Blotches Series – Week Three

Genesis 6-7

**Opening Activity**: Play a game of charades where the kids “pretend” to be a certain type of person (chef, construction worker, teacher etc.) without using any words.

Ask how many of you like to pretend? What makes pretending fun? (you get to be or do something that you are not) What would be wrong with “always” pretending? (It would keep you from being or admitting who you really are).

**Story**:

Review the stories from the last two weeks, making sure to point out sin’s origin, how everyone sins, and how we try to hide our sin from God at times.

Start off by asking the kids about when they pretend. Pointing out that Halloween they pretend by dressing up, when they play at home and dress in costumes they may pretend to be superheroes or school teachers or any number of other people or things.

Ask them if they realize that there are other ways to pretend. Tell a story about a time you or someone you knew pretended to not hear or pretended to be asleep.

Here is my story: I am a really sound sleeper. I rarely hear my dogs wanting out at night, or when my husband, Jeff, comes to bed after me, or even when my girls would call out in the night when they were young. With this being the case, I usually do not hear the alarm go off in the morning. So, I rely on Jeff to wake me up each morning. Now there are days that I do hear the alarm but I will lay there in the quiet of the room and pretend not to hear it. I lay there with my eyes closed and wait for Jeff to wake me up. Sometimes he is not real quick in waking me. He will hit the snooze a couple of times before he decides that he better get me up. All the while, I am still pretending to sleep, but really I am waiting to hear him say, “Shivawn, it is time to get up”.

In our story today we read, in Genesis 6, that the world had many more people in it. It was not just Adam and Eve. As the number of people in the world grew so did the amount of sin in the world. The Bible tells us that the amount of sin happening was so great that God was grieved. Do you know what it means to grieve? It means to be extremely sad, or to long for something that is missing. God was so sad that He longed for the way the world was before sin became a part of it.

Since God was the creator of the world, He decided to scrap it and start all over. You know like when you are drawing a picture and it just isn’t what you had in mind. So you pick it up, crunch it into a ball, throw it away, and start all over. That is what God decided to do with the people and animals in the world. Destroy it and start over!

As God thought about starting over, He noticed that there was a man named Noah that found God’s favor.

Have you ever in be a class at school and everyone is being all naughty, going crazy, acting up when the teacher is out of the room. The teacher comes back in the room and is just like, “what are you all doing!” The teacher is in full frustration mode ready to give everyone detention, when the teacher notices little Sarah who had been sitting quietly, finishing her work. Sarah found favor! Sarah did what was right and would not have detention. That is how God saw Noah! God saw that Noah did what was right!

Because God saw that Noah was living in a way that pleased God, God went to Noah and told him about His plan to destroy the world. He shared with Noah that He wanted Noah to build a huge boat or an ark for him and his family and for the animals that He would have come to the boat.

We know that the ark was huge and that God had specific measurements for it. There were to be three levels and different rooms. God instructed how to make the roof and where to put the doors. Noah was very obedient in following God’s instructions.

As Noah built, we know that he warned (2 Peter 2:5, 1 Peter 3:20-21, Heb. 11:7) the people of God’s plan to start over. Noah was like an alarm that was being sounded for the people to wake up and turn to God and seek God’s forgiveness. But instead the people pretended like Noah was crazy! He could not possibly be talking to them and they were in no way bad people. They pretended that the message that Noah told was not for them. They in no way needed to listen to Noah because they pretended not to hear what he was saying was for them.

Have you ever been so involved in something fun, that when you heard your Mom holler that it was time for dinner you didn’t go? You sat there and played for a little longer knowing that eventually you would have to go to dinner or Mom would come find you and give you a scolding. That is exactly what the people were doing. They were having so much fun, disobeying God that they just could not hear what Noah said. They wanted to stay and play in their sin longer. They pretended not to hear that God was upset and He was not going to come get them but just start all over.

Noah built the ark. Noah gathered all the food. Noah waited for God’s timing. Noah waited for God to send the animals. Noah and his family got on the ark. God closed the doors.

And the rain came.

The pretending that they didn’t hear Noah ended. The people wanted in. Noah was not so crazy anymore. Noah had been the alarm warning them. It was too late. God destroyed the people.

There are times that we pretend that we don’t sin. We say “it was a joke” or “I was playing” when really we just don’t want to admit that we have done wrong. We all sin. Eventually we all have to admit that it is true and listen to God saying for us to come to Him for forgiveness.

**Verse**: 2 Peter 3:9

**Small Group Questions**:

When playing pretend, what do you like to be?

Why do people pretend?

What is something you wish you could pretend never happened?

Besides the innocent play of pretend, when does pretending become sin?

Do we fool God when we pretend that we don’t sin? (Gal 6:7)

When it comes to our sin, we do not have to pretend they never happened for them to be forgiven. Why is this true? How can we find forgiveness?

Once we are forgiven, how can we use our past to help someone else?

**Activities**:

Object lesson on sin using a chalkboard or whiteboard, found on the following website: creativebiblestudy.com. This could be used at the beginning of lesson.