THE TURNING POINT

October 25th, 2026

The Search for Significance // Genesis 8:1-22

Message Context

After God's judgment through the flood, Genesis 8 marks a turning point as God remembers Noah and faithfully fulfills His promises. As the floodwaters recede, God begins renewing creation, bringing life out of judgment and order out of chaos. Noah responds to God's faithfulness with patient obedience and, upon leaving the ark, builds an altar to worship the Lord. His sacrifice points forward to the greater and final sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom sinners can be reconciled to God. Through this chapter, we see five turning points made possible by God's grace: moving from doubt to faith, the old to the new, instability to a firm foundation, discouragement to deliberate waiting, and fear to worship.

CONNECT – Announcements (page 2) & Building Relationships

1. What is the longest you've ever had to wait for something you were really looking forward to? How did you handle the waiting?
2. Looking back on your life, what is one significant turning point that changed your direction?

REFLECT - Out of the Word and Into Our Lives

3. **Read Genesis 8:1-22.** What stands out to you most from a fresh reading of the passage, and is there anything from the message that you want to be sure we don't miss as a group?
4. Genesis 8 begins with the words, "But God remembered Noah." What does it mean that God remembered Noah? Why is it important to understand that this does not imply God had forgotten him?
5. Pastor Jeremy emphasized that Noah's safety depended not on how safe he felt, but on the ark that carried him through the judgment. How does this illustrate the security believers have in Christ? How should God's promises shape our response when our feelings cause us to doubt our salvation?
6. What similarities do you notice between the original creation in Genesis 1 and the renewal of creation in Genesis 8? What do these similarities teach us about God's power over creation and judgment?
7. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Ephesians 4:22–24. What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ? How should our new identity in Christ affect the way we approach the sinful habits and desires of our former lives?
8. Read Matthew 7:24–27. Jesus contrasts two foundations upon which we can build our lives. What are some unstable foundations that people commonly depend upon for security, meaning, or identity? What does it practically look like to build your life upon Christ and His Word instead?
9. Even after Noah could see that the ground was dry, he waited until God commanded him to leave the ark. What does Noah's example teach us about patience, obedience, and trusting God's timing?

10. Pastor Jeremy described biblical waiting as active rather than passive, saying, "Waiting is worship with boots on." What does it look like to wait faithfully on the Lord while continuing to obey what He has already revealed in His Word?
11. How can we distinguish between a promising opportunity and something that God actually desires for us to pursue? Why must Scripture, rather than circumstances alone, guide our decisions?
12. Noah's first recorded action after leaving the ark was to build an altar and worship God. What does this reveal about Noah's understanding of God's mercy? What does the priority and costliness of his offering teach us about our own worship?
13. Genesis 8:21 reminds us that humanity's sinful heart remained unchanged even after the flood. Why could the flood not solve mankind's greatest problem? How does this demonstrate our need for something greater than changed circumstances or outward reform?
14. Read Hebrews 10:1–14 and Ephesians 5:2. How did Noah's sacrifice point forward to the once-for-all sacrifice of Jesus Christ? Knowing that Christ has borne the judgment we deserve, how should this turn our fear of condemnation into grateful, joyful worship?

🛡 PROTECT – Care for one another (divided, gender-specific groups)

15. Which of the five turning points from the sermon most closely relates to something you're facing in your life right now? Why?
16. Is there an area of your life where you have been struggling to trust God's promises or His timing? How can your group pray for you and encourage you to remain faithful?
17. Is there a sinful habit, attitude, or misplaced source of security that you need to turn away from as you seek to live in the newness of life Christ has given you?

Announcements

Thanksgiving Meal: November 24th @ 6:00 pm – Sign-up at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054EA8A92AA7F4CF8-66998325-church?useFullSite=true#/

Resources for Going Deeper

- **God Remembered Noah -** https://learn.ligonier.org/devotionals/god-remembered-noah
- **Prayers for Those Who Wait -** https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/five-prayers-for-those-who-wait
- Once more it would be helpful to read the entire flood narrative Genesis 7-9.