GOALS:

* Primary: Teach the text (Genesis 6:1-12).
* Secondary: Teach the people how to study the text, specifically the ease of simply observing the text.

METHOD:

* Jeff will intro the lesson (5 minutes).
* You will lead 1/3 of the group through your selected verses to do the following (10 minutes):
  + Develop a verse-by-verse timeline. What is happening here?
  + Look for any patterns that appear in the text.
  + Define key words.
  + Identify one application.
  + KEY: You lead them to discover – don’t simply lecture them.
* Report back to the larger group (15 minutes – 5 minutes per group).
* Jeff will wrap up the key application (5 minutes).
* Total time: 35 minutes.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO LEAD!

SECTION #1: The Explosion of Evil (vs. 1-4)

1. Timeline: What happens in these verses?
   1. Vs. 1 – There is a population explosion.
   2. Vs. 2 – There are two groups of people mentioned:
      1. Sons of God
         1. They saw…(define: to gaze upon)
         2. They took…(define: to lay hold of; to snatch)
      2. Daughters of Men
         1. The text points out that they were beautiful.
   3. Vs. 3 – God’s reaction is not good!
   4. Vs. 4 – A third group of people is identified: Giants.
      1. The Bible is not emphatic on who they are or how they got there.
      2. There is one sense within this context that they are the offspring of the two groups identified in verse 2.
      3. (Don’t get stuck in the weeds here!)
2. How would we summarize this section?
   1. In the Days of Noah, there was a population explosion that contributed to an explosion of wickedness, especially sexual wickedness.
3. Is there any application for us today?
   1. This is not an easy one for these verses because they are more descriptive than prescriptive (point that out).
   2. We could observe the connection between what we observe (the sons of God in verse 2) and the behavior that resulted.

SECTION #2: The Effect of Evil (vs. 5-7)

1. Timeline: What happens in these verses?
   1. Vs. 5 – God saw what was happening.
   2. Vs. 6 – God was sorry He had made man and was grieved.
      1. Need to define “grieved” (let them try) – to be in pain for someone else because of the decisions that they have made or for what they have experienced.
      2. The idea is that God’s heart was broken for the people because they had rejected Him and He knew what the results of their sinfulness would be.
      3. Can you think of an illustration that would resemble this? How about a parent who has to see their child suffer consequences from a bad decision?
   3. Vs. 7 – God determined to thoroughly judge the sinfulness He had seen.
      1. Notice how thorough this verse is. The verse could have said, “God determined to judge the whole earth.”
      2. Instead the Bible gets specific: man, beast, creeping thing, birds…
      3. What does this remind us of? The impact of the Fall (Genesis 3) on everything!
2. How would we summarize this section?
   1. God saw everything happening on earth and it broke His heart. Being just, God had to prepare to judge the world for its sin.
3. Is there any application for us today?
   1. Consider: “God saw” – is there something we can take away from this reality?
      1. Is there comfort in the fact that God sees?
      2. Is there conviction in the fact that God sees?
   2. Consider: What does our sin do to God? How does it affect Him?

SECTION #3: The Inhabitants during the Great Evil (vs. 8-12)

1. Timeline: What happens in these verses?
   1. Vs. 8-9 – The Righteous Man
      1. God saw Noah and he found grace in the eyes of God (vs. 8).
         1. The Law of First Mention: This is the first time we find the word “grace” in the Bible.
         2. We need to define grace (let them try).
      2. What did God see in Noah in verses 9-10?
         1. He was just. Let them define…the essence is Noah was righteous/holy.
         2. He was perfect. Let them define…the essence is that Noah was blameless.
         3. He walked with God…what does this mean?
         4. He had three sons that we know were on the Ark. The implication is that Noah led his family well.
   2. Vs. 11-12 – The Unrighteous Men
      1. They were corrupt. Let them define…
      2. They were violent. Let them define…
      3. Point out that this was “before God” – God knew what was happening.
      4. Point out that the earth was filled with corruption and violence. It was a tsunami of sin and wickedness.
2. How would we summarize this section?
   1. In the Days of Noah, the majority of the world was extremely wicked. But Noah was able to live a righteous life even in the midst of the great evil that surrounded him.
3. Is there any application for us today?
   1. It is possible to live righteously in an unrighteous world.
   2. Throughout Genesis 6 we see the pattern of “God saw.” In these verses it is reference or implied in vs. 8, 11 and 12. What did God see? Is there comfort in the fact that while the whole world may turn its back on God, God still sees the individuals trying to follow Him?

WRAP-UP BY JEFF: What is the main takeaway that we can carry throughout the upcoming week?

* A Similar Context: While I believe Noah’s world was worse than ours, we live in similar times. Our world is evil and wickedness is everywhere.
* A Similar Comfort: God sees it all. He is still on the throne.
  + He is loving and patient wanting all men to repent.
  + But He is just, and every sin will be appropriately paid for.
  + We should find both comfort and conviction in this fact.
* A Similar Call: Like Noah, we can live righteously in an unrighteous world. How? (See vs. 9-10.)
  + Be righteous. This is seen by God.
    - Strive to be holy. Repent of sin, etc.
  + Be blameless. This is seen by others.
    - How is your testimony? At work? What kind of neighbor are you? Etc.
  + Walk with God. This is how you see God.
    - Priority #1: Daily time in the Word and prayer.
  + Lead your family well.
    - Your primary mission field is your family.
    - Do you provoke your spouse to walk closer to Christ?
    - Do you see your responsibility to disciple your children?