

SEPTEMBER 29, 2024 THE TOWER OF BABEL GENESIS 11

CHRIST CONNECTION

One day, everyone will worship Jesus together.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Who is God? God is our Creator and King.

MEMORY VERSE

God made our wonderful world. Psalm 104:24

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LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Scripture's Tower of Babel account tells of man's disobedience and God's intervening mercy to keep people from their own destruction. Not long after God's covenant to never again destroy the earth by a flood, people chose to follow their own sinful plans rather than obey God's good commands. Despite God's mercy, people failed to trust Him and walk according to His ways.

In what ways is the Tower of Babel story marked by disobedience? How do we see God's kindness in scattering His people and scrambling their language?

After blessing Noah and his sons, God decreed that they were to "be fruitful and multiply; spread out over the earth and multiply on it" (Genesis 9:7). This command seems like it would be easy to obey, but sin's deception fueled an already present danger: mankind's pride-fueled ambition.

God commanded His people to spread out over the earth and fill it with His glory. However, they decided to stay put and build a name for themselves. They were supposed to make much of God, but they decided to make a name for themselves instead. In His love, God drew near to them and saved them from their plans for selfglorification.

God's decision to scatter His people and scramble their languages was part of a plan that emphasized His own glory above the people's self-glorification efforts. Jesus, the Son of God, became man so that He would one day gather His people unto Himself those of every tribe, tongue, and nation — not to worship or build a name for themselves, but to worship the only worthy One, King Jesus. His grace unites us, saves us, and brings us back into relationship with Him.

Consider the ways God has redirected the plans you have made for yourself. Are you, in hindsight, able to see His redirection as a means of grace upon your life? Reflect on His goodness in intervening. Pray for the children who will learn from you today, that they would place their trust in the God whose plans are for our good and for His ultimate glory.

TODAY'S STORY POINT

God is the greatest.

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Connect with children through games and activities

WELCOME

Play music in the background as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

ACTIVITY #1: SING A SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of "London Bridge is Falling Down":

"God made our wonderful world, *(clap)* Our wonderful world, *(clap)* Our wonderful world, *(clap)* "God made our wonderful world *(clap)* Psalm 104:24." *(clap)*

CONNECT THE DOTS

Our memory verse phrase says, "God made our wonderful world." Everything God made is good. God loves and cares for His creation. God is wonderful!

CONNECT THE DOTS

God wanted people to live all over the world after the flood, but they disobeyed God and stayed together. They began to think of bad things to do. They built a tower to show how great they were. But God is the greatest. He confused the people's language so they couldn't build the tower anymore. They moved to new places around the world just as God had told them to do after the flood.

ACTIVITY #2: BUILD A TOWER

Have children gather together in the play area of your classroom. Use the blocks in your room to build a tall tower together... then knock it down!

Tell or retell today's story as you work. When you're done, ask children to name things they noticed or remember from the story.

CRAFT & EXAMPLE

CONNECT THE DOTS

God gave us the ability to make things and build things. God is the greatest Creator. In our story today, we learned that people tried to make themselves look great, but God is the greatest. God mixed up their language and made them spread out all over the earth. One day, Jesus will come back. People from all over the earth will worship Him together. (Revelation 7:9-10)

CRAFT: TOWER OF BABEL

Supplies: Tower of Babel paper template, tape/glue, decorating utensils

Give each child one of the tower templates and have them decorate it as they like. Help them roll the paper into a cone shape and secure it in place with tape or glue after they're done decorating. Tape or glue the verse spiral around the edges of the cone like the picture below shows.

Talk to children about the Bible story as they work. Be sure each child's name is on their craft so you know which one to send home with them!



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PREPARE

Open your Bible to **Genesis 11** and tell the following story.

THE TOWER OF BABEL

After the flood, Noah's sons and their wives had children, and all their families grew.

At this time, everyone in the world spoke the same language. The people said, "We don't want to be scattered all over the earth. Let's build a city with a tower so tall that it touches the sky. The tower will make us famous! Then we can stay here together."

The people were not doing what God had told them to do. They wanted to say, "Look how great we are," instead of "Look how great God is." But God is the greatest. God created people to worship Him alone.

The people made bricks out of clay and baked them in the fire to make stones. Then they used the stones to start building the tower.

God came down to look at the tower. God said, "If they are doing this together, they will think of more wrong things to do. We need to stop them."

So God mixed up the people's words. Instead of everyone speaking the same language, everyone spoke different languages. Everyone was confused and they could not understand each other.

The people had to stop building the city. God made it so the people did just what He had told them to do after the flood: They were scattered all over the world. The city with the unfinished tower was called Babel.

CHRIST CONNECTION

People tried to make themselves look great, but God is the greatest. God mixed up their language and made them spread out all over the earth. One day, Jesus will come back, and people from all over the earth will worship Him together.

SNACK & CLOSING

SNACK & DISCUSSION

Wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Serve a snack. Show children the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions and retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

- 1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible story?
- 2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible story?
- 3. What did God do to stop the people from building the tower to heaven?
- 4. Who is God? God is our Creator and King.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Pick up toys and games from around the room and put them away. After the room is cleaned up, set out markers or crayons and let children work on today's Bible story coloring page or activity page until their parents arrive.

You can also choose a book to read to children as they work or for those who don't want to work. Please make the effort to have children quietly engaged in the last few minutes of the service. When parents arrive to pick up their child, share about something their child enjoyed doing or did well today.

BEFORE YOU GO...

Please clean up by doing the following:

- 1. Spray down toys with disinfectant
- 2. Spot sweep if needed
- 3. Return toys to closet, close door
- 4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room
- 5. Return storage cubes to Room 108

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!

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