

WEEK 13 LESSON

MAY 31, 2020

STORY:

Tower of Babel



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Last week we learned about the flood that covered the earth. Remember, only 8 people lived on the earth after the flood— Noah and his wife and his three sons and their wives. Noah's sons names were: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Pretty soon, the earth was full of people again. Noah and his sons had many children and they had children and they had children...and the earth was full of people. Eventually, Noah died, but he lived a very long life. Noah lived to be a very old man. He lived until he was 950 years old.

One of Noah's grandsons was named Nimrod. Nimrod was very famous because he was a hunter. Nimrod was the leader of the people and they all lived in a place called Babylonia. In Babylonia, everyone spoke the same language. And then one day, pride got a hold of Nimrod and he decided he wanted to become great and famous.

Nimrod talked to the people in Babylonia and he told them that he wanted their help building a great tower and if they helped him, they too would be famous and everyone would admire them for their greatness. He told them he wanted them to build a city so tall that it would reach the heavens!

The people loved the idea of being famous so they chose to help Nimrod and they began to make bricks for the Tower of Babel. It was really hard work but the people didn't mind, they knew it would be worth it because they were going to be famous! Pride had become a bad thing for these people and all they could imagine was how famous they were going to be for building the biggest and best tower ever.

But our God, He was not happy with the people of Babylon and Nimrod. God was able to see their pride and He could tell that their hearts were focused on becoming famous and they were not focused on worshipping God. God was unhappy with the people of Babylon.

God said, "I see that the people think they can do anything because they all speak the same language. They are not worshipping me or praying to me or thinking about me. This is not good for my people. So God decided to mix up their language so they would not understand each other and could not talk to one another. By doing this, God knew the people would have to stop focusing on the tower and they could once again focus on God and worshipping Him.

So that is what God did...he made them all of them speak different languages and they could not understand one another! Think of what that must have been like...you are working next to someone and all of a sudden—you both are speaking a different language! All the people suddenly spoke different languages, some spoke French, some Spanish, others Chinese, plus many other languages. They were very confused and could no longer help each other build the tower. That was the first time people no longer spoke one language.

Boys and girls, do you how much God hates pride? He did not like it that the Babylonians had lost interest in serving God. He did not like it that they thought they had power without God and could do anything. God wanted the people to know that our strength and power comes from God alone. So the people could no longer work on the tower, because they did not understand each other—there was so much confusion! The tower was then named, the Tower of Babel—because everyone was babbling in different languages!

