

The Tower of Babel

Genesis 11

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Story Point: People tried to build a tower to glorify themselves instead of God.

Big Picture Question: Who is God? God is our Creator and King.

Christ Connection: People chose to give glory to themselves instead of God. They ignored God's plan, so God confused their language and scattered the people all over the earth. One day, Jesus will gather together all of God's people—people from every tribe and people who speak all kinds of languages—and they will worship Him together. (Revelation 7:9-10)

Key Passage: Colossians 1:16b-17

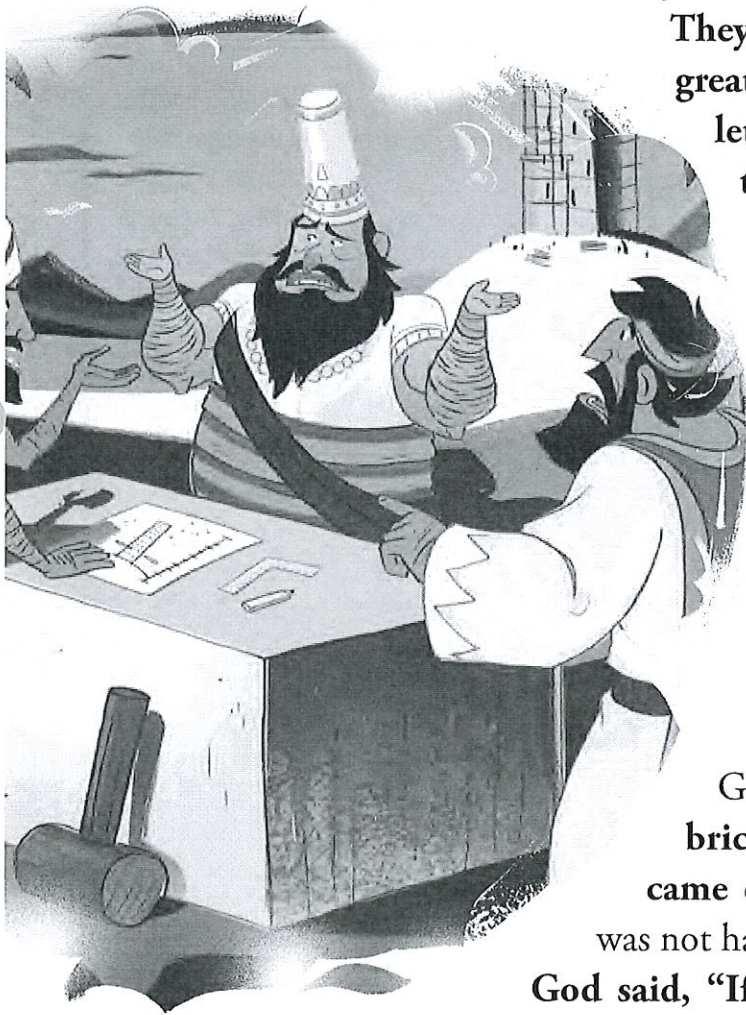
The BIBLE Story

The Tower of Babel

Genesis 11

After the great flood, God told Noah's family to spread out and fill the whole earth. Noah's family grew. Soon, more and more people were on the earth. The people moved to a valley and decided to stay there.

They did not spread out and fill the whole earth; they did not obey God.



They said to one another, "We are great! Let's build a city together, and let's make a tower so tall that the top of the tower reaches to the sky. Then everyone will know how great we are!"

God created people to give Him glory, but the people did not want to give God glory. They wanted to give themselves glory. Instead of saying, "Look how great God is," they said, "Look how great we are!"

But no one is greater than God. While the people made bricks and started building, God came down to look at the tower. He

was not happy about what they were doing.

God said, "If they are doing this, they will keep thinking of more bad things to do."

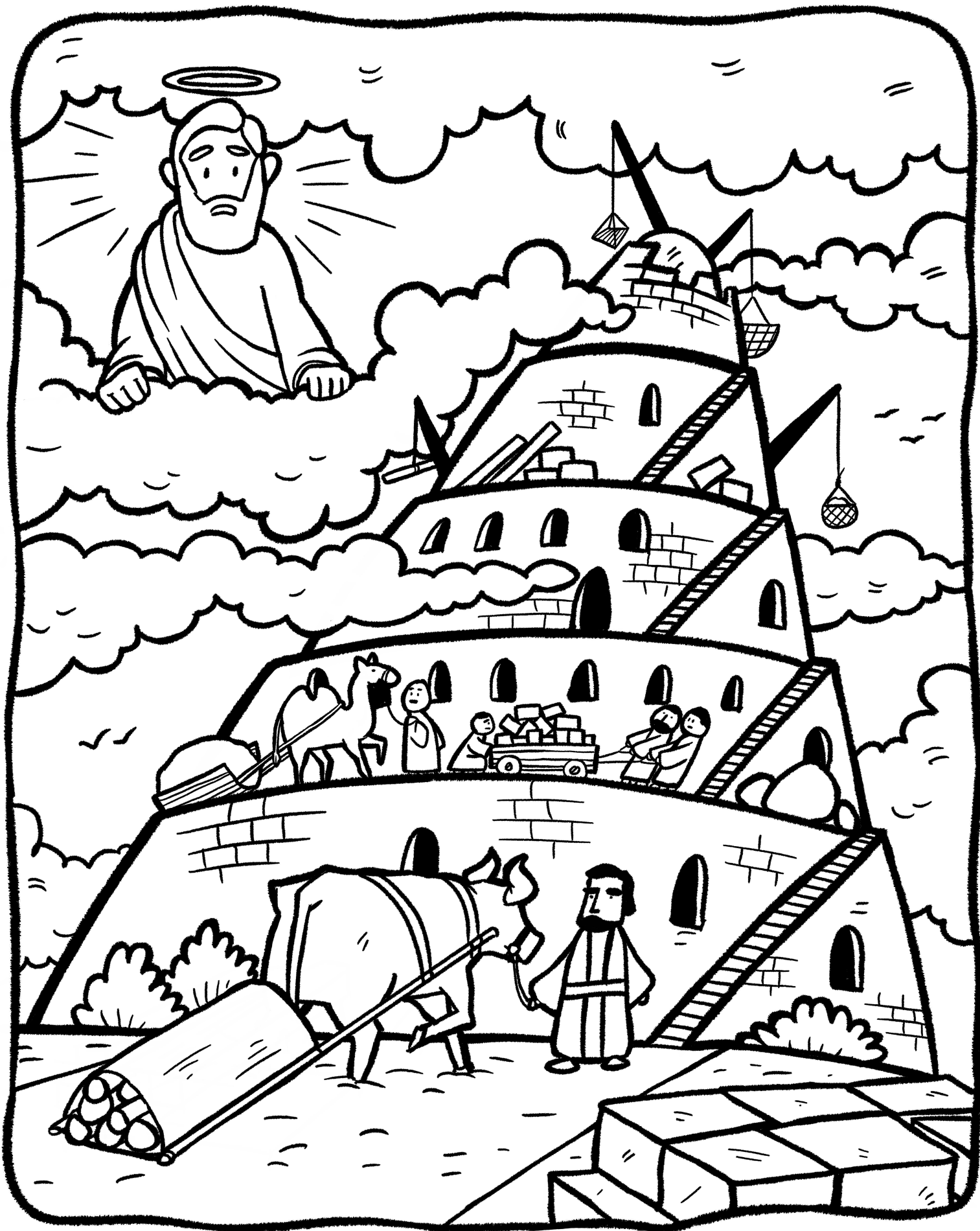
So God decided to mix up their words. When the people tried to make plans, they did not understand one another. If one workman said, "Hand me another brick," nobody else knew what he wanted.

The people had to stop building the city. People had to move away to live with people they could understand. God made it so the people did just what He had told them to do after the flood. They spread out all over the earth. The city with the unfinished tower was called Babel (BAY buhl).

Christ Connection: People chose to make themselves famous instead of God. God mixed up their language and the people spread out over the earth. One day, Jesus will bring His people back together. People from every group and every language will worship Him together. (Revelation 7:9-10)

Bible Storytelling Tips

- **Build and tell:** Build a tower with blocks while you tell the Bible story. Knock the tower down when you come to the part where the people had to stop building.
- **Speak in another language:** Invite someone who speaks another language to tell the Bible story in a different language. Then retell the story in English.



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INSTRUCTIONS: Draw a line connecting each brick with where it belongs on the tower.



Preschool Activity Pages

Unit 1 • Session 5

The Tower of Babel

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- People wanted to build a tower to make themselves famous.
- God was not happy about what they were doing.
- God mixed up their language and the people spread out over the earth.

KEY PASSAGE: Colossians 1:16b

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- Who is God? God is our Creator and King.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- Why was God not happy that the people wanted to build a tower?
- Name a time you have tried to make yourself famous.
- What will happen when Jesus brings His people back together?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Host a family competition to build the tallest block tower. Review the Bible story. Talk about doing all things for God's glory.
- Attend a worship service as a family in a language different than your own. Talk about what it will be like to hear people in every language worship Jesus together.



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