DIVE DEEP INTO GOD’S WORD

Kids will love exploring the vast ocean of God’s Word with the CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible. It’s full of notes, illustrations, Bible trivia, and on-topic devotions. The colorful 3-D characters and interactive features will engage young minds and hearts, helping them discover the Bible’s message and meaning.

Young readers are invited to join the daring crew of Asia, Kat, and Edgar as they set off to discover the Bible. Kids are sure to read, enjoy, and talk about the dynamic Common English Bible text and the navigational tools that make Bible discovery fun, meaningful, and rewarding.

The CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible is a great gift for birthdays, church events, and Sunday school promotions. It’s perfect for kids ages 7-12. Moms and dads, grandparents, pastors, and Sunday school teachers will help create a lifelong thirst for God’s timeless truth with the CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible.

The CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible uses the Common English Bible text throughout. The Common English Bible is a new Bible translation that uses words and phrases that sound natural and conversational for today’s reader. With this new children’s Bible, kids will read a Bible that sounds more like how they talk, read, and write in school, home, church, and with their friends.

Find out more at Cokesbury.com/DeepBlueKids.
Join Asia, Kat, and Edgar as you use this Bible. Together you will discover, explore, and experience great stories and interesting people in the Bible. You will also see how God has been working throughout history to connect with us.

Edgar has a need to know. He wants to know how to get from here to there and then investigate whatever he finds in a new place. Edgar always keeps his spyglass with him as he navigates through the Bible to help you understand what you encounter as you travel through God’s word.

Asia never leaves home without a way to communicate. She loves to keep track of the action around her, documenting and reporting on what she sees and hears. Whenever you see Asia, she’ll have her microphone in hand ready to narrate the Bible journey as she travels with you from Genesis to Revelation.

Kat is an adventurer at heart. She loves all the opportunities in the Bible to explore how God connected with people centuries ago in ancient lands—and how God still connects with us today. Kat is always ready to go on an adventure with you—pirate hat on and jeans rolled up—as you discover the Bible together.
Fun, engaging call-outs and in-text notes help kids navigate through the Bible and lay the foundation for sound biblical knowledge.

**LIFE PRESERVER**
Life Preserver notes give responses to tough questions and context to hard passages.

**SAILBOAT**
Sailboat notes emphasize positive character traits and emotions.

**LIGHTHOUSE**
Lighthouse notes discuss core faith concepts at an age-appropriate level.

**UMBRELLA**
Umbrella notes address challenging character traits and emotions.

**did you know?**
Did You Know? call-outs highlight fascinating Bible trivia, customs, and practices.

**Navigation Point**
Navigation Point verses mark key promises and passages to memorize.

**Bet you can**
Bet You Can! challenges develop language skills while encouraging Bible reading.

**God's Thoughts/My Thoughts**
God Thoughts/My Thoughts devotions dive deeper by explaining how the Bible applies to life.
Genesis tells us that our world began with God’s wind sweeping over the waters. God spoke and then our world existed—the sun and the stars, the plants, the animals, and the people. God told the first man and woman to care for everything God made, including the beautiful garden in Eden. God created Adam and Eve to be partners, to have good relationships with God and each other.

This book tells a story of God’s amazing creation but also explains the disaster of human sin. Adam and Eve didn’t follow God’s command. God sent a giant flood, but saved Noah in an ark that floated on the rising waters. Then God made promises to Abraham and his children as the first of God’s new people. God sent this faith-filled follower on a daring journey from the distant city of Ur to Canaan, the land that is now Israel.

Genesis also tells the story of Joseph, a boastful young man who was sold as a slave by his brothers. God made Joseph a leader in Egypt, which made it possible for him to save Egypt and then his family from famine. In the end, Joseph and his brothers became friends again.

Genesis says that God created the world—and the stories show why. God wants to be connected with all people—including you!

things YOU’LL DISCOVER

The book of Genesis tells us about the amazing beginning of the world. God created the earth, sky, and everything in the world. God made human beings to enjoy and take care of the world. This book also explains the beginning of God’s people, the Israelites.

people YOU’LL MEET

Adam and Eve—the Bible’s first man and woman (Gen 1–4)
Abraham—the father of the nation of Israel, first called Abram (Gen 11–25)
Sarah—Abraham’s wife, first called Sarai (Gen 11–23)
Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob and Rachel—Abraham’s son and grandson and their wives (Gen 17–49)
Joseph—a young man who became a ruler in Egypt (Gen 37–50)

places YOU’LL GO

Eden, Ur (present-day Iraq), Canaan (present-day Israel), Egypt

words YOU’LL REMEMBER

“When God began to create the heavens and the earth—the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God’s wind swept over the waters—God said, ‘Let there be light!’ And so light appeared” (Gen 1:1–3).
World's creation in seven days

1 When God began to create the heavens and the earth—
   2 the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God's wind swept over the waters—
   3 God said, “Let there be light.” And so light appeared.
   4 God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness.
   5 God named the light Day and the darkness Night.

   There was evening and there was morning: the first day.

   6 God said, “Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters to separate the waters from each other.”
   7 God made the dome and separated the waters under the dome from the waters above the dome. And it happened in that way.
   8 God named the dome Sky.

   There was evening and there was morning: the second day.

   9 God said, “Let the waters under the sky come together into one place so that the dry land can appear.” And that's what happened.
   10 God named the dry land Earth, and he named the gathered waters Seas. God saw how good it was.
   11 God said, “Let the earth grow plant life: plants yielding seeds and fruit trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind throughout the earth.” And that's what happened.
   12 The earth produced plant life: plants yielding seeds, each according to its kind, and trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind. God saw how good it was.

   13 There was evening and there was morning: the third day.
   14 God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night. They will mark events, sacred seasons, days, and years.
   15 They will be lights in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth.” And that's what happened.
   16 God made the stars and two great lights: the larger light to rule over the day and the smaller light to rule over the night.
   17 God put them in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw how good it was.
   18 There was evening and there was morning: the fourth day.

   19 There was evening and there was morning: the fifth day.
   20 God said, “Let the waters swarm with living things, and let birds fly above the earth up in the dome of the sky.”
   21 God created the great sea animals and all the tiny living things that swarm in the waters, each according to its kind, and all the winged birds, each according to its kind. God saw how good it was.
   22 Then God blessed them: “Be fertile and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.”

   23 There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day.
   24 God said, “Let the earth produce every kind of living thing: livestock, crawling things, and wildlife.” And that's what happened.
   25 God made every kind of wildlife, every kind of livestock, and every kind of creature that crawls on the ground. God saw how good it was.
   26 Then God said, “Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth.”

Or In the beginning, God created

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27 God created humanity in God’s own image, in the divine image God created them, male and female God created them.
28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and master it. Take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and everything crawling on the ground.” 29 Then God said, “I now give to you all the plants on the earth that yield seeds and all the trees whose fruit produces its seeds within it. These will be your food. 30 To all wildlife, to all the birds of the sky, and to everything crawling on the ground—to everything that breathes—I give all the green grasses for food.” And that’s what happened.
31 God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good.

There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day.

2 The heavens and the earth and all who live in them were completed. 2 On the sixth day God completed all the work that he had done, and on the seventh day God rested from all the work that he had done. 3 God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all the work of creation. 4 This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

**World’s creation in the garden**

On the day the Lord God made earth and sky—5 before any wild plants appeared on the earth, and before any field crops grew, because the Lord God hadn’t yet sent rain on the earth and there was still no human being to farm the fertile land, 6 though a stream rose from the earth and watered all of the fertile land—7 the Lord God formed the human from the topsoil of the fertile land and blew life’s breath into his nostrils. The human came to life. 8 The Lord God planted a garden in Eden in the east and put there the human he had formed. 9 In the fertile land, the Lord God grew every beautiful tree with edible fruit, and also he grew the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

10 A river flows from Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides into four headwaters. 11 The name of the first river is the Pishon. It flows around the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. 12 That land’s gold is pure, and the land also has sweet-smelling resins and gemstones.
13 The name of the second river is the Gihon. It flows around the entire land of Cush. 14 The name of the third river is the Tigris, flowing east of

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The word used for image in Gen 1:27 comes from the same root word used for imagination. So our ability to imagine and be creative is part of how we’re made in the image of our creator.

**LIFE PRESERVER**

Why are the trees important in the garden of Eden? Genesis 29

In the second story of creation, we read about two trees that were planted in the garden of Eden. One tree, sometimes called the tree of life, had fruit that would make whoever ate it live forever. The fruit on the other tree, sometimes called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, gave the person who ate it self-awareness and knowledge about life.

Although humans had work to do in the garden, they also had freedom to do as they pleased as long as they didn’t eat fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. You may know what happened next. Eve and Adam did what they weren’t supposed to do. They ate the fruit from the forbidden tree. Rather than being protected from the knowledge of everything good and everything evil, they gained knowledge meant only for God. They didn’t have the wisdom to handle this knowledge.

This story reminds us that like Eve and Adam, we’re all human. We’d all like to have the knowledge God has. But we don’t have the wisdom to handle it. Like Eve and Adam, we do the wrong things and make bad choices. Even so, God forgives us, continues to love us, and stays with us as we try to live as God’s faithful people.

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b Heb has singular him, referring to humanity. c LXX, Sam, Syr; MT seventh d Or from all his work, which God created to do e Or man (Heb adam) f Heb adam g Heb adamah h Heb uncertain
Assyria; and the name of the fourth river is the Euphrates.

15 The Lord God took the human and settled him in the garden of Eden to farm it and to take care of it. 16 The Lord God commanded the human, “Eat your fill from all of the garden’s trees; but don’t eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, because on the day you eat from it, you will die!” Then the Lord God said, “It’s not good that the human is alone. I will make him a helper that is perfect for him.” 19 So the Lord God formed from the fertile land all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky and brought them to the human to see what he would name them. The human gave each living being its name. 20 The human named all the livestock, all the birds in the sky, and all the wild animals. But a helper perfect for him was nowhere to be found.

21 So the Lord God put the human into a deep and heavy sleep, and took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh over it. 22 With the rib taken from the human, the Lord God fashioned a woman and brought her to the human being. 23 The human said, “This one finally is bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh. She will be called a woman because from a man she was taken.” 24 This is the reason that a man leaves his father and mother and embraces his wife, and they become one flesh. 25 The two of them were naked, the man and his wife, but they weren’t embarrassed.

Knowledge, not eternal life

The snake was the most intelligent of all the wild animals that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say that you shouldn’t eat from any tree in the garden?”

2 The woman said to the snake, “We may eat the fruit of the garden’s trees but not the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden. God said, ‘Don’t eat from it, and don’t touch it, or you will die.’”

4 The snake said to the woman, “You won’t die! God knows that on the day you eat from it, you will see clearly and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” 6 The woman saw that the tree was beautiful with delicious food and that the tree would provide wisdom, so she took some of its fruit and ate it, and also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then they both saw clearly and knew that they were naked. So they sewed fig leaves together and made garments for themselves.

8 During that day’s cool evening breeze, they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden; and the man and his wife hid themselves from the Lord God in the middle of the garden’s trees. 9 The Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?”

10 The man replied, “I heard your sound in the garden; I was afraid because I was naked, and I hid myself.”

11 He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree, which I commanded you not to eat?”

LIFE PRESERVER

What does the snake represent?

Genesis 3:1, 4–5, 14–15

The snake in the garden asked Eve the question that she and Adam had probably been thinking about. “Did God really say that you shouldn’t eat from any tree in the garden?” So Eve was tempted by the snake’s offer. Who wouldn’t want to see clearly and be like God? When Eve and Adam ate the fruit, they realized they were naked and needed to find some clothes. And since they were ashamed of what they did, they hid from God when God came looking for them.

The snake wasn’t some strange creature that came into the garden. The snake was there all along. Think about a time in your life when you were trying to figure out what to do. Perhaps like Eve there was something whispering in your ear, telling you what to do, and part of you knew it was wrong. That’s like the snake speaking to Eve. The snake represents the temptation everyone faces to make poor choices.

Like Eve and Adam, we have choices to make in life. God knows us, loves us, and supports us as we try to make right choices.


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12 The man said, “The woman you gave me, she gave me some fruit  from the tree, and I ate.”
13 The Lord God said to the woman, “What have you done?!
And the woman said, “The snake tricked me, and I ate.”
14 The Lord God said to the snake, “Because you did this, you are the one cursed out of all the farm animals, out of all the wild animals. On your belly you will crawl, and dust you will eat every day of your life.
15 I will put contempt between you and the woman, between your offspring and hers. They will strike your head, but you will strike at their heels.”
16 To the woman he said, “I will make your pregnancy very painful; in pain you will bear children. You will desire your husband, but he will rule over you.”
17 To the man he said, “Because you listened to your wife’s voice and you ate from the tree that I commanded, ‘You will not eat from it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you will eat from it every day of your life.
18 Weeds and thistles will grow for you, even as you eat the field’s plants;
19 by the sweat of your face you will eat bread—until you return to the fertile land, since from it you were taken; you are soil, to the soil you will return.”

Heb lacks some fruit.

God’s Special Gift  Genesis 3:1–24

Have you ever disobeyed? Adam and Eve did.

When God put Adam and Eve in the garden, God gave them everything they needed—food to eat, water to drink, sunlight to keep them warm, and soft grass to sleep on at night. God gave them love and visited with them every day.

God also gave Adam and Eve a special gift, something they couldn’t see or feel. It was the gift of free will, which is the right to choose to obey or disobey God. God wanted Adam and Eve to show love by obeying, but their free will meant they had a choice. They chose to disobey and did not do what God had asked.

Even though their disobedience broke God’s heart, God didn’t stop loving Adam and Eve. God disciplined them, causing them to leave the garden and have to raise their own food, but God also cared for them, giving them clothes to wear and sending the rain and sunlight to make their crops grow.

God gave us the same gift of free will that Adam and Eve had. When we choose to obey, we show that we love God.

How can you obey God?
Name two things God has given you.

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The man named his wife Eve because she is the mother of everyone who lives. The Lord God made the man and his wife leather clothes and dressed them. The Lord God said, “The human being has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. Now so he doesn’t stretch out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat and live forever,” he sent him out of the garden of Eden to farm the fertile land from which he was taken. He drove out the human. To the east of the garden of Eden, he stationed winged creatures wielding flaming swords to guard the way to the tree of life.

Cain and Abel

The man Adam knew his wife Eve intimately. She became pregnant and gave birth to Cain, and said, “I have given life to a man with the Lord’s help.” She gave birth a second time to Cain’s brother Abel. Abel cared for the flocks, and Cain farmed the fertile land. Some time later, Cain presented an offering to the Lord from the land’s crops while Abel presented his flock’s oldest offspring with their fat. The Lord looked favorably on Abel and his sacrifice but didn’t look favorably on Cain and his sacrifice. Cain became very angry and looked resentful. The Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why do you look so resentful? If you do the right thing, won’t you be accepted? But if you don’t do the right thing, sin will be waiting at the door ready to strike! It will entice you, but you must rule over it.”

Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let’s go out to the field.” When they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

The Lord said to Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?”

Cain said, “I don’t know. Am I my brother’s guardian?”

The Lord said, “What did you do? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to me from the ground. You are now cursed from the ground that opened its mouth to take your brother’s blood from your hand. When you farm the fertile land, it will no longer grow anything for you, and you will become a roving nomad on the earth.”

Cain said to the Lord, “My punishment is more than I can bear. Now that you’ve driven me away from the fertile land and I am hidden from your presence, I’m about to become a roving nomad on the earth, and anyone who finds me will kill me.”

The Lord said to him, “It won’t happen; anyone who kills Cain will be paid back seven times. The Lord put a sign on Cain so that no one who found him would assault him. Cain left the Lord’s presence, and he settled down in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

Cain’s descendants

Cain knew his wife intimately. She became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Cain built a city and named the city after his son Enoch.

Irad was born to Enoch. Irad fathered Mehujael, Mehujael fathered Methushael, and Methushael fathered Lamech.

A Jealous Rage

It is an awful truth that envy, jealousy, and shame often lead to violence and acts of anger. We can feel very upset when someone else gets the thing we want the most. When this happens, we may feel desperately angry. Cain was so filled with rage toward his younger brother Abel that he killed him. There are terrible and long-lasting consequences when we seek to solve our problems with violence. God wants us to find better ways to resolve our conflicts with each other.

Some people thought God put a sign on Cain as a punishment for murdering his brother Abel. But the Bible says God put the sign on Cain to show the world that Cain was under God’s protection. Anyone who tried to harm Cain for revenge would be in trouble with God.
took two wives, the first named Adah and the second Zillah. 20 Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the ancestor of those who live in tents and own livestock. 21 His brother’s name was Jubal; he was the ancestor of those who play stringed and wind instruments. 22 Zillah also gave birth to Tubal-cain, the ancestor of blacksmiths and all artisans of bronze and iron. Tubal-cain’s sister was Naamah.

23 Lamech said to his wives, “Adah and Zillah, listen to my voice; wives of Lamech, pay attention to my words: I killed a man for wounding me, a boy for striking me; 24 so Cain will be paid back seven times and Lamech seventy-seven times.”

25 Adam knew his wife intimately again, and she gave birth to a son. She named him Seth “because God has given me another child in place of Abel, whom Cain killed.” 26 Seth also fathered a son and named him Enosh. At that time, people began to worship in the Lord’s name.

Adam’s descendants

5 This is the record of Adam’s descendants. On the day God created humanity, he made them to resemble God and created them male and female. He blessed them and called them humanity on the day they were created. 3 When Adam was 130 years old, he became the father of a son in his image, resembling him, and named him Seth. 4 After Seth’s birth, Adam lived 800 years; he had other sons and daughters. 5 In all, Adam lived 930 years, and he died.

6 When Seth was 105 years old, he became the father of Enosh. 7 After the birth of Enosh, Seth lived 807 years; and he had other sons and daughters. 8 In all, Seth lived 912 years, and he died.

9 When Enosh was 90 years old, he became the father of Kenan. 10 After Kenan’s birth, Enosh lived 815 years; and he had other sons and daughters. 11 In all, Enosh lived 905 years, and he died.

12 When Kenan was 70 years old, he became the father of Mahalalel. 13 After the birth of Mahalalel, Kenan lived 840 years; and he had other sons and daughters. 14 In all, Kenan lived 910 years, and he died.

15 When Mahalalel was 65 years old, he became the father of Jared. 16 After Jared’s birth, Mahalalel lived 830 years; and he had other sons and daughters. 17 In all, Mahalalel lived 895 years, and he died.

18 When Jared was 162 years old, he became the father of Enoch. 19 After Enoch’s birth, Jared lived 800 years; and he had other sons and daughters. 20 In all, Jared lived 962 years, and he died.

21 When Enoch was 65 years old, he became the father of Methuselah. 22 Enoch walked with God. After Methuselah’s birth, Enoch lived 300 years; and he had other sons and daughters. 23 In all, Enoch lived 365 years. 24 Enoch walked with God and disappeared because God took him.

25 When Methuselah was 187 years old, he became the father of Lamech. 26 After Lamech’s birth, Methuselah lived 782 years; and he had other sons and daughters. 27 In all, Methuselah lived 969 years, and he died.

28 When Lamech was 182 years old, he became the father of a son and named him Noah, saying, “This one will give us relief from our hard work, from the pain in our hands, because of the fertile land that the Lord cursed.” 29 After Noah’s birth, Lamech lived 595 years; and he had other sons and daughters. 30 In all, Lamech lived 777 years, and he died.

31 When Noah was 500 years old, Noah became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Ancient heroes

6 When the number of people started to increase throughout the fertile land, daughters were born to them. 2 The divine beings
saw how beautiful these human women were, so they married the ones they chose. The Lord said, “My breath will not remain in humans forever, because they are flesh. They will live one hundred twenty years.” In those days, giants lived on the earth and also afterward, when divine beings and human daughters had sexual relations and gave birth to children. These were the ancient heroes, famous men.

Great flood
5 The Lord saw that humanity had become thoroughly evil on the earth and that every idea their minds thought up was always completely evil. The Lord regretted making human beings on the earth, and he was heartbroken. So the Lord said, “I will wipe off of the land the human race that I’ve created: from human beings to livestock to the crawling things to the birds in the skies, because I regret I ever made them.” But as for Noah, the Lord approved of him.

These are Noah’s descendants. In his generation, Noah was a moral and exemplary man; he walked with God. Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. In God’s sight, the earth had become corrupt and was filled with violence. God saw that the earth was corrupt, because all creatures behaved corruptly on the earth.

13 God said to Noah, “The end has come for all creatures, since they have filled the earth with violence. I am now about to destroy them along with the earth, so make a wooden ark. Make the ark with nesting places and cover it inside and out with tar. This is how you should make it: four hundred fifty feet long, seventy-five feet wide, and forty-five feet high. Make a roof for the ark and complete it one foot from the top. Put a door in its side. In the hold below, make the second and third decks.

17 I am now bringing the floodwaters over the earth to destroy everything under the sky that breathes. Everything on earth is about to take its last breath. But I will set up my covenant with you. You will go into the ark together with your sons, your wife, and your sons’ wives. From all living things—from all creatures—you are to bring a pair, male and female, into the ark with you to keep them alive. From each kind of bird, from each kind of livestock, and from each kind of everything that crawls on the ground—a pair from each will go in with you to stay alive. Take some from every kind of food and stow it as food for you and for the animals.”

22 Noah did everything exactly as God commanded him.

Why did people live so long?
In Genesis humans lived for one hundred and twenty years. That’s an amazing fact, especially since a life span today may be only forty or fifty years in countries where people don’t have access to medical care or healthy living conditions. As you continue to read stories in the Old Testament, you will read about people’s long life spans. We don’t really know how time was counted when these books were written or if one hundred and twenty years is the same as we count it. In Psalm 90, which was written later than the book of Genesis, a normal lifetime is described as seventy to eighty years.

Another way to make sense of longer life spans is that the biblical numbers refer to a good long life for very important people.
send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights. I will wipe off from the fertile land every living thing that I have made.”

5 Noah did everything the Lord commanded him.

6 Noah was 600 years old when the floodwaters arrived on earth. 7 Noah, his sons, his wife, and his sons’ wives with him entered the ark to escape the floodwaters. 8 From the clean and unclean animals, from the birds and everything crawling on the ground, 9 two of each, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, just as God commanded Noah. 10 After seven days, the floodwaters arrived on the earth. 11 In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day—on that day all the springs of the deep sea erupted, and the windows in the skies opened. 12 It rained upon the earth forty days and forty nights. 13 That same day Noah, with his sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth, Noah’s wife, and his sons’ three wives, went into the ark. 14 They and every kind of animal—every kind of livestock, every kind that crawls on the ground, every kind of bird 15 they came to Noah and entered the ark, two of every creature that breathes. 16 Male and female of every creature went in, just as God had commanded him. Then the Lord closed the door behind them.

17 The flood remained on the earth for forty days. The waters rose, lifted the ark, and it rode high above the earth. 18 The waters rose and spread out over the earth. The ark floated on the surface of the waters. 19 The waters rose even higher over the earth; they covered all of the highest mountains under the sky. 20 The waters rose twenty-three feet high, covering the mountains. 21 Every creature took its last breath: the things crawling on the ground, birds, livestock, wild animals, everything swarming on the ground, and every human being.

22 Everything on dry land with life’s breath in its nostrils died. 23 God wiped away every living thing that was on the fertile land—from human beings to livestock to crawling things to birds in the sky. They were wiped off the earth. Only Noah and those with him in the ark were left. 24 The waters rose over the earth for one hundred fifty days.

8 God remembered Noah, all those alive, and all the animals with him in the ark. God sent a wind over the earth so that the waters receded. 2 The springs of the deep sea and the skies 3 closed up. The skies held back the rain. 5 The waters receded gradually from the earth. After one hundred fifty days, the waters decreased. 4 and in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day, the ark came to rest on the Ararat mountains. 5 The waters decreased gradually until the tenth month, and on the first day of the tenth month the mountain peaks appeared.

6 After forty days, Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made. 7 He sent out a raven, and it flew back and forth until the waters over the entire earth had dried up. 8 Then he sent out a dove to see if the waters on all of the fertile land had subsided, but the dove found no place to set its foot. It returned to him in the ark since waters still covered the entire earth. Noah stretched out his hand, took it, and brought it back into the ark. 10 He waited seven more days and sent the dove out from the ark again. 11 The dove came back to him in the evening, grasping a torn olive leaf in its beak. Then Noah knew that the waters were subsiding from the earth. 12 He waited seven more days and sent out the dove, but it didn’t come back to him again. 13 In Noah’s six hundred first year, on the first day of the first month, the waters dried up from the earth. Noah removed the ark’s hatch and saw that the surface of the fertile land had dried up. 14 In the second month, on the seventeenth day, the earth was dry.

15 God spoke to Noah, 16 “Go out of the ark, you and your wife, your sons, and your sons’ wives with you. 17 Bring out with you all the

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**did you know?**

Noah’s family spent more than forty days and nights in the ark while it rained. The named days listed in Genesis 7:10, 12, 17 and 8:3, 10, 12 total 293 days. Using the dates the Bible says Noah entered and exited the ark gives us a total of 377 days. That’s more than a year on a boat with animals.

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**LXX; MT every bird, every winged thing**  
**Heb lacks the door.**  
**Or the windows of the skies**

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animals of every kind—birds, livestock, everything crawling on the ground—so that they may populate the earth, be fertile, and multiply on the earth.” So Noah went out of the ark with his sons, his wife, and his sons’ wives. All the animals, all the livestock, all the birds, and everything crawling on the ground, came out of the ark by their families.

God’s promise for the earth
20 Noah built an altar to the Lord. He took some of the clean large animals and some of the clean birds, and placed entirely burned offerings on the altar. The Lord smelled the pleasing scent, and the Lord thought to himself, I will not curse the fertile land anymore because of human beings since the ideas of the human mind are evil from their youth. I will never again destroy every living thing as I have done.
21 As long as the earth exists, seedtime and harvest, cold and hot, summer and autumn, day and night will not cease.

God’s covenant with all life
9 God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fertile, multiply, and fill the earth. All of the animals on the earth will fear you and dread you—all the birds in the skies, everything crawling on the ground, and all of the sea’s fish. They are in your power. Everything that lives and moves will be your food. Just as I gave you the green grasses, I now give you everything. However, you must not eat meat with its life, its blood, in it. I will surely demand your blood for a human life, from every living thing I will demand it. From humans, from a man for his brother, I will demand something for a human life.
5 Whoever sheds human blood, by a human his blood will be shed; for in the divine image God made human beings.
6 As for you, be fertile and multiply.

Populate the earth and multiply in it.” God said to Noah and to his sons with him, I am now setting up my covenant with you, with your descendants, and with every living being with you—with the birds, with the large animals, and with all the animals of the earth, leaving the ark with you. I will set up my covenant with you so that never again will all life be cut off by floodwaters. There will never again be a flood to destroy the earth.”
12 God said, “This is the symbol of the covenant that I am drawing up between me and you and every living thing with you, on behalf of every future generation. I have placed my bow in the clouds; it will be the symbol of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will remember the covenant between me and you and every living being among all the creatures. Floodwaters will never again destroy all creatures. The bow will be in the clouds, and upon seeing it I will remember the enduring covenant between God and every living being of all the earth’s creatures.” God said to Noah, “This is the symbol of the covenant that I have set up between me and all creatures on earth.”

What is a covenant?
Genesis 9:8–17, 15
Have you ever made a promise to someone? Maybe you have said to a friend, or to your mom or dad, “I promise, I won’t do that again,” or “I promise I will...” A promise is like a covenant. The word covenant is used a lot in the Old Testament. After the flood, God made a covenant with Noah. You can read about it in Genesis 9. God promised Noah that God would help protect every living thing on the earth—people, plants, and animals—so they would thrive and not be destroyed.

Another example is in Genesis 15, where God made a covenant with Abraham and promised to give him land for his family. As you continue to read through the Old Testament, you will see this word a lot. Whenever God made a covenant with someone or with the Israelites, God promised to love them and expected them to be faithful and show love in return.