

Wednesday week 2  
Messy People  
“Uncovered”

1. What embarrassing news story will you remember forever that dealt with the “sin” of someone famous (political or not)?
2. Read Genesis 9:18,19. We know from historical records that Shem is the ancestor of the Jewish and Arabic people. Japheth is the ancestor of the Europeans and Ham is the ancestor of the Canaanite people. What do you know about the Canaanites? Why don't we hear about them any more?
3. Read Genesis 9:20. What had Noah's career been before the flood? Why did he change careers after the flood? Why do you think he chose to work the soil as his new venture in life?
4. Read Genesis 9:21. What happened to Noah? What does the Bible say about drunkenness (Ephesians 5:18)? The word used here for “uncovered” is used in several places in the Bible. It can mean “exposed, naked, shame” as well as other things. It is also a word that is sometimes used to describe sexual immorality. Why do you think God is opposed to drunkenness? What do you know about Noah pre-flood? How do you feel about Noah post-flood?
5. Compare Genesis 6:8-10 with Genesis 9:18-21. How does Genesis 6 describe Noah? When Noah found favor in God's eyes and was described as “righteous” in his generation, do you think God knew he would sin in the near future? How could God call him righteous if He knew he was sinful?
6. Read Genesis 9:22,23. Compare the way Ham addressed his father's sin and the way Shem and Japheth addressed their father's sin. What does it look like to “expose” someone's sin and shame? What are the repercussions of exposing people's sin?
7. What does it look like to “cover” someone's shame and sin? Shem and Japheth were protecting their father from “whose” peering eyes (think about who were the only people alive on the earth at this time)? Why is it damaging to the next generation when we talk about other Christians who are sinning?
8. Which son of Noah does the media and general public act more like when they “catch” someone in sin? Which son of Noah do Christians act more like? (be honest, give examples).
9. Read 1 Peter 4:8 and Luke 6:36-38. How can we “cover” those caught in sin without giving approval to the sin?
10. Read Genesis 9:24-27. Who received the curse, Ham or Canaan (his son)? Have you ever seen children suffer for their parent sins? Why is it important that we think about future generations when it relates to “our” sinful choices? In what ways have you seen the descendants of Shem blessed and the descendants of Japheth blessed?
11. If we find ourselves acting more like Ham (judgmental pharisee), how can we change? (Luke 18:9-14)