ONLY ONE FLAWLESS HERO

November 8th, 2026

The Search for Significance // Genesis 9:18-29

Message Context

After the flood, we might expect Noah and his family to represent a fresh start for humanity—a righteous family finally getting things right. Instead, Genesis 9 quickly reminds us that although the flood washed the earth, it did not wash the human heart. Noah falls into drunkenness, Ham responds sinfully to his father's shame, and the consequences ripple through the family. Yet God continues to work through this deeply flawed family to accomplish His purposes. Their failures remind us not to place our hope in flawless people, flawless families, or even our own track record. There is only one flawless Hero: Jesus Christ. Through Him, sinful people can be forgiven, restored, and used by God for His mission.

CONNECT – Announcements (page 2) & Building Relationships

1. What is one thing about your family that would probably never make it into a Norman Rockwell painting?
2. Who was one of your heroes or role models growing up? What made you admire that person?

REFLECT - Out of the Word and Into Our Lives

3. **Read Genesis 9:18-29.** 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. After everything Noah experienced in Genesis 6–9, what is surprising about the picture of Noah and his family that we encounter in this passage?
5. Genesis 9:19 tells us that the whole earth was populated through Noah's sons. What does this teach us about God's ability to accomplish His purposes through flawed people?
6. Pastor Jeremy said, "We don't have to become flawless before we can become fruitful." How can believing that free us to serve God rather than constantly feeling inadequate?
7. Noah had faithfully followed God through decades of opposition and through the flood itself, yet he fell into sin afterward. Why can seasons of ease or success sometimes present greater spiritual danger than seasons of difficulty?
8. Hebrews 4:15 tells us that Jesus was tempted as we are yet remained without sin. How does the failure of biblical heroes like Noah ultimately make the sinlessness of Jesus stand out even more clearly?
9. Ham saw his father's shame and spread the story, while Shem and Japheth sought to cover Noah. What is the difference between lovingly addressing someone's sin and gossiping about it?
10. Why can gossip sometimes disguise itself as concern, prayer, or simply "telling the truth"? What questions should we ask ourselves before sharing someone else's failure?

11. Noah's sin did not remain isolated to himself; its effects rippled through his family. Where have you seen the truth that our sin rarely affects only ourselves? How should that reality shape the way we fight sin?
12. Galatians 3:13 says that Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by "becoming a curse for us." How does Jesus taking the curse we deserved demonstrate both the seriousness of our sin and the greatness of God's love?
13. The sermon concluded, "There's only one flawless hero." What happens to our faith when we place pastors, parents, spouses, mentors, or even ourselves on a pedestal that only Jesus deserves?
14. When someone you respect disappoints you this week, how could that disappointment become an opportunity to turn your attention and trust more fully toward Christ?

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

15. Is there someone in your life whose disappointment with Christians, churches, or Christian leaders has become a barrier between them and Jesus? How could you help them see the difference between flawed Christians and our flawless Savior?
16. Pastor Jeremy encouraged us not to hide every broken part of our story but to tell how Christ has redeemed us. What part of your testimony might help your one see that God's grace is available for sinners like us?
17. What specific opportunity could you pursue this week to pray for, encourage, serve, or begin a gospel conversation with your one?

Announcements

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

Love My Neighbor Day: Mayodan Christmas Stroll: December 4th – Sign-up at https://my.nvf.life/stroll

Resources for Going Deeper

- **What's Wrong with Gossip? -** https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/wrong-gossip/
- **I Was Helped By a Hypocrite -** https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/i-was-helped-by-a-hypocrite
- **Who's Your One:** https://nvf.life/one/