

Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School: Lessons for Preschool – Kindergarten

Lesson 2.02: THE TOWER OF BABEL — Gen. 11:1-9

TEACHER PREPARATION

Read over Genesis 11:1-9.

WORSHIP CIRCLE

STORY AND DISCUSSION

(The teacher may want to use flannel board for illustration.)

Every person in the world speaks a certain language. Our language means the way that we talk. Many people talk a different way than we do. Have you ever heard somebody talk a different way than we do? Maybe you've heard somebody on TV, like on Sesame Street, talk a different language than we do - maybe a language like Spanish or French. It's hard to understand what someone is saying if they talk differently than we do, isn't it?

The Word tells us that long, long ago, everyone spoke the same language. Everyone talked the same, so everyone could understand each other.

Now the people of the earth were journeying one time, and they came to a big plain. A plain is a big, big piece of very flat land. They decided to stay and live there on that plain, and they began to make some bricks. They said to each other: "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens.

Why do you think they wanted to build a great big tower that reached up to heaven? It was because they wanted to make themselves very great - the greatest of all. They wanted to have power over all the things on earth and all the things in heaven! They wanted to become great and powerful using their own ideas instead of the Lord's ideas.

Now, Who really is the greatest of all? (The Lord.) And Who really is the ruler and king over the earth and heaven? (The Lord!) Do you think it was a good idea for these people to build this tower to try to become very great? (No!) Do you think it was a good idea for them to try to have power over heaven? (No!) Of course not. They should have worshipped the Lord and known that He is the greatest. They should have listened to the Lord's ideas, because the Lord's ideas would have brought them into heaven where they could be happy.

Well, the Lord looked down and saw the people building this tower, ;and He knew that He had to stop them from doing this bad thing. So the Lord confused their language - that means that He mixed up their talking, so they couldn't understand each other any more. Then He took the people and scattered them all over to different parts of the earth (show on flannel board) so they would live far away from each other. Now the people couldn't build that tower any more. The Lord had stopped them from doing that bad thing, and He hoped that they would change their minds and decide to do good things again.

The place where the tower was built was called “Babel”, and that’s why we call it the “Tower of Babel”.

REPEATING

Now we will say something from this story in the Lord’s Word. I will say a part, and then you say it after me.

“..its name is called Babel,
because there the LORD
confused the language
of all the earth;”

PROJECT

Ahead of Time:

- 1) Cut many squares and rectangles of various sizes out of construction paper.
- 2) Write for each child the title “The Tower of Babel” at the top of a sheet of construction paper. (Have the paper turned so that the longer sides run up and down.)

Doing the Project:

- 1) Give each child the titled piece of construction paper. Have them “build” the tower of Babel by pasting the cut–out pieces into a picture of the tower.
- 2) Then have them draw some people near the tower, building. They may also want to draw the Lord looking down from above.

Example:

