



Kindergarten-2nd

July 30-31, 2016

DATE

Movie Unit: Tower of Babel

LESSON TITLE

Genesis 11:1-9

WHERE TO FIND IT

We need God's help.

MAIN POINT

schedule

First 10 minutes of the service hour:
Engage kids in cooperative play activities to help them connect to other kids

Next 5 minutes: Connect Time

Next 25 minutes: Large Group

Last 25 minutes: Small Group

tips

Be curious! When kids enter your room, practice curiosity and learn as much as you can about them. Ask them about their families, their friends or what their favorite video games are. Ask them to tell you about the best or worst part of their week. Ask questions that require open-ended answers instead of just "yes" or "no"!

check-in/out

As kids leave, ask them about the tower they made in small group, and what they wrote/drew on the bricks!

large group heads up

Today we're wrapping up our movie series with the story of the Tower of Babel! It's a fascinating account of how people didn't trust God and thought they could be close to him all on their own. None of us can reach God on our own, though. We need His help!



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

TOWER TIME

- Divide kids into **small groups** and line them up at one end of the room. (Try to make the groups as evenly numbered as possible.)
- Set **stacks of 6 foam cups** at the other end of the room. (There should be 1 stack of 6 cups for each group.)
- Make sure each group can see where their stack of cups is located across the room.
- **Demonstrate** how to build a tower for the whole group in case kids don't know how to make a tower out of cups.
- When you say "Go!" the first kid from each team has to run to his/her stack of cups and make a tower out of it.
- Once the first kid has built a tower, he/she has to knock it down, run back to his/her group, give a high five to the next kid and then sit down. The next kid then runs to the cups, builds a tower, knocks it down and returns, until every kid on the team gets a turn.
- Remind kids to knock down cups **gently!**



TALK ABOUT IT

- Have you ever built something before? Why did you build it?
- What's the tallest building you've ever seen?

Before you go to Large Group, you can ask kids how their week went. You can also remind kids of the expectations for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) understand how people tried to reach God on their own and didn't trust him, (2) recognize that we need God's help to reach him, and (3) identify ways God helps us be close to him.

Why? We all have pride sometimes and want to do things on our own; this story shows us that the only way to get to God is with his help!

Tip: Sometimes when God helps us, he doesn't do it with a big, grand gesture. Sometimes it just means we let him comfort us, and be someone we can talk to.

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

*Instead of asking questions like normal, ask kids if the following statements are **true or false**. If false, kids have to give the true answer (Don't answer it for them!)

1. True or False: People wanted to build a tower because they wanted to have a nice view of the ocean. (**False!** They wanted to build a tower up to heaven so they could be famous and reach God.)
2. True or False: When God saw what they were building, he helped them build it higher! (**False!** When God saw the tower, he caused everyone's languages to be different.)
3. True or False: God WANTS us to need his help. (**True!**)

*The following questions can be asked like normal.

4. What does it mean to trust God?
5. What's something that you need God to help you with right now?
6. Why should we trust in God? (Let kids speculate, but help them come to the conclusion that God always knows what's best, he loves us, and he is the only one who can help us be close to him.)

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Give each kid a **paper brick template** and set out **markers**.
- **Say:** God wants to help us be closer to him. He can help us no matter how hard something is! We don't have to build a tower up to heaven, He's with us right now.
- Tell each kid to **write a word or draw a picture in the blank space** that shows how they feel about God loving them and being close to them. It could be the word "happy" or a picture of them feeling happy, etc.

(Continued on next page.)

- As kids fill in their blank space, ask them if there's something they want God's help with in their life right now! Maybe it the thing they thought of in Large Group, or something new.
- On the table or floor, "build" a tower out of the blocks.
- Stand back and pray for God's help, calling out the specific ways kids want to see him show up this week.

Extra time? Work together and use the cups from Connect Time to build a single tower as tall as you can!

special notes

Today's script calls for a personal example of a time you tried to do something on your own that would have been easier if you asked for help. Or maybe you failed at something *because* you didn't ask for help!

presenter tips

Here's a link to a video we'll be watching today!

Context / Babel:

<https://vimeo.com/44930906>

script

WELCOME AND INTRO

Main Goal: Review Connect Time and introduce the lesson.

Notes:

***Click to play intro music.**

- **Welcome:** Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. We're so glad to have you here!
- **Ask:** You did a great job of racing to build all those towers, did you have fun? (Let kids respond.) Was it hard to build a tower out of cups, or was it easy? (Let kids respond.) Hmm, what if you had to build towers out of real bricks, would that be harder or easier? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, that might take a lot longer!
- **Ask:** What if you had to build a tower all the way to the ceiling? Could you do it? (Let kids respond.) Do you think someone could build a tower that reaches all the way to the clouds? (Let kids respond.) I think so....look at this building right here!
- **(Click to show image of tower in clouds.)**
- **Ask:** There's a lot of buildings that go past the clouds. But what about...space? Is there a building that could reach space? (Let kids respond.) Hmm, what about...Heaven? Could anyone ever build a tower SO tall that it reaches Heaven? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Well, no one can do that, but there are some people who have actually tried! Today we're going to learn why they did it, and we'll see what God thought about it.

INTRO: TOWER OF BABEL

Main Goal: Understand why people tried to build a tower to reach Heaven.

Notes:

- **Say:** A long time ago, after Adam and Eve and Noah, there were more and more people living all over the earth! Some of them decided they wanted to make the biggest, tallest tower in the entire world. But they didn't just want it to be tall. They wanted it to reach HEAVEN!
- **Ask:** Why do you think they wanted to reach Heaven? (Let kids speculate.)
- **Say:** Those are great answers! They wanted to reach Heaven so that they could reach God himself. They wanted to be able to say they reached him all on their OWN as humans, without any help at all. They thought it would make them famous!

WE ALL NEED HELP

Main Goal: Identify personal examples of how we try to do things on our own too, but we need help!

Notes:

- Can we do EVERYTHING on our own? (Let kids respond.) No way! There are lots of things we can't do by ourselves. It might seem obvious to us that we can't build a tower to get to God, but we've probably all tried to do things on our own that we needed to help with.
- **Say:** It's kind of like if you had never played baseball in your life, and you wanted to become the best baseball player in the ENTIRE world, but you didn't want anybody to help you. Do you think that's a good idea to try and do it by yourself? (Let kids respond.) No, I don't think so! You would need a coach, and teammates to help you!
- **Say:** *(Share a personal example of something you tried to do on your own, that would have been much easier if you had asked for help.)*
- **Ask:** Have you guys ever tried to do something hard on your own, even though you probably should have asked for help? (Let kids respond.) Yep, sometimes we want to say that we did something by ourselves, so we can have all the credit for it!

GOD RESPONDS TO THE TOWER

Main Goal: See what God thinks of the people's tower, and how he responds.

Notes:

- **Ask:** Think about this tower. Do you think God liked the tower? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Maybe God liked the tower, but he did NOT like that people were trying to reach him all by themselves, and they didn't think they needed him to help! How do you think that would make God feel? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, probably sad or disappointed, because when we try to do things without God's help, it means we're not close to him, and we don't think we need him. And God always wants to be close to us!

GOD RESPONDS TO THE TOWER (Continued)

Main Goal: Understand how God responded to the people's tower by confusing their languages, and play a game to help illustrate it.

Notes:

- **Ask:** Can you guys remind me of something...who made the world? (Let kids respond: God!) Who made stars and the sun and the moon? (Let kids respond: God!) Who made the very dirt that makes bricks that we use to make towers? (Let kids respond: God!)
- **Say:** Yep, GOD! He rules over everything in the universe, and when people thought THEY were good enough to reach God themselves, he decided to do something. Let's watch a video to find out what happened next.
- **Video: Context / Babel**
- **Ask:** So what did God do when they tried to build the tower? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Yep, He caused all their languages to be different! In the beginning, everyone spoke the same language. Let's all do that right now! Everybody say, "Hello!" (Let kids respond.) Okay, now say, "Hippopotamus!" (Let kids respond.) Good job!
- **Say:** After God mixed up all their languages though, they couldn't understand each other anymore. It would be REALLY hard to talk to your friends if you couldn't understand what they were saying, wouldn't it?
- **Say:** Now everybody think of a different word in your head. It could be any word! (Give kids a few seconds to think.) Okay, on the count of three, we're all going to shout our different words! Ready? 1, 2, 3! (Shout along with kids.) Woah! I could barely understand any of you! That's probably what it was like for these people.

GOD WANTS US TO TRUST HIM

Main Goal: Watch a Star Wars movie clip to help understand how God wants us to trust him.

Notes:

- **Say:** God changed everybody's languages to show them that we can't get to him on our own; we need his help! We need to trust Him. When we trust, that means we that believe God will do what he says! If you think trusting God is a better idea than trying to get to him all by yourself, give me a thumbs up! (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** We're going to watch a pretty fun movie clip, and it might not seem like it could teach us something about the Tower of Babel at first, but you'll figure it out by the end! It's from Star Wars, and in this scene, Luke Skywalker is trying to destroy the Death Star, an enemy ship. As you watch, try to figure out if Luke was able to defeat the bad guys on his own, or if he had to trust someone else's help.
- **Video: Star Wars / Han helps Luke**

GOD WANTS US TO TRUST HIM (Cont.)

Notes:

- **Ask:** So was Luke able to do it all by himself? (Let kids respond.) Nope; why did he need help? (Let kids respond.) That's right, other people like Darth Vader were trying to shoot him down! But who came through at the last second? (Let kids respond.) Yep, Han Solo!
- **Say:** It's like when people tried to reach God all on their own. They thought they could do it without God's help. But He wanted them to trust him, just like Luke had to trust Han.

TRUSTING GOD BRINGS US CLOSER TO HIM

Main Goal: Identify specific examples of how we trust God, and see how it brings us closer to him.

Notes:

- **Say:** God wants the same thing from us. He wants us to trust him, and rely on him to help us. We can't get to Him or be close to him by ourselves. Only He can do that!
- **(Click to show image of praying/bible.)**
 - **Ask:** Let's say you wanted to be closer to God, but you never talk to him or spend time with him! Is that a good way to let God help you and be close to him? (Let kids respond: No.)
- **(Click to show image of sad face.)**
 - **Ask:** What if you're feeling really sad or lonely, and you talk to God about it and let him comfort you. Would that be a good way to let God help you and be close to him? (Let kids respond: Yes!)
- **(Click to show image of worshipping.)**
 - **Ask:** What if you want to show God how much you love him by worshipping him with singing and dancing. Is that a good way to be close to Him? (Let kids respond: Yes!)

WRAP UP AND WORSHIP

Main Goal: Close the lesson with prayer and worship.

- **Say:** Now let's each think of one way that WE need God's help. Something that you can't do on your own, and you need to ask God to help you with. For me, I'm going to ask God to help me _____. (Share a personal example and give kids a few seconds to think.) Now we're going to ask God to help us with whatever we just thought of! Go ahead and close your eyes, and ask him to help you right now. (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** When we accept God's help with things that are hard, that makes us closer to him. Let's read the verse we've been learning for the whole past month. It tells us WHY we can trust God to help us, because he always know what's best for us.

RESPONSE TIME (Cont.)

Notes:

- **Slide: Romans 8:28** And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love Him, and are called according to his purpose for them.
- **Say:** Great job everybody! We're going to pray right now, so go ahead and close your eyes and get ready to speak with God.

WRAP UP AND WORSHIP

Main Goal: Close the lesson with prayer and worship.

- **Pray:** God, you always know what's best for us. We want to be close to you, and only you can help us do that. Amen!
- **Set up worship:** We're going to sing a song about how God wants us to come and follow him no matter what. After that we'll sing about how love ALWAYS beats fear, no matter what!
- **Music Video: Come With Me**
- **Music Video: Love Beats Fear**

PREP needs



connect time supplies

Per small group: 1 set of 6 foam cups (Samsclub.com, 8 oz)

small group supplies

Per group: Bible, markers

Per kid: Coloring page, 1 paper brick template (1 image printed in BW on each 8.5x11 white paper) (page 12)

large group supplies

Per Group: Bible

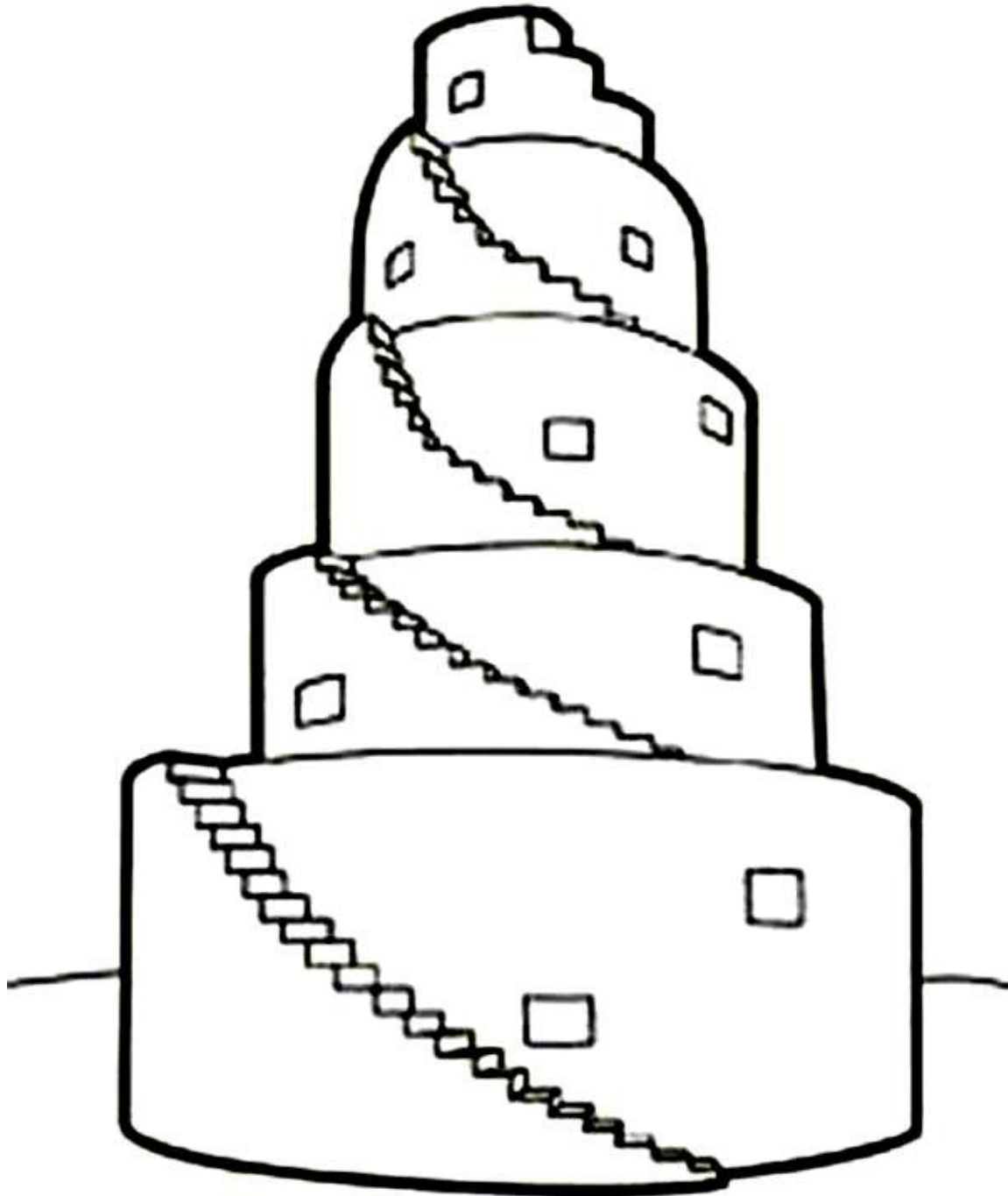
a/v needs

1. Summer Series Movie Unit Intro loop (KC/SM media videos songs>slides>summer series slides>movies)
2. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
3. Image: tower in clouds
4. Video: Context / Babel (<https://vimeo.com/44930906>)
5. Video: Star Wars / Han helps Luke (KC/SM media videos songs>videos>movie clips)
6. Image: praying/church
7. Image: sad face
8. Image: worshipping
9. Slide: Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love Him, and are called according to his purpose for them.
10. Music Video: Come With Me (<https://vimeo.com/55100351>)
11. Music Video: Love Beats Fear (<https://vimeo.com/113716523>)

connect questions

Tell me about the Tower of Babel.
Why does God want us to ask him for help?

name



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