



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: How We Got Here: Our Sin and Faithfulness

Speaker: Rich Villodas, Lead Pastor

Scripture: Genesis 6:5-23

The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. The Lord regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled. So the Lord said, "I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them." But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

This is the account of Noah and his family.

Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God. Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth.

Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be three hundred cubits long, fifty cubits wide and thirty cubits high. Make a roof for it, leaving below the roof an opening one cubit high all around. Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks. I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you. You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them."

Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

Genesis 6:5-23 (NIV)

Sermon Outline:

- The story of Noah's Ark is not a children's story, but a serious story about wickedness, corruption and sin. The world is wicked and corrupt. Genesis 6 is a picture of a world that has forgotten about God. The world is "on fire" and the fire of sin and human wickedness has covered the entire world.
- God was looking for just one who was walking with Him, to restore the world. He was pleased to find Noah who was blameless and decides to use Noah.
- The story of Noah's Ark is about sin and faithfulness.
- Sin is not something that we do, but a power that humanity is under. In a second, we can go astray and do our own thing, we can live as though God doesn't exist.
- Faithfulness is when you stick with God even when you can't understand Him and don't know what God is doing in your life. The world can be reborn when we walk faithfully with God. Faithfulness often looks like foolishness to the world.

- For the world to be reborn we must learn by living together in community. God shuts us into community and tells us that we must learn how to relate and live with each other. Faithfulness comes in community.

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday Pastor Rich continues our current sermon series How We Got Here by discussing the story of Noah's Ark, highlighting the wickedness and corruption of the world and how we can live as though God doesn't exist.

Sermon Questions:

1. How does this scripture connect for you the topic that was discussed today? What words resonate with you? Why?
2. In your family of origin, what were the views on God?
3. When looking at this past week, were you faithful to God or a functional atheist? Where do you feel you may have forgotten God this week and need repentance? To what degree have you looked away from God and is sin infecting your life?
4. Has there been a time when God's faithfulness in your life has felt foolish? What difficulties do you have in remaining faithful? What does it mean to walk faithful with God?
5. How can you see "community" helping rebuild our sinful broken world? Do you know someone who needs community? Are there steps you need to take to find more community, faithful to God, in your life today?