



The bow in the clouds

AT A GLANCE



Bible

Genesis 9:8–17



Topic

God's covenant after the catastrophe



Takeaway

Hope in a world full of crises



10–15 minutes



Object: a glass of water in the light (rainbow colours)



Preparation: 10 min



indoors or by the fire



Make it personal: In two sentences, share something you have experienced yourself on the topic "God's covenant after the catastrophe". Real stories stick best.



How the devotion works

2 min

Opening

Let light shine through the glass until colours appear. Ask: What do you associate with a rainbow?

3 min

Bible text

Read Genesis 9:8–17. After the flood, God makes a covenant with all life and sets his bow in the clouds.

5 min

Thought

The flood story is disturbing – destruction, judgement. But it does not end in ruin; it ends with a promise: God binds himself to his creation. Hope here does not mean that crises will not come, but that in the end God stands by the life he has made.

5 min

Conversation

How can we stay hopeful without playing down the crises of this world?



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Prayer to read aloud

God of the covenant, the news sometimes frightens me.
Remind me of your promise and make me someone who
carries hope. Amen.



To think further

- What makes the flood story difficult for you?
- Where are you a sign of hope for others?



For leaders

- Leave room for doubts and critical questions – an honest conversation matters more than a quick answer.
- As a leader, feel free to share a personal experience.
- With heavy topics, keep an eye on who is struggling and be available afterwards.



Section: Well-known Bible stories. You will find matching group meetings and more devotions at scouts-cloud.com.