

# Connect Group Notes

Sermon: The Beginning Again  
Reading: Genesis 8:20-9:17  
Date: 9th February 2025 (AM)

## Introduction

*Genesis is a book of beginnings. In these first chapters of the Bible we see the foundations laid for how we understand some of the fundamental questions in life. We also see Christ at work, from the beginning of the universe.*

## Bible Study

*[Leaders, no questions suit every small group. Please adapt them to your own group]*

## Read Genesis 8:20-9:17

Sometimes we're tempted to think that the gospel is just about us and our individual salvation. However, in Genesis 6-9 we're reminded that the gospel of Jesus the Messiah concerns the whole creation and all creatures.

Jesus and the New Testament writers speak about Noah and the Flood more than almost any other event in the Old Testament. What lessons should we take from:

- 2 Peter 3:3-7
- Matthew 24:36-44
- 1 Peter 3:20-22 (*Hint: baptism is a sign of being united to Jesus in His death and resurrection. How is Noah's Ark a visual aid of this?*)

If you have time, you may like to consider one or two of the following questions:

- **Gen. 8:20.** Why did Noah kill some animals for the LORD? (Hint: What was the purpose of the burnt offering? See Leviticus 1:3-4).
- **Gen. 8:21-22.** Note the contrasts between the LORD's promise here and His judgment in Gen. 3:17-19. Is there any difference between the behaviour of humanity before the Flood (6:5) and after it?
- **Gen. 9:1-3.** Compare God's blessing here and the blessing of Gen. 1:28-30.
- **Gen. 9:8-11.** What is God's covenant with all the living creatures on the earth and how is it fulfilled?

## Pray

- Give thanks that Christ's death and resurrection doesn't just rescue individuals; it takes in the whole creation. (Col. 1:19-20). Trusting in Jesus really is the answer to the deepest problems that face the world today!
- Thank God for His patience and pray for family members and friends who do not yet trust the Lord Jesus.
- Pray that many men at All Saints will sign up for the weekend away.
- Pray for the schools in our village as they look for a new academy trust to take them over. Could this be a Church trust?