

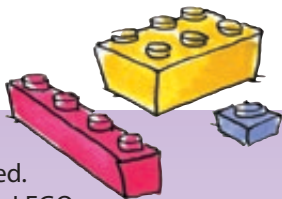
Lenten Devotions for Children

# 40 Days & Nights



# Go Build It!

*Ash Wednesday • Genesis 6*



Dakota ran home. “Come play soccer,” Craig yelled. Dakota called. “I need to finish!” “Oh, go build it, LEGO Brain,” Craig shouted. Dakota didn’t mind Craig’s teasing. He never dreamed he’d get the Millennium Falcon for his birthday.

Noah’s friends made fun of him in Bible times. As more people lived on the earth, many of them forgot about God’s love. They began sinning all the time without being sorry. Only Noah and his family loved God. God told Noah he would have to destroy the wicked people and all of the animals in a big flood. He told Noah how to build an ark—a floating house one-and-a-half football fields long. While Noah built the ark, he warned the people to tell God they were sorry. But they laughed at him. Finally God had to send the rain.

*TODAY & TONIGHT: Has anyone made fun of you for your faith in God? What can you say if a friend does something that doesn’t follow God’s laws?*

*Jesus, thank you for keeping my faith strong. Help me to tell my friends about your love. Amen.*

# Two By Two

Thursday after Ash Wednesday • Genesis 7

Everyone said Karly was horse crazy. She let her herd of toy horses run around her bedroom. When it was time for dinner, she marched them two by two into the corral.

You know another time animals marched two by two. When the ark was done God told Noah, “In seven days I will send rain for forty days and nights. Every living creature outside will die because of man’s sin.” Noah and his wife and their three sons and their wives went into the ark. God sent two—a male and female—of every kind of animal that moved on the earth and every kind of bird marching and flying into the ark. When Noah’s family and the animals were safe inside, God shut the door. On that same day it began to rain.

*TODAY & TONIGHT: When God shuts the door, no danger can get in to hurt you. What can you say about God’s care to someone who is afraid?*

*Jesus, thank you for keeping me safe from every danger. Amen.*



# Rain, Rain, Go Away

*Friday after Ash Wednesday • Genesis 8:1-12*

Patrick sighed as rain splashed the windows. It seemed like it would rain forever.

The people outside Noah's ark didn't mind the rain. They still laughed as they did their work. But the rain did not stop. Now the wicked people were sorry. They climbed to the tops of their houses, then to the tops of trees, even tried to climb mountains, as God washed all the sin from the earth.

Only Noah and his family were alive. They fed the animals during the day and made them comfortable in their stalls at night. It rained forty days and forty nights without stopping. Noah's family listened to the rain pounding the roof and thanked God for keeping them safe.

*TODAY & TONIGHT: God used water and his Word to wash you clean from sin when you were baptized. Look at some pictures of your baptism and talk about that day with your family.*

*Jesus, thank you for washing away my sin and keeping me close to you.*



# A Promise Is a Promise

*Saturday after Ash Wednesday • Genesis 9*

The kids ran out of their room. Finally—it was Spring Break!



Noah's family stayed inside the ark as water covered the whole earth. Then God sent a drying wind. The ark came to rest on the top of Mount Ararat. Noah sent birds outside to test how much water was left. When a dove didn't come back, Noah knew she had found a dry spot to build a nest. After being on the ark almost 300 days, Noah lifted the roof and saw that the ground was dry. Now the happy family and lively animals marched down the ramp out of the ark. Noah built an altar to thank God for saving them. God promised to never destroy the whole earth with a flood again. He set a rainbow in the sky as a sign that he would always keep his promise.

*TODAY & TONIGHT: Just as God saved Noah's family, he promises to save you and take you to heaven. A cross is the sign of this promise. Tell a friend about God's promises.*

*Jesus, thank you for keeping every promise you make to me.*

# An Easter Celebration

## *A Celebration of the Resurrection*



Easter morning,  
shining light,  
From the tomb a glorious  
sight—  
Angels rolled the rock away. “Jesus is alive!” they say.

Forty days have quickly passed.  
Now the story’s done at last.  
Jesus rose to die no more,  
Throwing open heaven’s door.

Run with Mary, tell your friends,  
Give them joy that has no end.  
“Celebrate in all you do.  
Jesus gave his life for you.”

*TODAY & TONIGHT: Talk with your family about all the things you do today. How do they make you think of Jesus being alive? Who needs to know the story? How will you tell them?*

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