

Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're going to learn about the tower of Babel. A group of people thought they were pretty awesome so they decided to build their own city that included a huge tower that could reach to the sky. They did it to show the world how awesome and smart they were. And, they did it to be famous. Well, God didn't like their attitude so he decided to teach them a lesson. At that time in history, everyone spoke the same language so the people could easily work together to build this huge tower. But, God intervened and made the people start speaking in different languages. So, when they showed up to work, no-one could understand each other anymore. Now, God wasn't mad that they wanted to build a cool tower. He was mad that they wanted to be famous. They wanted to be more important than God. So, here's the lesson for us. God wants us to work hard, to be creative, and to be successful. But, instead of making ourselves famous, we should point to God and make him famous because he gives us all we have anyways.

Big Idea

We shouldn't do great things to be famous, we should do them to make God famous.

Key Question

How can we make God famous?

Memory Verse

John 3:30 "He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less."

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: Have you ever tried to communicate with someone who speaks a different language than you? How did it go? What did they sound like to you?** (Tip: It's really hard to talk to someone if you don't understand what they're saying.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **Living our lives to honor him and being thankful for all he's given us.** (The first thing we can do to make God famous is to be a good representative for him. We do that by being kind, obeying our parents, and telling the truth. Another way is simply by being thankful for everything God does for us. So, when we ace the test or win the race, we should say "Thank You" to God because he gives us our smart brains and fast legs! Our focus should be on him, not ourselves.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** How can we make God famous? What are some of your talents that you need to thank God for giving you? **4-5th:** How can fame ruin a person? How can being thankful guard your heart from wanting fame?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read Isaiah 40:28. List all the things this verse says about God. Why is he worthy of our worship and praise?** (Answer: He is everlasting, meaning he's been there from the beginning and will never die. He created everything and he's the smartest. There is no-one like God. He is the best!)
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: TOWER OF BABEL CRAFT

Instructions:

- Give each kid a Tower of Babel template (page 5). Give each kid a half sheet of construction paper.
- Have kids color the boxes different colors and have them cut out each piece.
- Then, have them build the tower by gluing each piece onto the construction paper. Order below from top to bottom:
 - Genesis 11 The Tower of Babel
 - The People
 - Wanted fame, God confused
 - Their language, We should make God famous
- As they work, read the story of the Tower of Babel from Genesis 11:1-9. Remind the kids that God was mad that the people only cared about fame for themselves. They wanted to be more important than God. The better attitude is to do everything to make God famous, not ourselves.

Supplies needed: Tower of Babel template (pg. 5, 1 set per kid), Half sheets of construction paper (1 per kid), Scissors, Crayons, Glue.

OPTION 2: BUILD THE TOWER OF BABEL GAME

Instructions:

- Divide the class into teams of 4. Give each group cups.
- When you say "Go!", have groups race to build a tower with their cups. Give them 2 minutes to do it. When you say, "Stop!", see who has the tallest tower. Do it a few more times.
- Then, read the story of the Tower of Babel from Genesis 11:1-9. Remind the kids that God was mad that the people only cared about fame for themselves. They wanted to be more important than God. The better attitude is to do everything to make God famous, not ourselves.

Supplies needed: Plastic cups (about 20 per group)

Hey kids and parents! Fill in the blanks as you talk about this week's lesson together. Have fun!

Key Points

- A long time ago, everyone on earth spoke the _____ . Genesis 11:1
- The people built a tower because they wanted to _____ . Genesis 11:4
- God turned the people into a bunch of _____ to teach them a lesson. Genesis 11:7
- We shouldn't do great things to _____ ; we should do them to make _____ . John 3:30

Big Idea

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Talk About It

1. What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?
2. Have you ever tried to communicate with someone who speaks a different language than you? How did it go? What did they sound like to you?
3. Why did the people want to build a tower?
4. What did God do to confuse them?
5. Read Isaiah 40:28. List all the things this verse says about God. Why is he worthy of our worship and praise?
6. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Color the picture.

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GENESIS 11

THE TOWER
OF BABEL

THE PEOPLE

WANTED
FAME

GOD
CONFUSED

THEIR
LANGUAGE

WE SHOULD
MAKE GOD
FAMOUS