

**This lesson is adapted from the writings of Lou Ann Keiser, used with permission.**

Note: I use a lot of questions in my lessons because repetition aids in true learning. You are welcome to change the use of questions to meet the needs of your class.

**Title: The Old Guys' Club (Old Men in the Bible)**

**Age:** Juniors

**Text:** different with each point

**Introduction:** Have you ever been part of a club? What are some good things that a club might do? Usually the members in a club all have something in common that they are known for doing. Today, our lesson is about several men in the Bible that were all part of a group that had something in common. We are going to call their group "The Old Guy's Club." Let's meet some of the members of the group, and see what we can learn from them!

1. Enoch (Hebrews 11:5)

Enoch is one of the two people in the Bible that never died. What other man never died? (Elijah; he went up to Heaven in a chariot.) Can you imagine how neat that would have been to see? Only God could make that possible! (Ask for a volunteer to read Genesis 5:22, 24.) What do these verses show about Enoch? How does a person walk with God? (Answer: read the Bible, obey, and pray) Enoch lived 365 years! How many years did he live? He lived one year for every day in a year.

Sometimes, it can be hard to imagine how someone could live to be that old. Today, the average life span is 70-80 years. We know though that these stories are true, because according to 2 Timothy 3:16, all Scripture is given by inspiration of God. That means it is "God-breathed." God said it, and that settles it.

2. Methuselah (Genesis 5:21-27)

The next old guy we will talk about is Methuselah. Say "Methuselah." Methuselah was the son Enoch, and lived longer than any other person ever has! He lived to be 969 years old! We really do not know much about Methuselah, but it is obvious that someone who lived so long likely had many hard times. He persevered. What does it mean to persevere? (Continue, carry on) He was willing to live the life God wanted him to, and God blessed him.

3. Lamech (Genesis 5:25-31)

The next man in the Old Guys' Club is Methuselah's eldest son, Lamech. He lived to be 777 years old. Seven is the number of completion or perfection in the Bible. We need to live lives of completeness. God calls every believer to do something for Him. Life is like a race, and to be winners, we must get to the finish line! (Read 2 Timothy 4:7) Lamech died just five years before

the worldwide flood that would destroy all animals and people that were not in the ark. This leads us to the last person we will learn about today.

4. Noah (Genesis 5:29-9:29)

Lamech was the father of Noah. What can you tell me about Noah? Noah's name meant "rest." Lamech knew that he would be a comfort to his family, especially in the flood. Noah began to build the Ark and preach, warning the people of the destruction to come. The people teased him, and like Methuselah, he persevered! Noah obeyed God, even when other people thought he was crazy!] There will be times as you get older, when friends will pressure you to do things against what God teaches. Give me an example of something they may want you to do that is wrong.

We can choose to follow the example of the men in the Old Guys' Club. We can do this by walking with God, like Enoch. We can persevere, like Methuselah. We can live a complete life, finishing all God calls us to do, like Lamech. Lastly, we can obey God, like Noah. These men were not really part of a club, but we can group them together when we think about great old men in the Bible that did important things. We can learn from their lives!

**Review Game:**

Clubs today often have dues, or money that must be paid at each meeting. You will be divided into two teams. When you answer a question correctly, you will earn a coin (penny). The first team to have seven pennies wins. If you answer incorrectly, your team will lose a penny. Ask the students the following questions, or think of your own to ask.

1. How old was Enoch when he died? (Trick question-he was on earth until age 365)
  - a. True or false? Enoch did not walk with God. (False)
  - b. Name one way we can walk with God. (Read the Bible, pray, witness, obey, etc.)
2. How old was Methuselah when he died? (969)
  - a. True or false? Lamech lived longer than Methuselah. (False)
  - b. What word did he use that means to continue? (Persevere)
3. How old was Lamech when he died? (777)
  - a. What does the number 7 mean?
  - b. Who was Lamech's father? (Methuselah)
  - c. Who was Lamech's son? (Noah)
  - d. True or false? Lamech lived until after the flood. (false)
4. How old was Noah when he died? (950)
  - a. True or false? Noah obeyed God. (True)
  - b. What was the boat called that Noah built? (Ark)
  - c. What does Noah's name mean? (Rest)
  - d. What does a rainbow show us? (God keeps His promises.)