptized needs to arrive at the area where the baptisms will take place half an hour before the service starts. This area is located at the main entrance of the church.
 - D. If you would like more information about the Massive Baptisms, you can call 702.871.1900 ext. 235 to speak to Pastor Julio Ambrosio.

<p>Interactive Questions:</p> <p>Why does God want us to get baptized? What does it mean to be baptized? What are some benefits after getting baptized?</p>	<p>Personal Application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get baptized if you haven’t done it yet! • If you know of someone who hasn’t been baptized, invite them to get baptized.
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SALVATION PRAYER

Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my heart and my life so you can be my Lord and Personal Savior, Amen.

**THE FAITH OF JOSEPH
FAITH TO REACH YOUR DREAMS**

22 *By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones. Hebrews 11:22 KJV*

<p><u>Weekly Announcements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retreat “3 Days of Power” for adults – March 31st to April 1st • Theater Production “He’s Alive”- April 14-16 • Retreat “3 Days of Power” for adults- April 21-23 	<p><u>Objectives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand that when a dream is aligned to God’s will, sooner or later, because of faith it will come to pass. • To practice faith so our dreams are fulfilled.
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Illustration: *There was once a young German boy who longed to go to a Moravian school, so he wrote a letter and mailed it to the school. The letter was written to: The Lord Jesus in heaven, and it went like this, “My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I have lost my father. We are very poor, but I know that your Word says that whatever we ask for in your name will be given to us. I believe what you say Lord. I beg you God, in your name Lord Jesus, that you give my mother the necessary means to put me a Moravian school. I would really love to keep studying! I beg you to do this, and I will love you even more.” Once the mail man saw the strange address, he opened the letter and read it. Then, this letter was read at a meeting with the Moravian Society, and the Baroness of Leppe accepted to make herself responsible for this young German boy’s schooling and she sent him to the school he desired to go to.*

Introduction: *Faith in people is one of our values. We believe in people just as God believed in us despite our defects. We believe that every person has a purpose in life and that it is the Heavenly Father’s dream that it be fulfilled. Today we will learn about Joseph, someone who reached his dream and maintained his faith disregarding the circumstances.*

1. FAITH EVEN WHEN OTHERS DON’T BELIEVE IN US (*Genesis 37:2-4*)

- A. People who reach dreams in life are usually not very popular in their families, many like Joseph, have to go through being rejected by their loved ones (V.4).
- B. Joseph decided to tell his brothers, who didn’t love him, about his dreams and they hated him even more (V.5). We too, will meet people who will try to stop our dreams.
- C. Many times, we find people who feel frustrated because they did not achieve what they wanted to in their lives, which discourages those who also want to achieve something; because those who didn’t finish their careers tell those who are barely starting not to go to school (Genesis 37:9-11).

2. FAITH EVEN WHEN WE HAVE FALLEN (*Genesis 37:18-20*)

- A. The devil hates all of those who dream with doing something great, those who believe in God and have faith to reach their goals. His job is to kill all those peoples’ dreams.
- B. The devil tries to destroy peoples’ dreams with darts, temptations, sin, poverty, attacks and even by putting them into a cistern that makes it hard for them to dream and see beyond their circumstance. This is where he tries to steal hope so that people no longer believe in God’s power (Ephesians 6:12).
- C. Joseph was put in a cistern. There’s no doubt that he needed a lot of faith to continue with the dream

God had given him (Gen. 37:23-24). Maybe, right now you feel like you're in a cistern full of problems that do not let you see prosperity nor dreams come true. However, it is faith in God that will help you come out of that hole.

3. FAITH DESPITE THE CIRCUMSTANCES

- A. It would be beautiful, but maybe even a little boring, if we had a dream but all we had to do was sit down and wait for it to happen. We all know that it doesn't work like that. Everything that is good in life has a price, there are no effortless dreams, nor are there fairies who use a magic wand to transform your surroundings, that only happens in cartoons.
- B. Joseph was sold by his brothers to a man named Potiphar and even though he was a servant, he still knew God had something different in store for him. Joseph's dreams remained intact through faith, though maybe doubt tried to attack him sometimes (Genesis 39:1-2).
- C. The greatest test Joseph experienced was when he was tempted by Potiphar's wife. He was unjustly accused and put in prison. This time the test had hit the limit, Joseph was in a place where his greatest dream was to survive or to once again have freedom, because dreams die in jail. Nevertheless, Joseph did not stop persevering to do what was right and keep his faith, knowing that God was with him (**Genesis 39.19-21**).

Conclusion: Faith is the assurance of what's to come and the conviction of what is unseen. Joseph kept waiting on God and then the moment came when he had to interpret the two prisoner's dreams. One of them recommended that he interpret the Pharaoh's dreams. Thus, he became the Governor of the most powerful nation in that time, after helping solve one of the greatest economic crisis in the world. What is your dream? What do you long to do in life and with your family? God's dream is to save humanity and to help people dream. You are part of His dream, just accept Jesus and you will see your life change.

SALVATION PRAYER

Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my heart and my life so you can be my Lord and Personal Savior, Amen.

Personal Application:

- Express some personal dreams you would all like to achieve.
- Pray together for these dreams to come true and take a step of faith this week in order to make your dreams happen.

Questions:

Why is it important to have dreams in life?
 What are your dreams? What do you have to do to make them happen?
 What obstacles do you have to overcome so that they come true ?