



# SERMON CHEAT SHEET

WHAT THE WATER COULDN'T REACH | GENESIS 9

**Main Theme:** God secures an unconditional covenant of grace for a broken humanity that cannot fix its own heart.

## The Unchanged Heart

The global flood served as a dramatic reset for the earth and provided relief for a corrupted world. Noah and his family walked off the ark carrying the exact same broken tendencies they brought on board. God establishes new rules regarding human government and sacred life to place external fences around our ongoing internal struggles. He restructures the post-flood world fully knowing that our fundamental nature remains completely unchanged.

## The Unstrung Bow

God takes complete responsibility for the ongoing stability of creation by making a royal declaration of peace. He hangs His divine war weapon in the clouds without a string and points it safely away from the earth. This rainbow serves as a powerful sign to God Himself to honor His own promise of mercy. We can rest securely knowing that creation holds together based entirely upon His faithful character.

## The True Rescue

Noah survived the majestic waters of judgment only to experience a devastating moral collapse inside his own tent. This painful failure proves that the ultimate answer to our brokenness requires a much greater savior. Jesus Christ went into the garden of Gethsemane and willingly drank the full cup of divine wrath for us. He absorbed the righteous justice of God on the cross so we can live permanently under a covenant of grace.

## LIVE IT OUT THIS WEEK

- Acknowledge the ongoing brokenness in your own life and fully trust the permanent cure found in Jesus.
- Choose to graciously cover the failures of others and protect their dignity during moments of weakness.
- Look at the rainbow as a daily reminder of God's unyielding patience and unconditional peace.

## PRAYER PROMPTS

- Ask God for a deep assurance that His covenant rests entirely on His perfect faithfulness.
- Pray for the humility to surrender personal efforts and rely completely on Christ's finished work.
- Express gratitude to Jesus for absorbing the arrow of divine justice on the cross to provide true mercy.