

**Study Questions for the March 6, 2022 Sermon:  
“The Making and Breaking of Blessings and Curses”  
Genesis 9:18-29**

1. Acts 2:37-44 records a brief “honeymoon period” at the beginning of the church: There was no persecution, people were converting in droves, and Christians were well regarded. Verse 42 lists to what the disciples devoted themselves.
  - a. Do you believe “the breaking of bread” refers to communion or shared meals? Support your answer with scripture.
  - b. Are all the activities listed in verse 42 a regular part of your life?
2. Can you make any sense of the fact that Noah, in verses 24 & 25, curses Canaan, his grandson, who was innocent of any wrongdoing, instead of cursing Ham, who was disrespectful?
3. Noah demonstrates no remorse for getting drunk; all he does is curse an innocent person. How does this reflect on his character?
4. Pastor Paul pointed out that God seemed to honor Noah's curse upon Ham and Noah's blessing of Shem. (Later in Israel's history, the descendants of Canaan do indeed serve the descendants of Japheth and Shem. Jesus descends from Shem.) Why would God carry out Noah's curse and blessing?
5. Pastor Paul said that Noah's sin was getting drunk, not drinking alcohol.
  - a. Do you agree or disagree? Support your belief with scripture.
  - b. Should NWB use wine for the Lord's supper?
  - c. Did the wine Jesus made at the wedding feast (John 2:6-11) contain alcohol?
6. List four similarities between the creation story and the flood story.

7. Perhaps you were raised in a family in which a facade of holiness hid, from outsiders, some profoundly sinful activities. How do we, as Christians, “put away childish things” and overcome the bad experiences we had as children?
8. What should Ham have done when he came across his father drunk and naked?
9. What can we learn, from Shem and Japeth's example in verse 23, about dealing with the sin of a fellow believer?
10. Do Christians need to worry about people cursing us? Review Proverbs 26:2.
11. Pastor Paul said that in heaven, we will no longer struggle with the temptation to sin. Can you recall any scripture that supports that claim?