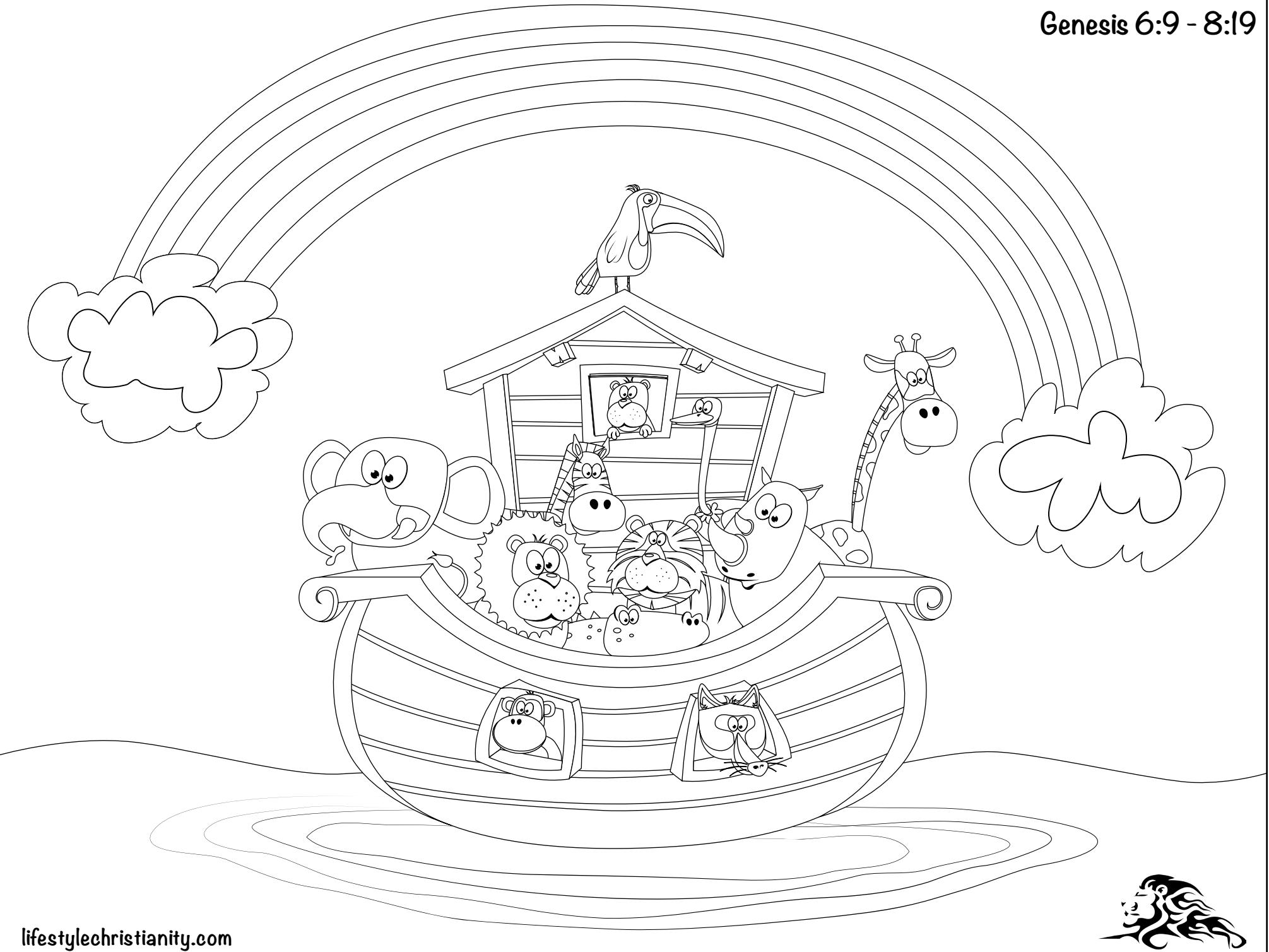


Genesis 6:9 - 8:19



Noah was a good man, but he lived during a time where the world was filled with terribly bad people. They lived in a way that was wicked and very displeasing to God.

Noah really loved God, so his words and actions were different from everyone else. God noticed this and one day spoke to Noah. "Noah," God said, "out of all the people in the world, you are the only one that is righteous. The evil behavior out there is affecting the whole earth, so I am going to bring a great rain that will flood everything and bring an end to all this wickedness."

Then God explained that He had a plan to keep Noah and his family safe. He wanted Noah to build a huge boat, called an ark. This ark was so big that it would be as long as one and a half football fields!

Noah got busy following God's instructions on how to build this ark. His neighbors soon noticed and began to laugh at Noah. The more they mocked, the more he would tell them about God, but they wouldn't listen to him.

Noah worked hard until the ark was complete, and God instructed him to start filling it with animals. There were large animals, small animals, furry animals, feathered animals, quiet animals, and noisy ones too...all kinds of them! They made their way into the ark where they would be kept safe from the rainy flood that was to come.

God instructed Noah to place the rest of his family aboard too, and then God Himself shut the door of the ark to make sure it was closed tight. Then the raindrops began to fall. It rained so much that soon the ark was floating on top of all that water! It covered the whole earth!

Noah wasn't scared because He knew that God was protecting him, his family, and all of those animals.

After many, many days, Noah took a dove and let it fly from the window. Soon it returned with a small branch from an olive tree! This was God's sign to Noah that it was time to open the door and let the animals come out.

God gave Noah and his family another special sign too. A huge, beautiful rainbow stretched across the whole sky! All the bright colors were God's way of promising to Noah that He would never send another flood that big again. He wanted Noah and his family to know that His love and protection would always be there.

When we place our trust in God, and live for Him, He will always make a way for us to stay safe too - no matter how big the storm.