

# Lesson 11: The Tower of Babel

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Study Genesis Chapter 11: the Tower of Babel
- 2) Learn that God wanted men to occupy all the earth and why we have many languages.

**Supplies:** Coordinator will ensure these supplies are already in your room.

**Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)**

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Tower of Babel Activity Sheet – one per child

**Optional:**

- Storybook or Visual Aids of Tower of Babel with pictures to show kids (if available) and/or
- Flannel Display Board with the story of Tower of Babel, etc. (if available)
- Jenga Game - a building game if available the students can play or
- Lego pieces – for a building activity if available

**Snack:**

- Cheese and Crackers (in brick shapes) enough so every child gets some
- Napkins for snack one per child
- Juice or water and cup one per child

**Lesson:**

**1) Introduction to lesson**

**2-5 minutes**

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). Let each child put a sticker beside their name for this week. Once children are seated say:

**“Last week what did we learn about?** Noah’s son who was disrespectful and how Shem, Ham, and Japheth spread throughout the world.

**This week we will continue to study about Noah’s descendants and how God spread them throughout the world to inhabit the entire earth.**

**2) The Tower of Babel Story, Word Search/Color Page**

**15-25 minutes**

**Optional:** if you have a book with pictures, visual aids or flannel characters you can show the pictures as you read from the Bible.

Ask children to turn in their Bibles to **Genesis 11:1-9** to read the account of the Tower of Babel. Then ask the following:

**After the Flood how many languages were there in verse 1?** One

**Why did the people want to build a tower?** To make a name for themselves – pride. And to avoid spreading over the earth – keeping everyone close.

**Was God alone when He said they needed to be stopped in verse 7?** No, because He said, “come let us”. Jesus and the Holy Spirit were there as well! Another time the Old Testament points to Christ!

**Why did God confuse their language?** So they could not understand each other and continue to build the tower which would make them proud and prevent them from spreading over the earth as God directed Noah in Genesis 9:1 and 7

**Let’s see what the Bible says about our plans and God’s plans for us. Listen as I read from**

### **Isaiah 48:17-18**

This is what the LORD says— your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:

“I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is best for you,  
who directs you in the way you should go.

If only you had paid attention to my commands,  
your peace would have been like a river,  
your well-being like the waves of the sea.

### **Jeremiah 29:11**

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

### **Psalms 119:34-36**

<sup>34</sup> Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law  
and obey it with all my heart.

<sup>35</sup> Direct me in the path of your commands,  
for there I find delight.

<sup>36</sup> Turn my heart toward your statutes  
and not toward selfish gain.

**From reading these verses, who has a better idea of what is best for us and what we should do and where we should go?** God does!

**Any words you don’t understand or questions you have?** Answer if you can, tell them you will get back to them and do next week if you need to ask someone for help in answering the question.

Hand out the Tower of Babel activity sheet along with crayons. Allow children to circle the words in the word search and to color the page. Read the directions and words to the children as they start to ensure children who have trouble reading can know what the words are.

As students work ask them how each word in the list relates to the story of the Tower of Babel.

### **3) Optional – Play Jenga Game or Building with Lego 10-15 minutes**

If you have the Jenga game or Lego pieces hand them out to the students. Read the instructions of the Jenga game to the children (basically the goal is to at first build a structure with all the pieces then each child takes a turn removing one piece and then placing it up top – the game stops when the building falls over because too many pieces have been removed and moved somewhere else making the structure unstable. This is to remind them of the Tower of Babel. It was a building that was started and then left once the languages were confused.

Or, if you have Lego, let the children work together to build a structure and talk about the Tower and why God wanted them to stop building it – not because the building was bad, but because the people’s attitude was not right. They wanted to do it for pride and to stay together when God had told them to spread over the earth instead. When done ask the children to help clean up before moving on.

**4) Optional - Snack: Cheese and Crackers (Brick Shape) 5 minutes**

Hand out 2 or 3 Cheese and Crackers (in brick shape) along with a glass of water or juice to each child. Explain that, **“God did not want people to stay all together in one place; God knew that they needed to go through the whole world so God confused the plans of the people who were trying to build the tower made out of bricks. Just like our cheese and crackers that are in brick shapes! Remember that we need to follow God and what He says, if we don’t we aren’t doing what He needs us to and we can’t be affective in our lives! Let’s remember to follow God and not man!** Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss questions while snacking!

**5) Optional - Songs 5 minutes**

Have children sing songs with you. Some examples:

- 1) **Old Testament Books of the Bible – Sung to the Alphabet song**
- 2) **This is my Father’s World** (Should be in church song book)

**6) Close in prayer**

\*If desired, ask the children if they have any prayer requests and write them down to help you remember. Then ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray.

Pray for those who were unable to be there today and help them return safely next week.

Pray that we will follow God’s directions and not our own, knowing that God knows what is best for us.

Pray that we will find opportunities to help others this week and to serve God.

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Thank you for serving Christ in this way!