



(4) The Tower of Babel

Genesis 11

Kindergarten & 1st Grade

WARM-UP: (10 minutes) As kids are arriving, some just before class starts and some right after, let them build a tower as tall as they can with sugar cubes. You may have a contest to see who can build the tallest tower. Provide them with a paper towel to build them on. (Throw away when finished) (If you'd prefer something simpler, or maybe a little less messy, they can build with anything! Marshmallows, cards, toothpicks and play-doh...)

PRAYER: (5 minutes) Help kids learn the value in talking to God. Ask for prayer requests. Write on the white board "Thank You" and "Please Help" – then, let the kids share their "thank you" and "please help" requests. Write them on the white board.

ASK KIDS:

- How God talks to us? (Through the bible and answering our prayers)
- How do we talk to God? (Prayer)

Remind them that *we can't have a relationship with anyone, our friends or even parents, if we don't talk to them. It's important that we talk to God. He made us and no one can do the things he can, not even our moms and dads.*

Lead kids in prayer.

BIBLE LESSON & ACTIVITY: (25 minutes)

A few weeks ago we learned about creation, sin entering the world and about a brother who murdered his own brother because he was jealous. Do you remember why he was jealous? (Because God liked Abel's sacrifice more than Cain's.)

Then we learned about the people of the earth become so evil that God decided to destroy it all except Noah and his family because Noah obeyed God. What did God tell Noah to build? (An ark) And how long did it rain? (40 days and 40 nights) What was God's promise to Noah? (He'd never destroy the earth by flood again and gave a rainbow as a sign)

And last week we read about a man named Job. God allowed Satan to bring a lot of trouble to his life- taking away his wealth, his home and even his family! But Job still loved God and obeyed. God gave Job even more than he'd had before because he was so faithful.

Today we are learning about a tall tower. It is in the book of Genesis. Who remembers what Genesis means? (Beginning). And is it in the Old or New Testament? Old.

Pass out Kinetic Sand. (Remind kids to keep sand in the containers and play with it over the container so it doesn't get on the table or floor.)

1. What are some different languages that you have heard of? (English, Spanish, French...) A long time ago, everyone in the entire world spoke the same language. Now let's see what the bible says about this.
2. The people began to move from the East. They found a plain in the land of Babylonia and stayed there to live. **Where did they live? (Babylonia)**
3. ³Then they said to each other, "Let's make some bricks of clay and bake them in the fire." Then they used these bricks as stones, and they used tar as mortar. **Make some bricks from your sand.**
4. ⁴Then the people said, "Let's build ourselves a city and a tower that will reach to the sky. Then we will be famous. This will keep us together so that we will not be scattered all over the earth." **Build a tower with your sand. Who were they building this tower for? Themselves, not for God. This was a mistake. How tall did they say they were going to build their tower? (To the sky. They wanted their tower built to reach heaven.)**
5. ⁵Then the LORD came down to see the city and the tower. ⁶The LORD said, "These people all speak the same language. And I see that they are joined together to do this work." **Remember, this work wasn't for God, but for them.**
6. **Make a mouth because that is what we use to speak.** God said, "This is only the beginning of what they can do. Soon they will be able to do anything they want. ⁷Let's go down and confuse their language. Then they will not understand each other." **God made it where they didn't all speak the same language anymore. Now they couldn't work together to build something that didn't include God, the one they were supposed to love and worship.**
7. **Smooch the mouth because now their languages are different.** ⁸So people stopped building the city, and the LORD scattered them all over the earth. ⁹That is the place where the LORD confused the language of the whole world. That is why it is called Babel. **What was it called? Babel.** And it was from there that the LORD caused the people to spread out to all the other places on earth.

Briefly review.

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE & SONGS: (5 minutes)

Sing the Old Testament books song and then the New Testament books songs.

Game: Bible Basketball. Pass out two cups to each child labeled OLD and NEW. As you name a book of the bible, have them tell you if the book is found in the Old or New Testament. After you've reviewed the correct answer, let them "throw" a small paper ball into the appropriate cup. (If they get crazy, you can have them line their cups up against a wall and stand around the perimeter of the room.)



(4) The Tower of Babel

Genesis 11
2nd & 3rd Grade

WARM-UP: (10 minutes) As kids are arriving, some just before class starts and some right after, let them build a tower as tall as they can with sugar cubes. You may have a contest to see who can build the tallest tower. Provide them with a paper towel to build them on. (Throw away when finished) (If you'd prefer something simpler, or maybe a little less messy, they can build with anything! Marshmallows, cards, toothpicks and play-doh...)

PRAYER: (5 minutes) Help kids learn the value in talking to God. Ask for prayer requests. Write on the white board "Thank You" and "Please Help" – then, let the kids share their "thank you" and "please help" requests. Write them on the white board.

ASK KIDS:

- How God talks to us? (Through the bible and answering our prayers)
- How do we talk to God? (Prayer)

Remind them that *we can't have a relationship with anyone, our friends or even parents, if we don't talk to them. It's important that we talk to God. He made us and no one can do the things he can, not even our moms and dads.*

Lead kids in prayer.

BIBLE LESSON & ACTIVITY: (25 minutes)

A few weeks ago we learned about creation, sin entering the world and about a brother who murdered his own brother because he was jealous. Do you remember why he was jealous? (Because God liked Abel's sacrifice more than Cain's.)

Then we learned about the people of the earth become so evil that God decided to destroy it all except Noah and his family because Noah obeyed God. What did God tell Noah to build? (An ark) And how long did it rain? (40 days and 40 nights) What was God's promise to Noah? (He'd never destroy the earth by flood again and gave a rainbow as a sign)

And last week we read about a man named Job. God allowed Satan to bring a lot of trouble to his life- taking away his wealth, his home and even his family! But Job still loved God and obeyed. God gave Job even more than he'd had before because he was so faithful.

Today we are learning about a tall tower. It is in the book of Genesis. Who remembers what Genesis means? (Beginning). And is it in the Old or New Testament? Old.

Pass out Kinetic Sand. (Remind kids to keep sand in the containers and play with it over the container so it doesn't get on the table or floor.)

8. What are some different languages that you have heard of? (English, Spanish, French...) A long time ago, everyone in the entire world spoke the same language. Now let's see what the bible says about this.
9. The people began to move from the East. They found a plain in the land of Babylonia and stayed there to live. **Where did they live? (Babylonia)**
10. ³Then they said to each other, "Let's make some bricks of clay and bake them in the fire." Then they used these bricks as stones, and they used tar as mortar. **Make some bricks from your sand.**
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Briefly review.

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE & SONGS: (5 minutes)

Sing the Old Testament books song and then the New Testament books songs.

Game: Bible Basketball. Pass out two cups to each child labeled OLD and NEW. As you name a book of the bible, have them tell you if the book is found in the Old or New Testament. After you've reviewed the correct answer, let them "throw" a small paper ball into the appropriate cup. (If they get crazy, you can have them line their cups up against a wall and stand around the perimeter of the room.)



(4) The Tower of Babel

Genesis 11
4th & 5th Grade

WARM-UP: (10 minutes) As kids are arriving, some just before class starts and some right after, let them build a tower as tall as they can with sugar cubes. You may have a contest to see who can build the tallest tower. Provide them with a paper towel to build them on. (Throw away when finished) (If you'd prefer something simpler, or maybe a little less messy, they can build with anything! Marshmallows, cards, toothpicks and play-doh...)

PRAYER: (5 minutes)

Help kids learn the value in talking to God. Ask for prayer requests. Write on the white board "Praise" – "Petition" – "Thanksgiving" – "Confession."

- Have kids give suggestions for **Praise** (ex: God is holy, amazing, awesome, our rock).
- Have kids give **Petitions** (needs/please help)
- Have kids give **Thanksgiving** (what are they thankful for)
- Remind them that in a public prayer, we typically pray that God forgives us, but we don't get specific in our **confessions**.
- Lead kids in prayer.

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE: (10 minutes)

Game: Bible Basketball. First 5 minutes: Pass out two cups to each child labeled OLD and NEW. As you name a book of the bible, have them tell you if the book is found in the Old or New Testament. After you've reviewed the correct answer, let them "throw" a small paper ball into the appropriate cup. (If they get crazy, you can have them line their cups up against a wall and stand around the perimeter of the room.) Make sure to hang on to the "book" so they can look it up in the next step.

Second 5 minutes: Pass out bibles and let's race to find the books they just went through. Go through each book from the stack of cards you set to the side. Read one at a time letting kids race to find them in the bible. Can they find all of them in the 5-minute timeframe?

BIBLE LESSON: (20 minutes)

A few weeks ago we learned about creation, sin entering the world and about a brother who murdered his own brother because he was jealous. Do you remember why he was jealous? (Because God liked Abel's sacrifice more than Cain's.)

Then we learned about the people of the earth become so evil that God decided to destroy it all except Noah and his family because Noah obeyed God. What did God tell Noah to build? (An ark) And how long did it rain? (40 days and 40 nights) What was God's promise to Noah? (He'd never destroy the earth by flood again and gave a rainbow as a sign)

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loved God and obeyed. God gave Job even more than he'd had before because he was so faithful.

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Read Together Genesis 11:

1. **Vs. 1-2:** Where did they live? (Babylonia)
2. **Vs. 3:** What material are they using? Brick
3. **Vs. 4:** Do you see a problem here? (Allow answers, then help understand that they are building this place for themselves, not for their God. They were dismissing God, not showing Him honor.)
4. **Vs. 5-6:** Now God has come to check out this tower and sees the hearts of the people. They are working together, which is good, except that it is NOT to the glory of God. God needs to step in so things don't get to out of hand again. Remember the flood?
5. **Vs. 7:** God has a solution to stop their bad behavior. He confused their languages. It is hard to make things happen when you don't understand each other.
6. **Vs. 8-9:** Why is this called the Tower of Babel? Because the Lord confused their language here.

Often times, people read this story and wonder why God was so mean? Why did he not want them working together to accomplish anything they could? It's not that God didn't *want* them working together; it's that they needed to honor God in all that they do. They weren't honoring God so he needed to get their attention in order for something to change. We know what happened before the flood and God didn't want them all becoming evil again.