

406: The World Who Weeps (Old Testament Lesson 6; February 6)

Jan 23: Gen 5; Moses 6 Enoch
Jan 30: Moses 7 God who weeps
Feb 6: Gen 6-11; Moses 8 Flood and Aftermath

Framing: Want to focus mostly on the theme of empathetic response to suffering. In Moses 7 God, the Earth, and Enoch all wrestle with suffering, tragedy, and loss. Poignant themes for 2022. Poignant themes for any time. (and we can relate to being cooped up with our family for a year more than we'd like to admit)

Disaster, tragedy, grief, finding new ways forward

How do we prepare for what feels like the end of the world? How do we support each other in our "arks"? How do we respond with empathy and renewal?

Overview:

Gen 5: Genealogy; cryptic mention of Enoch
Gen 6: Wickedness + preparation
Gen 7: Flood
Gen 8: Flood gradually subsides
Gen 9: Covenant with Noah/preciousness of life (and JST Gen 9!!!)
Gen 10: Table of nations
Gen 11: Tower of Babel; more genealogy

Moses 6: Enoch's ministry; Adam's Sunday School
Moses 7: we all weep (God, earth, Enoch); Zion gets out early
Moses 8: generations of wickedness leading to the Flood

This helps me get oriented, feel into what I want to focus on so I can dig deeper

Discussion points

- How can we train ourselves into increased empathy and compassion? (building our fortitude in the face of pain and effort, precisely Chaplain training)
- How can we prepare for disaster, support each other, and move forward? (This is THE question/discussion) Feeling increased discernment towards first responder chaplaincy
- How can we better care for our communities (Zion) and the earth?

We are living in a time where we are dealing with actual floods and climate chaos/disaster. I think it is irresponsible to get so excited about the theological implications of a global flood (as cool as the earth's baptism might be) that we fail to engage what is likely the single most urgent

