

A New Beginning

*FCC Life Group Discussion Notes
Based on the "Genesis" Series of Matthew Rogers
Matthew Rogers Preaching
05-15-26*

Opening Prayer

- Pray that God would remind us He is the God of new beginnings and that no failure or past sin is final with Him.
- Ask the Lord to help us live securely in His covenant promises and extend fresh grace to others this week.

Ice Breaker

If life had a “reset button” you could press right now with no consequences, which area of your life would you reset and why?

Key Scripture

Genesis 9:15-16 (CSB) – *Ask a group member to read aloud.*

“I will remember my covenant between me and you and all the living creatures: water will never again become a flood to destroy every creature. The bow will be in the clouds, and I will look at it and remember the permanent covenant between God and all the living creatures on earth.”

Sermon Summary

After the flood, humanity deserved an ending, but God gave them a new beginning. In Genesis 9, God blesses Noah’s family, re-commissions them, and establishes a covenant marked by the rainbow. This story shows us that God brings, secures, and completes new beginnings — and that every new beginning finds its ultimate fulfillment in Jesus Christ.

Discussion Point 1: God Brings New Beginnings

Scripture: Genesis 9:1 (CSB) – *Ask a group member to read aloud.*

“God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.’”

Point Summary: After judgment came the blessing. Instead of condemnation, God spoke grace and a fresh start over Noah’s family. This new beginning was not earned by Noah’s perfection but given through God’s grace. God specializes in bringing new beginnings out of brokenness.

Discussion Questions:

1. When have you experienced a “new beginning” that you knew could only come from God’s grace and not your own effort?
2. How does this truth change the way we view our own past failures, regrets, or seasons of hardship?

Discussion Point 2: God Secures New Beginnings

Scripture: Genesis 9:11 (CSB) – *Ask a group member to read aloud.*

“I establish my covenant with you that never again will every creature be wiped out by floodwaters; there will never again be a flood to destroy the earth.”

Point Summary:

God secured this new beginning with a unilateral, irrevocable, and unconditional covenant. The rainbow stands as a lasting sign of God’s faithful promise. Our security rests not in our performance but in God’s unchanging character.

Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to you that God’s covenant with Noah did not depend on human behavior? How should that shape our relationship with Him?
2. How can remembering God’s covenant faithfulness help us when we feel like we’ve failed again?

Discussion Point 3: God Completes New Beginnings

Scripture: Luke 22:20 (CSB) – *Ask a group member to read aloud.*

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.”

Point Summary: The covenant with Noah points forward to the new covenant in Jesus. What Noah’s ark did physically (carry people through judgment), Jesus does eternally. In Christ, God completes every new beginning.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does the story of Noah and the rainbow help you understand what Jesus has done for you?
2. What new thing do you believe God wants to do in your life right now — a new attitude, habit, relationship, or step of faith?

Wrap-Up

God is the God of new beginnings. He brings them through grace, secures them through covenant, and completes them through Jesus. Just as the rainbow reminds us of God's promise, may we continually look to Christ and step boldly into the fresh start He offers us today.

Challenge

This week, identify one area of your life where you need a new beginning. Write out **Genesis 9:15-16** and place it where you will see it daily. Take one practical step of obedience in that area, trusting in God's grace. If you need to begin a new life with Christ, talk with a leader about baptism or fill out a Starting Point card.

Closing Prayer

- Thank God for being the God of new beginnings and for the security we have in His covenant.
- Praise Him for the new covenant sealed by the blood of Jesus.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help us walk in fresh grace and extend that same grace to the people around us.

Handout

A NEW BEGINNING Genesis 9:1-17

Key Verse to Remember:

Genesis 9:16 (CSB) *The bow will be in the clouds, and I will look at it and remember the permanent covenant between God and all the living creatures on earth.*

My Takeaway Today: God wants to...

This Week's Action Step:

Prayer Requests / Notes:

1.

2.

3.
