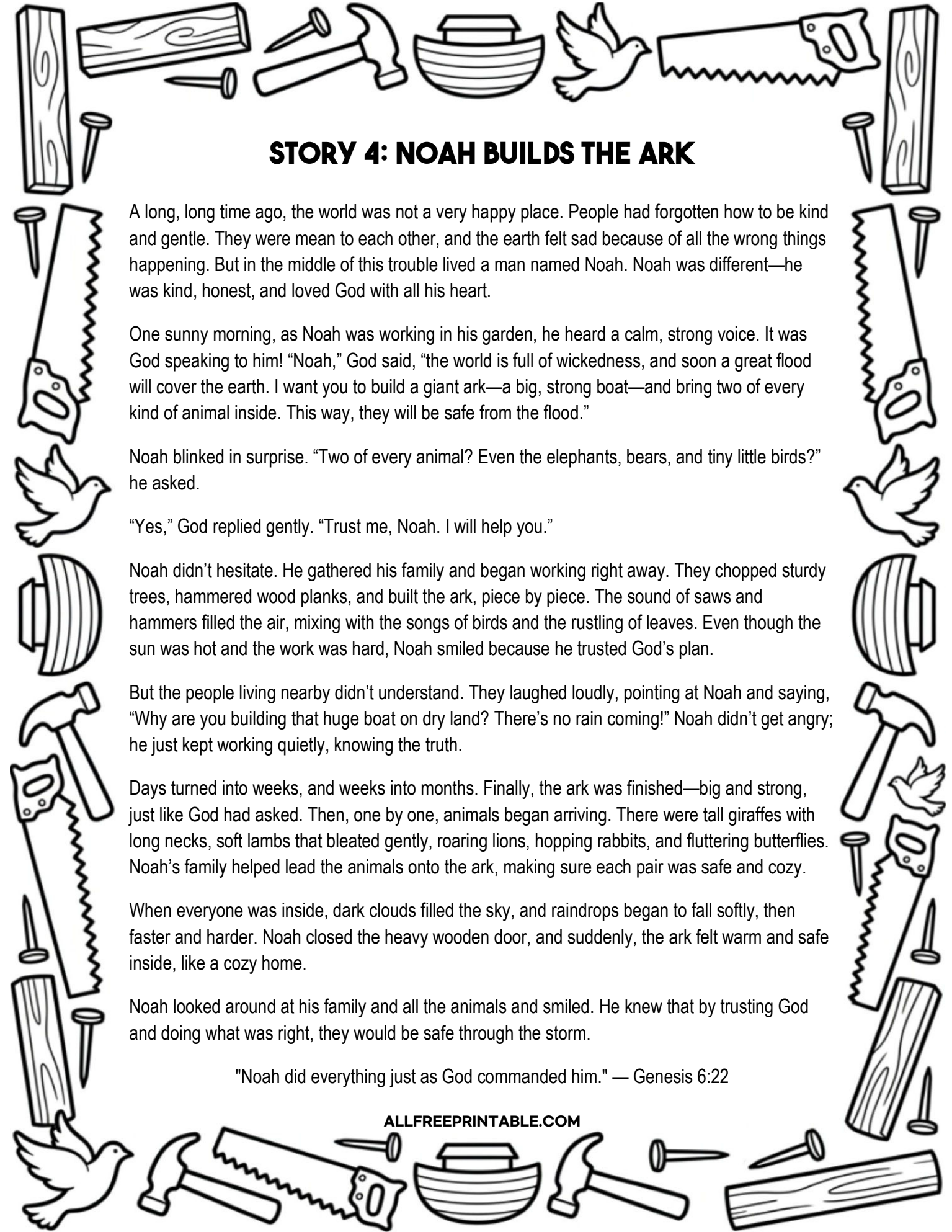


NOAH BUILDS THE ARK





STORY 4: NOAH BUILDS THE ARK

A long, long time ago, the world was not a very happy place. People had forgotten how to be kind and gentle. They were mean to each other, and the earth felt sad because of all the wrong things happening. But in the middle of this trouble lived a man named Noah. Noah was different—he was kind, honest, and loved God with all his heart.

One sunny morning, as Noah was working in his garden, he heard a calm, strong voice. It was God speaking to him! “Noah,” God said, “the world is full of wickedness, and soon a great flood will cover the earth. I want you to build a giant ark—a big, strong boat—and bring two of every kind of animal inside. This way, they will be safe from the flood.”

Noah blinked in surprise. “Two of every animal? Even the elephants, bears, and tiny little birds?” he asked.

“Yes,” God replied gently. “Trust me, Noah. I will help you.”

Noah didn’t hesitate. He gathered his family and began working right away. They chopped sturdy trees, hammered wood planks, and built the ark, piece by piece. The sound of saws and hammers filled the air, mixing with the songs of birds and the rustling of leaves. Even though the sun was hot and the work was hard, Noah smiled because he trusted God’s plan.

But the people living nearby didn’t understand. They laughed loudly, pointing at Noah and saying, “Why are you building that huge boat on dry land? There’s no rain coming!” Noah didn’t get angry; he just kept working quietly, knowing the truth.

Days turned into weeks, and weeks into months. Finally, the ark was finished—big and strong, just like God had asked. Then, one by one, animals began arriving. There were tall giraffes with long necks, soft lambs that bleated gently, roaring lions, hopping rabbits, and fluttering butterflies. Noah’s family helped lead the animals onto the ark, making sure each pair was safe and cozy.

When everyone was inside, dark clouds filled the sky, and raindrops began to fall softly, then faster and harder. Noah closed the heavy wooden door, and suddenly, the ark felt warm and safe inside, like a cozy home.

Noah looked around at his family and all the animals and smiled. He knew that by trusting God and doing what was right, they would be safe through the storm.

“Noah did everything just as God commanded him.” — Genesis 6:22