

Noah builds the ark.

Genesis 6

After God made the world, more and more people were born. But as the years went by, people forgot about God. They said things that were not true. They took things that did not belong to them. They did things to hurt each other. They didn't obey God.

But there was a man named Noah. Noah loved God. He did what was right. One day God said, "Noah, I am going to stop all the terrible things that people keep doing. I want you to build a big wooden boat." This big boat was called an ark.

God told Noah that He was going to send a lot of rain. The rain would make a big flood. The whole earth would be covered with water! But Noah and his family would be safe inside the big boat.

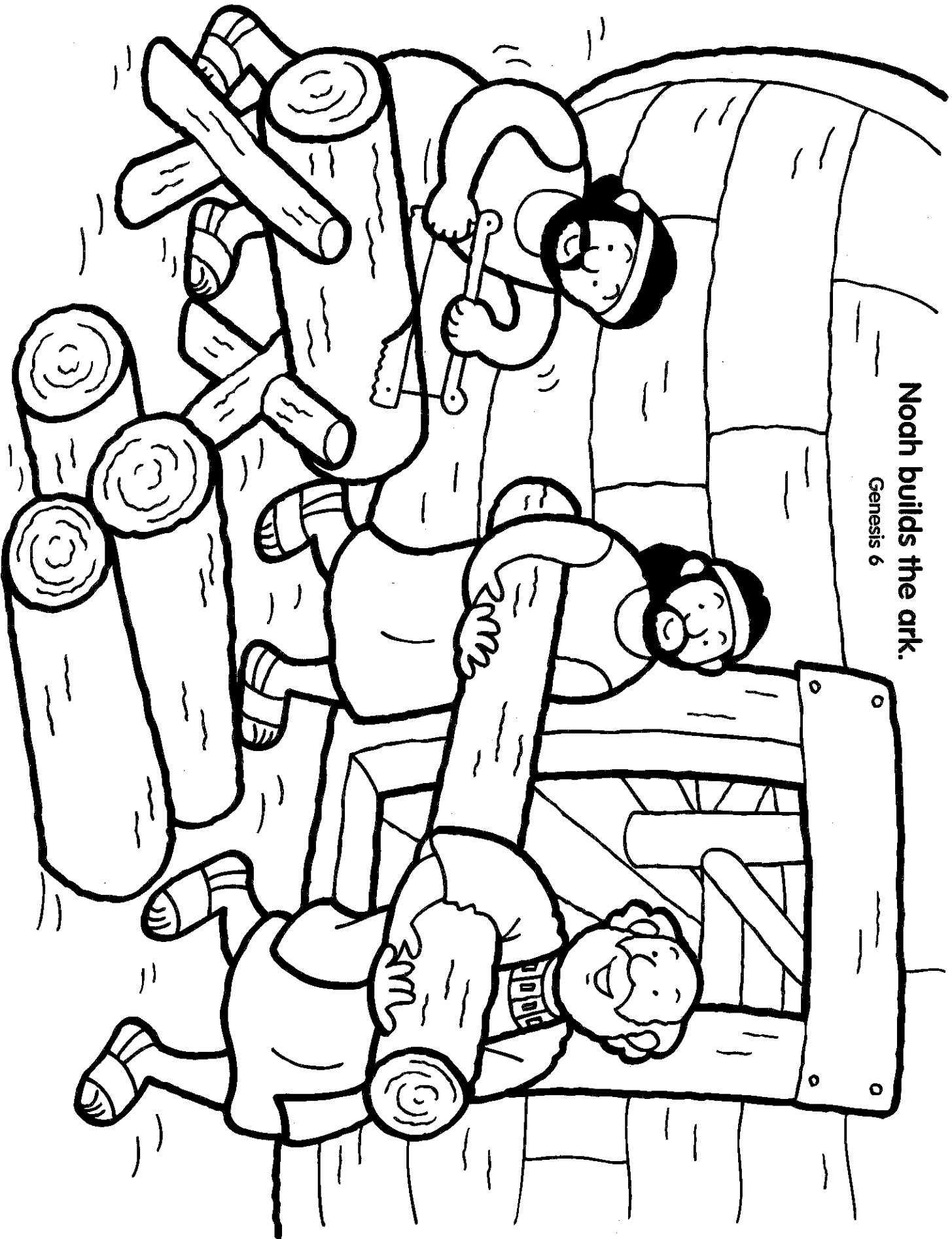
God told him how tall and how long to make the boat. God told Noah what kind of wood to use. God even told Noah where to put the window and the door!

Noah and his family obeyed God. They started building the big boat. Noah and his three sons cut down trees. They sawed the wood into boards. They hammered the boards together. Noah and his family worked hard to make the boat just the way God had said.

Finally the boat was finished! Noah and his family were ready for the flood of water. They were glad God told them to build the big boat. They knew God was taking care of them.

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Noah thanks God.

Genesis 8:1—9:17

It had rained for 40 days and 40 nights. There was water everywhere! But finally, it stopped raining. God made a wind blow over the earth to dry up the water from the flood. It took days and days and weeks and weeks for the water to dry up. Noah and his family were shut up inside the big boat for a long time!

But one day God said, "Noah, come out of the ark now. Bring your family with you. And bring all those birds and other animals that have been living in the ark with you, too."

What an exciting day that must have been! Noah and his family and all the animals paraded out of

the big boat. When Noah got outside, the first thing he and his family did was to thank God for keeping him and his family safe during the flood.

God made a special promise to Noah. God promised, "I will NEVER again cover the whole earth with a flood." To remind everyone of His promise, God put a beautiful rainbow in the sky. Of course, Noah and his family remembered God's promise every time they saw a rainbow! And even now, whenever we see a rainbow, we can remember that God always keeps His promises. We can remember that God loves us and will always take care of us.

Noah thanks God.

Genesis 8:1—9:17

