

## **UP, IN, OUT:**

- Are you serving as an Outpost in an outward way? It's easy to get comfortable in our UP and IN relationships. Do you need to push yourselves to reach OUT to others?
- What keeps you from sharing the Gospel with friends, family, strangers? Do you ever have a hard time answering the questions of critics? Consider coming to the Frank Turek even at Edison on Feb 28th to learn how to intelligently engage a skeptical culture.

## **OPEN:**

Share a story about a time when you were cooped up for too long.

## **DIG:**

Read Genesis 7:1-5

- How are the instructions given here different from those in chapter 6?
- What does this passage mean by clean and unclean animals?
- Why would Noah be instructed to bring 7 pairs of the clean animals?
- There are 7 pairs of clean animals, 7 days to load the ark, and 40 days of rain. How are the numbers 7 and 40 significant throughout the Bible?

Read Genesis 7:6-10

- Looking at the years given to us in Gen 5:32, 6:3, and 7:6, how long do you think it took to build the ark?
- Are there any difficulties to understanding the timeline of these events?
- Why do you think God went through all the trouble, and had Noah go through all the trouble to have the story play out like this? Why not wipe us out completely and start over? Why not simply unmake all the people except Noah and his family? What's the point of all this?

## **REFLECT:**

- What does it mean that Noah was righteous? What does it not mean?
- Given Gen 6:22, 7:5, and 7:9, does your understanding of righteousness change?
- How is one made righteous today? How would you support your answer with Scripture?
- If the Bible's account of the flood and Noah's family is true, what does this mean for our understanding of different races and racism?

## **APPLY:**

- 2 Peter 2:5 describes Noah as a herald or preacher of righteousness. This suggests he didn't just build the ark, but was a preacher during those years, too. If you were called by God to preach righteousness to a corrupt and rebellious world, how do you think you would go about doing it?
- What keeps you from doing this?

## **PRAY:**