

How to be Righteous Before God

Righteous is about how you behave – “right” behavior. “Right behavior” might be defined by the laws of a society. Or “right behavior” might be defined by God’s word, His standard of right and wrong. Which standard really matters?

1. Noah was a child of God. How does God the Father describe how Noah was righteous? Take some time to discuss what you see.

But Noah found favor in the eyes of Yahweh. These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among those in his generations; Noah walked with God. (Gen 6:8-9, LSB)

2. Who would know for sure if a child was righteous? A parent, friend, or stranger? Is a person’s behavior just simply how he acts?

Then Yahweh said to Noah, “Enter the ark, you and all your household, for you alone I have seen to be righteous before Me in this generation. (Gen 7:1, LSB)

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Teacher Notes

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Introduce the student to the idea of “right behavior.” How do you know if your behavior is right with your parents? How do you know if your behavior is right is society? How do you know if your behavior is right with God?

Ask the student: when it comes to salvation, whose judgment matters?

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Read the above passage, and ask the student: what does God say that indicates that Noah had the right behavior? Can you detect more than one reasons?

Blameless. What does that mean? According to what standard?

Walked with God. What does that mean? Would God have a relationship with someone who did not believe in Him? Is God visible?

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As you read the above passage, ask the student: could Noah fake his right behavior and fool God’s judgment of calling him righteous? Why not?

Ask the student: could Noah fool us into thinking he is righteous? How or why?

Ask the student: who did God find righteous? What about his family? What does this tell you?