

MAIN LESSON, ACTIVITY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS Ages 5-11 | Read-Aloud Lesson | Scripture-Centered | Christ-Centered

LESSON OVERVIEW

Week #: 7 Date: February 15, 2026 Lesson Title: The Tower of Babel: God's Authority & Loving Plan Primary Scripture Passage(s): Genesis 11:1-9 Bible Timeline Placement: After the Flood, before God calls Abram

Big Idea: God lovingly stopped human pride and helped people spread across the earth according to His good plan.

MEMORY VERSE

"Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens... so that we may make a name for ourselves." Genesis 11:4

Explanation: This verse shows what the people wanted—to trust themselves and make themselves important instead of trusting God.

SETTING THE SCENE (INTRODUCTION)

After the Flood, God rescued Noah and his family and made a promise never to flood the whole earth again. God then gave people a loving command. He said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth" (Genesis 9:1). God wanted families to spread out, care for the world, and trust Him wherever they lived.

The Bible also helps us understand when this happened. From the family records in Genesis 10 and 11, we learn that the Tower of Babel took place only a few generations after the Flood—likely about 100 to 300 years later. Many people still knew about the Flood through their parents and grandparents.

Even so, something sad was already happening inside people's hearts.

MAIN LESSON NARRATIVE (READ ALOUD)

Long before the Tower of Babel was built, sin was already ruling people's hearts. Sin is when people choose their own way instead of God's way. Ever since Adam and Eve disobeyed God, people have struggled to trust Him and obey Him.

After the Flood, God had been very kind. He saved Noah's family, gave clear instructions, and showed His power and mercy. But as time passed, people began to forget God's goodness. Sin continued to grow in their hearts. Instead of trusting God, they wanted to do what they wanted.

At that time, everyone spoke the same language. Because they could all understand one another, it was easy to work together. The people traveled to a wide land called Shinar and decided to stay there instead of spreading across the earth like God had commanded.

The people said, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly" (Genesis 11:3). This means they chose to use their own ideas and skills to build something strong and permanent. Instead of using stone God provided, they baked bricks and glued them together with sticky tar called bitumen.

As they worked, they were thinking, "We are smart. We are strong. We don't need God to tell us what to do. We can build something that will last forever." They trusted their own abilities more than they trusted God.

They did not want to build homes all over the earth. Instead, they chose to build one great city and one tall tower. The tower was meant to reach toward the heavens—not to honor God, but to make themselves feel important, safe, and in control. They wanted people to look at what they built and say, "Look how great they are," instead of, "Look how great God is."

The Bible tells us what they said next: "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth" (Genesis 11:4).

The people were afraid of obeying God. They wanted control instead of trust. This is called rebellion—knowing what God says but choosing the opposite.

God saw what was happening. "The Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building" (Genesis 11:5). God was not confused. He sees everything. He knew that if everyone stayed together while choosing sin, pride and evil would spread very quickly.

Because God loves people, He stepped in. God said, "Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other" (Genesis 11:7).

Suddenly, people could not understand one another anymore. Words sounded strange. Conversations became confusing. The building stopped.

People naturally stayed with those they could understand. Families who spoke the same language stayed together. Groups who shared the same words traveled together. The Bible says, "So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth" (Genesis 11:8).

This was not God being mean. This was God being wise and loving.

Confusing the languages slowed everything down. People could no longer work together in one large group to keep rebelling against God. It also forced people to separate and spread out—just as God had commanded after the Flood.

Over time, language groups moved to different places, formed communities, and filled the earth. The city was called Babel, because that is where the Lord confused the language of the whole world (Genesis 11:9).

Even when people disobeyed, God stayed in control and continued His good plan.

WHY WE CAN TRUST THIS ACCOUNT

Genesis explains why the world has many languages and nations. We can still see this today. The Bible helps us understand the world and shows us that God has been guiding history from the very beginning.

WHAT THIS SHOWS US ABOUT JESUS

The Tower of Babel shows how sin separates people. But Jesus came to bring people back together under God's rule. One day, people from every nation and language will worship Jesus together (Revelation 7:9).

GOD REVEALED AS TRINITY

The Bible teaches that God is one God in three Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

When God says, "Come, let us go down" (Genesis 11:7), this does not mean there is more than one God. It shows that God has always existed in perfect unity.

God the Father rules over all creation. God the Son, Jesus, has always existed and helped create all things (John 1:1-3). God the Holy Spirit is God's active presence, guiding and restraining evil.

We say together: "God is one God in three Persons."

LIFE APPLICATION

God knows what is best for us, even when we do not understand right away. Just like loving parents give rules to protect their children, God gives us His Word because He loves us and wants what is good for us.

Pride is very harmful to us because it tells us a lie. Pride says, "I don't need help," or "I know better than God." When pride grows in our hearts, it pushes God out of the place where He belongs. Instead of trusting God, we begin trusting ourselves.

Pride also hurts our relationships. When we are proud, we do not listen well, we do not learn, and we do not care about others the way God wants us to. Pride can lead to arguing, confusion, and broken friendships—just like it led to confusion at the Tower of Babel.

When we trust God instead of ourselves, our hearts can rest. Trusting God leads to peace because God never changes and never makes mistakes. Obeying God does not mean life is always easy, but it means we are guided, protected, and cared for. God's way brings order instead of confusion, unity instead of fear, and hope instead of worry.

DEFENDING THE TRUTH

Question: Why didn't God just tell the people to stop? Answer: God knew their hearts. Changing the languages stopped the rebellion and helped people obey His command to spread out (Genesis 11:7-8).

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (WITH TEACHER ANSWERS)

1. What did God tell people to do after the Flood? Teacher Answer: God told people to grow, have families, and fill the whole earth (Genesis 9:1).
2. Why did the people want to stay together? Teacher Answer: They were afraid and wanted control. Sin led them to trust themselves instead of God.
3. How did changing the languages slow down sin? Teacher Answer: People could no longer unite quickly in pride and rebellion.
4. How does Jesus bring people together today? Teacher Answer: Jesus forgives sin and welcomes people from every nation into God's family (Revelation 7:9).

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

Activity: Scatter and Fill the Earth Supplies: Paper, crayons Instructions: Draw the earth. First draw all people in one place. Then draw groups moving to different areas. Talk about how God helped fill the earth.

TEACHER CLOSING PROMPT

Remind children: God loves us, knows what is best, and keeps His promises. Close by thanking Jesus for bringing people together through His love.