



Tower of Babel

Genesis 11: 1-9

Items Needed

- ✓ Bible with marked scripture
- ✓ Pencils/Markers
- ✓ Blocks
- ✓ Copies of Coloring Sheet
- ✓ Copies of Take Home Overview



The Tower of Babel

Objective of Lesson

No matter how many "good deeds" you stack up it will never reach to God. You cannot build a tower of good deeds to reach heaven. Jesus Christ, God's Holy Son and His death on the cross for his people's sins, is the only way to be accepted of God. All other ways to reach to God, God will destroy.

Scripture Reference

Genesis 11: 1-9 - AND THE whole earth was of one language and of one accent and mode of expression. 2And as they journeyed eastward, they found a plain (valley) in the land of Shinar, and they settled and dwelt there. 3And they said one to another, Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly. So they had brick for stone, and slime (bitumen) for mortar. 4And they said, Come, let us build us a city and a tower whose top reaches into the sky, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered over the whole earth. 5And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. 6And the Lord said, Behold, they are one people and they have [a]all one language; and this is only the beginning of what they will do, and now nothing they have imagined they can do will be impossible for them. 7Come, let Us go down and there confound (mix up, confuse) their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. 8So the Lord scattered them abroad from that place upon the face of the whole earth, and they gave up building the city. 9Therefore the name of it was called Babel--because there the Lord confounded the

language of all the earth; and from that place the Lord scattered them abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

Lesson Instructions

1. Today we are going to talk about a story recorded in the Bible we call, "The Tower of Babel." This is a true story that is recorded to teach us about God, who He is, and how He saves His people from their sins. It all started with a King named Nimrod. The Bible tells us he was a great hunter and was "the first to be a mighty man on the earth". (Genesis 10: 8-9) He became a ruler of a great many people. At this time, everyone in the whole world spoke the same language. It is not like today where you hear many languages like Spanish, French, English, etc. There was only one language spoken and everybody could understand one another.
2. Nimrod and the people he lead lived in a placed called Babylonia. This great ruler Nimrod decided he wanted to be famous. Do you know what famous means? It means you are known by many, many, people. He wanted everyone to know him and how great he was. He went to the people of Babylonia, and he convinced the people that they too could be famous! He convinced them to join him in building a tall tower called "Babel". This word means "gateway to God." He wanted the tower to be so tall that it would reach up to heaven.
3. The people thought this was a wonderful idea, so they went to work making bricks for the Tower of Babel. It was hard work, but the people wanted everyone to know that they made the tower that reached to God, so they worked that much harder. The people also convinced themselves that by building the tower that would stay together - united. Their pride had taken over and all they were thinking about was that they would be known throughout the world for building the biggest and best tower ever to be built.

4. God could see what was happening all along, so He came down to earth to see the tower the people were building. God knew they were not building this tower to honor Him but to honor themselves.
5. God said, "I see that the people think they can do anything because they all speak the same language. I will mix up their language so they won't understand each other, and this way they won't be able to work together to sin against me."
6. After God said this the people could no longer understand each other. It seemed like they were babbling and making funny noises. All the people suddenly spoke different languages, some spoke French, some Spanish, others Chinese, plus many other languages. They were very confused.
7. This was the beginning of the different languages. From there the Lord scattered the people all over the whole earth. It's interesting because when the people started building the tower of Babel, Babel meant "gateway to God," but after God mixed up their language it meant "confusion". Even the word "babble" that we use today is said to come from that day when everyone was babbling with confusion.
8. What does this story teach us? All the stories in the book of Genesis teach us that we are a people in great need of God's redemption and grace. We cannot build a tower to get to God. It may sound foolish to put it in this way; however, there are a great many ways we try to do this even today. Each brick is a picture of the good deeds we think we can do to be forgiven for our bad deeds. We think the good deeds reach higher than our bad ones and we think if we stack them all together, then it will be a tower tall enough to reach even to God. This is not true.
9. This story teaches us there is only one way to be accepted of God, and it is not by building a tower of good deeds. Calvary heals Babel. God Himself provided His only beloved Son, who died to save His people from their sins. Death of the perfect Man, chosen of God, and the shedding of His blood is the only way God will accept a sinner. This is the only way God gets all the

glory. God is a jealous God and does not share His glory with anyone. (Ex. 20:5) God will not accept the work and death of any other man except the MAN, His Son Christ Jesus.

Lesson Activities

- Build Towers with Blocks - Divide your children up into groups of twos or threes. Give each group equal amounts of blocks. See which table of children can build the tallest tower in three minutes. Comment about how each block represents something good they have done. Point out to them that no good deeds will ever measure up to acceptance with God. Working by yourself or working as a group, no matter how impressive your tower is, will never please a Holy God. Ask them how they can be accepted of a Holy God. Have them tell you what they learned in the lesson about how we can be accepted of God.
- If you don't have blocks, you can make some cheap blocks by cutting up Aquariders from Wal-mart into block sizes. I used the flat Noodle Aquariders and the octagon-shaped Aquariders. These are large foam sheets and tubes used in swimming pools. You will find them in the sporting goods department or near the air mattresses in the swimming pool section.
- Coloring Sheet



Take Home Lesson Overview

The Tower of Babel

Scripture Reference:

Genesis 11: 1-9

Lesson Overview:

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This story teaches us there is only one way to be accepted of *God* and it is not by building a tower of good deeds. *Calvary* heals Babel. *God* Himself provided His only beloved Son, who died to save His people from their sins. Death of the perfect Man, chosen of *God*, and the shedding of His blood is the only way *God* will accept a sinner. This is the only way *God* gets all the glory. *God* is a jealous *God* and does not share His glory with anyone. (Ex. 20:5) *God* will not accept the work and death of any other man except the MAN, His Son Christ Jesus.

