

# Lesson Six :Genesis Series - Tower of Babel

## TEACHER STUDY

NOTE:If you can find 6 different ways to say hello this morning, it would be fun to have the teachers greet the kids in different languages.

The Tower of Babel happens after Noah's Ark in the book of Genesis. As soon as the earth is populated once again, people begin to sin and rebel against God.

An entire community led by a man named Nimrod is determined to build a tower into the heavens. They want to make a name for themselves (Genesis 11:7) They were proud and thought they could be in charge of the future.

When God surveys the project He decides to show the people that He is God, and He will be the one who decides when things should happen, not them. God told us that He had a plan to fix the problem of sin, and He will keep His promise.

To stop the building project, He confuses their languages. They can now no longer understand what anyone around them is saying. The people group themselves with those they can understand and scatter to separate to different parts of the earth.



Today we will focus the lesson on pride. Sometimes we seek to be important to people instead of seeking to have a right relationship with God. The approval of people can become what the Bible calls an idol. An idol is anything in our lives that takes God's place as the most important thing to us. What would make us popular with others is not always what is right in God's eyes. Pride caused Nimrod to want to make a name for himself.

- After the flood of Noah there is a lot of activity on the earth. Men before the flood had lived thousands of years. Now their lives have been shortened to 120, Genesis 6:3 (this give men less time to sin in one lifetime)
- In Genesis chapter 9 we see that meat is added to mankind's diet.
- God sends a rainbow to Noah as a promise that He will never flood the earth again.

Sin does not stop after the flood. One of Noah's grown sons, Japheth, sees him drunk and sees his father naked; he chooses to embarrass him on purpose. He is cursed for his disrespect. His brother Shem took a blanket and covered Noah up so he would not be embarrassed and his family was blessed.

As you tell the story of Babel to the kids emphasizing that what is right to others is not always what is right to God. When we do things for our own glory that is pride. God wants us to live our lives to reflect God's glory, not our own.  
Sin makes us want to bring glory to ourselves.

Remind the kids that everything that is happening is part of God's plan to fix the problem that sin created. God is not happy that sin separates us from Him. He is making a way for us to be with Him again. Everything that is happening in the Bible is part of that plan. It's all one big love story.

Sometimes doing what is right and the OPPOSITE OF going along with the crowd. This can feel lonely but sometimes doing with is right means we will stand alone (God is always with us even tho we can't see Him)

When we choose to do what is right our reward comes from knowing that we have brought glory to God. That is how we show Him love to thank and praise him with our lives.

## *Object Lesson*

Have the memory verse written in 3 different languages (one should be English). Cut up the verse into separate words.

Place each language in a paper bag.

Pick three kids and give each a bag.

Who can put the verse together the fastest.

Why was that that one the easiest to build? (because I speak that language)

# Craft

## Sand Paper Tower

However, instead of using regular brown paper, we used sandpaper in order to make the “building of the tower” a more tactile experience.

For this craft, you’ll need close to 1/2 sheet of large sand paper for each child. If you have younger kids, you might want to cut out various lengths ahead of time. For older kids, have them cut their strips as they go to create the Tower of Babel. Kids will glue the sandpaper to construction paper in the shape of the tower.

Allow kids to create a background with markers or crayon on a piece of paper. You might want to have a picture of a ziggurat (large religious tower during the time of Noah) on display for the kids to model their tower after.

# Game

## Who can build the tallest tower?



Using paper or plastic cups have kids get creative to see who can build the tallest tower in a certain amount of time.

picture from the Froggy Friends blog

# Discussion

When you do good things for other people do you like to have it noticed?

What do you think of having a secret mission to do good things for people this week and not tell anyone? Would that be hard?

What kinds of things to think reflect God's glory?

What popular things do you think we do that bring glory to ourselves?

Do you think it is "OK" to be good at what you do?

How can we do our best at what we do and still give God the glory?

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## PLAY

### It's All About Me

Written by Karl Bastian kidology

Cast (person 1,2,3,4 and 5)

It's All About Me! A Puppet Script by Karl Bastian Summary: A girl writes a play titled "The Coolest Girl Ever" and invites her friends to be a part of it, but as she goes to pass out the parts, chooses herself for everything, because it is all about her and she is the best at everything. In the end, it's all about her, because she is all alone.

Enter girl puppet holding some papers (the script) starts out talking to herself until others arrive.

Stephanie: (to herself) O.K.,... everyone should be here soon. I am sooooo excited. This is going to be so totally cool. I am so glad the Lord gave me this idea. (other puppets arrive)

1 Hi, there Steph, what's up?

Stephanie: Is everyone here?

2 Yeah, we're all here, what's up?

3 I heard you wrote a play. Stephanie: Yeah, I wrote a play, and I thought it would be fun to put it on for the kids in the neighborhood – we can invite everyone!

4 That's sounds like fun

5 Yeah, what do you need?

Stephanie: Well, there is a lot to be done – but I have a list of what we need.

1 Let's hear it!

Stephanie: Well, first of all, we will need invitations.

2 Ya, to pass out to everyone! I'll make 'em.

Stephanie: Um, you know, I have a new computer and it has some cool software, why don't you just let me take care of that – they'll be better that way.

2 Uh, ok.... Sure.

Stephanie: OK, let's see... OH! I need someone to write the music.

4 Oh, I'd love to do that. I....

Stephanie: Um, well,.... I've heard you play. Besides, I have an electronic keyboard, and you just

have a piano – we want this to be top notch, I'd better do it.

4 Uh, well.... Whatever.

Stephanie: OK, and then we need, um.... OH! We'll need someone to collect all the props.

3 Hey, we have a bunch of stuff at my house that we are setting aside for a garage sale, I'm sure we can use anything from there!

Stephanie: Garage sale? Did you say, "Garage Sale?" Uh, I don't think we want old junk, we want this to be nice. So, I'd better get the props, I don't want people to see us dressed out of style.

3 Sorry, it was just a suggestion.

Stephanie: Well, what's next, OH, of course, we need a star, and since I wrote it, that should definitely be me.

2 You're gonna star in it and direct it?

Stephanie: Of course, all the big stars do that now-a-days. It's called 'star directing'

2 What's the name of the play?

Stephanie: Oh, silly me, didn't I tell you? It's called: "The Coolest Girl Ever" and it's all about me!

4 (mutter) Oh, big surprise there.

3 What are we supposed to do?

Stephanie: Well, what'ya know, there are no more jobs.

2 Uh, Yeah, because you took them all.

Stephanie: Hmmm, OH! I know – you guys can all be the audience!

1 I know, why don't we do a play called, "It's All About Stephanie!"

2 Yeah, and we can all just bow down to her?

4 Uh, huh, and kiss her feet!

3 I have a better idea – it should be called "The Loneliest Girl Ever" – let's go.

2 Yeah, bye Steph.

3 Call us when you figure out there are other people on the planet.

1 Sorry – but it really doesn't sound like you need anybody. Bye.

(puppet all exiting during next line)

Stephanie: Humph. Fine, BE that way! I don't need you anyway..... (to herself) I can't believe they could be so selfish! Some friends! Now who's going to watch the play?

AHHHHH! I can video tape it and watch it myself! I'm brilliant! I am the coolest girl ever!

Another Helpful Resource from Kidology.org