

ONE MAN OR ONE WOMEN CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Heb 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

“Run with endurance the race that is set before us”

1. When God was going to destroy the earth, he looked for a man that could save the world from extinction.

Gen 6:5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.

Gen 6:6 And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

Gen 6:7 And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

2. Noah at 950 years old, which was quite an accomplishment. But that’s nothing to be compared to the way he lived his life. His righteousness saved humanity from complete annihilation.

Gen 6:9 These *are* the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man *and* perfect in his generations, *and* Noah walked with God.

FIVE WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

1. **You Can Make a Difference for Your Family:** Living a life of integrity and obedience to God always has the potential to positively impact others. We

don't always see it while we are fighting the good fight, but it happens just the same.

a. Noah was selected by God to build the ark because of the way he lived.

Fortunately, his obedience didn't benefit just him. It also saved his family.

Gen 7:1 And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.

2. You Can Make a Difference With Those You Live Around:

a. We may never fulfill the special role that Noah did, but you don't have to be a Noah to make an impact on your world.

b. Each of us can make the place where we live better than it was when we found it. Think about how you can impact and improve your little corner of the world.

3. You Can Make a Difference For Future Generations:

a. Once a young man observed a man in his eighties planting an apple orchard. As he watched the man, as he carefully and with great pain prepared the soil, planted tiny saplings, and watered them. After watching him for awhile, the young man said, "you don't expect to eat apples from those tree, do you?" "No" the old man replied, "But somebody will."

b. Your actions can help those who come behind you. Because of God's covenant with Noah, we can be assured that we are safe from worldwide destruction of a flood. Earth's inhabitants are still receiving the benefit the benefit that came from one man's life of righteousness.

c. When you encourage people around you and influence them in a positive way- and encourage them to pass along to others what they have received – you create a chain of impact that can out live you.

4. You Can Make a Difference for God:

a. Too often we fail to realize our importance to God. The Scripture says: "For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew

himself strong in the behalf of *them* whose heart *is* perfect toward him..." (2 Chron. 16:9).

- b. God is always looking for someone to stand in the gap for Him, and He desires to partner with people who love Him.
- c. That was the case for Noah. God was discouraged with the people He had created. Yet Noah found favor in God's eyes and caused Him to save humanity. Because of his relationship with God, Noah changed the course of history.

5. You Can Make a Difference at Any Age:

- a. Some people want to put restrictions on themselves according to their talents, intelligence, or experience. Others worry about their age. But with God, one person can always make a difference, regardless of circumstances or situation.
- b. Age means nothing to Him. When Jesus fed the five thousand, a boy provide the loaves and fishes (John 6:1-13). And in the case of Noah, when it began to rain and he entered the ark, he was six hundred years old! You're never too old and you are never too young to make a difference for God.

POINTS TO PONDER

1. Don't be afraid to stand out in a crowd: (No one encouraged Noah)
2. Don't be afraid to do something for the first time: (It strange to build a boat far from any sea or river that could float it).
3. When you see a rainbow, remember that one person can make a difference.