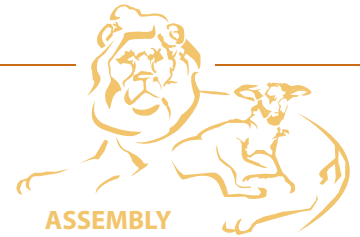


THE TOWER OF BABEL

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: GENESIS 11:1-9



*Please do not feel the need to cover the entire portion of scripture in your lesson.
The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can
present this material.*

LESSON IDEAS

THE CONFUSION OF ANOTHER LANGUAGE

Invite someone to class who speaks another language. Have them prepare the following statements in their native tongue, or teach you to speak them yourself.

- a. Stand on one foot
- b. Jump up and down
- c. Cover your eyes
- d. Turn around
- e. Clap your hands

Ask for three volunteers to come up to the front of the room. Tell them you are going to play a game much like "Simon Says." When you give them a command, they must follow. After explaining the rules, randomly give them the above commands in English.

Thank them and ask for a second group of volunteers.

This time, after explaining the rules, give them the same commands, but in a foreign language. Keep repeating the commands and watch their confusion. Thank them for coming up and have them return to their seats.

Then ask the class the following questions:

- How well did the first group do?
- How well did the second group do?
- Why didn't the second group do well?
- How is this game like the story of Babel?

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PUPPET SHOW

Supplies:

four or five wooden blocks

Puppet: (Stacking wooden children's blocks on a table four or five high) "Ta Dah! I did it!"

Teacher: "What did you do?"

Puppet: "I made this tower all by myself. No one helped me!"

Teacher: "That is a nice tower."

Puppet: "It is not a nice tower, it is an awesome tower! And I did it myself!"

Teacher: "Isn't God good for giving you the skill to build that tower?"

Puppet: "I guess. Now all of the children will know that I, Puppet, can build a tower all by myself. All the children will go home and tell their parents and they will spread it all over town. Soon the whole world will know that I, Puppet, can build a tower all by myself!"

Teacher: "Puppet, you are boasting. If it weren't for God, you would not be able to build anything. If God didn't make the trees, there would be no wood to make the blocks. If God didn't give a person the skill to make you as a puppet, you wouldn't even be here. We should always give God the glory for the things He enables us to do."

Puppet: "I guess it is easy to forget God and think you are doing things on your own without Him. Teacher?"

Teacher: "Yes?"

Puppet: "How 'bout this: Look what God helped me build!"

Teacher: "Why Puppet, what a lovely tower! Isn't God good?"



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Questions for discussion:

- Did the puppet act like the men who built the Tower of Babel? (Yes) How? (The puppet was boasting about what he'd built.)
- Who can tell me what it means to boast? (To talk about what you have done or what you have so others will think that you are great!)
- What are some things that you or your friends might boast about? (Learning to ride a two-wheel bike, getting somewhere the fastest or being first in line, being stronger than others, knowing more than another person.)
- What should we do instead of boasting? (Give God the glory for what He allows us to do.) Can someone be like (puppet's name) and show the class how we can give God glory for something we can do. (God helped me learn to ride a bike without training wheels this week, etc.)

WHERE IS JESUS?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

God scattered the sinful people of the earth by confusing their language. Ever since, people have been divided from each other into separate tribes and tongues and nations. Jesus' redeeming sacrifice tears down the dividing wall between people and God and also the dividing wall between people and people. All those who believe in Christ are, right now, citizens of one holy nation. Persons of all tongues and tribes will worship Him together in heaven when the curse of our sin is broken and our unity in Him is made complete. The book of Revelation tells us that the multitude of believers in heaven will cry out together with the same words. Now we speak in hundreds of languages; in heaven we will all sing with one voice.

After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

(Revelation 7:9-10)