

FALL

“Tower of Babel: Humans Wanted to be Powerful like God”

Series Objective: Students will learn:

- Humans disobeyed God, by listening to someone besides God
- Humans sinned in anger
- Noah and humanity received a promise from God
- Humans wanted to be powerful like God

Series Theme Verse: “I will listen carefully to what the God the Lord is saying, for he speaks peace to his faithful people.” Psalm 85:8 (New Living Translation)

Lesson Objective: Students will understand that it is wrong to want to be more powerful, or as powerful as God.

Lesson Passage: Genesis 11:1-9

Materials Needed: Smartphone or iPad with a language translator app; Series Theme Verse written on a large poster board (Cut the board in pieces to make a large puzzle).

Lesson Plan:

The Story: Read the story from the class Bible, then paraphrase the story on the children’s level.

Talking Points:

- Today there are almost 7,000 languages spoken in the world. Think about that, there are almost as many languages in the world as there are people living in Sweetwater.
- How many languages were there at the beginning of this story? (1)
- What did the people use to build their buildings? (bricks and asphalt)
- What is asphalt? (a material that hardens as it dries – like our streets and sidewalks are made of)
- What did the people decide to build? (a city and a tower)
- How tall did they want to make the tower? (as tall as Heaven)
- Why did they want their tower to be so tall? (they wanted to show everyone how powerful they were)
- Even if they could build a tower that tall, would they be as powerful as God, Who created everything? (no)

- Will people ever be as powerful as God? (no)
- Did God see the tower? (yes, God sees everything)
- How did God stop the people from building? (he confused their language)
- How did confusing their language stop them from building their tower? (it would be hard to communicate and work together if they couldn't understand each other)
- What else did God besides confusing their language? (he scattered them all over the earth)
- What do we call that tower? (the tower of babel)

The Story Retold:

- Using the language translator app, ask the students questions in a language they don't understand.
- Ask them why they don't answer your questions.
- Explain to the students that it is very difficult to work together in a group when we can't understand each other.
- By confusing their languages at the Tower of Babel, God made it to where humans would have to rely on him and not each other.
- Play with the translator as time allows, allowing students to say a phrase, maybe even the Series Theme Verse and hearing it in different languages.

The Story and Me:

- Say the Series Theme Verse aloud several times together.
- Hand out the poster board puzzle pieces and have the students arrange the pieces to fit together to complete the verse.
- Repeat the verse together again while looking at the completed puzzle.
- Remind students that we should only listen to and trust God, when we allow others to take God's place, then we are just like the people who tried to build the tower and ignored God.