

Tuesday Bible Study: Week 13
Genesis 9:18-10:32



December 3, 2024

1. Opening icebreaker: Were you familiar with this part of the Noah story before today? What is something that confused or surprised you?

2. Scholars and theologians have had many ways of interpreting the story of Genesis 9:20-27. What *to you* is the most significant lesson or take-away from this passage?

3. There are several places in the Old Testament where people are warned against exposing themselves. See, for example, 2 Sam 6:16, Habakkuk 2:15, Exodus 20:26). Why do you think this is? Why might this be considered offensive?
 - a. Is this a warning that still has relevance today? Why or why not?

4. Filial piety (respecting and honoring one's parents) is of utmost importance in the ancient world, in traditional societies today, and in Holy Scripture.

- a. Why do you think this is emphasized so strongly? Why does it matter?
 - b. Where do you see the principles of filial piety at play in the reading for today? How do the characters in the story live it out?
 - c. Has our relationship to parents and ancestors changed in the modern world? If there has been a change, what are the consequences?
5. Israel is repeatedly warned not to commit *idolatry* by worshiping other gods. Are there ways that people today, even people in Christian communities, commit idolatry? What sorts of things are we tempted to “worship?”
- a. What effect does this modern idolatry have on us and our spiritual lives?
 - b. Are there ways to keep from straying to worship of modern idols? What helps you stay focused on God when other things are competing for your time and attention?
6. Think about the different ways that humans are organized in communities: families, tribes, cities, nations. What do these organizations have in common, and how are they different?