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Danielle’s Place of Crafts and Activities
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The Tower of Babel

**Scripture References:** Genesis 11:1-9

**Printable Bible Verse Cards:**
Print out onto card stock, write the Bible verse on the cards and make copies.

**Teaching Concept:**
God wants them to glorify him not themselves.

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**Early Arrivers’ Activities**

1. **Greetings in Other Languages**

   As your children enter the room greet them in another language. Ask them if they know how to say hello in another language.

2. **Make Stick Puppets**

   1. Before class print out the patterns for the stick puppets onto card stock. Place another piece of card stock behind each page of puppets and cut out the puppets loosely. *(Pages 9 - 14)*

   2. In class give each child one or two puppets and have them color them.

   3. Glue the puppets to craft sticks. Glue the blank puppet shapes to the back of the puppet to give them more strength.
3. Build Towers with Blocks

Divide your children up into groups of twos or threes. Give each group equal amounts of blocks. See which table of children can build the tallest tower in three minutes. Comment about the children who are working well together to build their tower. After three minutes, measure the towers to see which group has built the highest tower. Then mix up the children into new groups and play again.

If you don’t have blocks, you can make some cheap blocks by cutting up Styrofoam pool noodles into one-inch sections.
If you don’t want to have a contest, you can just tell the children you want them to build the tallest tower they can. Some of the children may choose to work together to build a tower. If you see them working together, comment by saying that our lesson today is about some people who worked together to build a very high tower.

4. Color a Picture With the Bible Verse

Before class print out the Bible verse color sheet and make copies. In class have your children color the picture. (Page 15)

5. Tower of Babel Craft Stick Activity Sheet

What you will need:

Mini craft sticks
Mini jumbo craft sticks
Jumbo craft sticks, white glue
Colored pencils
Paper

What to do:

1. Before class print out the pattern sheets and gather the supplies needed. (Page 16 )

2. In class have your children color the picture and then glue craft sticks where indicated on the pattern.
The Lesson

Preparation: Print out a picture of the Tower of Babel painted by Pieter Bruegel

Everyone knows the story of Noah’s ark and how God destroyed every living thing on earth with a flood because the people where so wicked. The only ones God saved were Noah and his three sons and their wives and the animals that were on the ark.

At that time everyone spoke the same language because they were all related to each other. Did you ever wonder why people today speak in different languages? We are all descendents of Noah, so how did people start speaking different languages? Do you think they just decided one day that they didn’t like their own languages so they made up new ones? No, that would be silly.

The Bible tells us why there are so many different languages in the world today. It happened like this: As the population began to grow, the people started moving eastward so they would have more room for their families. Soon they came to a great plain or level ground. They thought this would be a great place to live.

They worked together to make bricks from the clay to build their houses. Then they had a great idea! They thought, “Why not build a great tower out of the bricks? We could make a tower that reaches all the way to the heavens. We could make a name for ourselves. We will be famous for our great tower. People will see it for miles around. Everyone will hear about it and want to come and see our great tower.”

They all worked together day after day making bricks, and cementing them together to make a great tower. It took a lot of planning, a lot of work and lot of time, but they didn’t care because they knew that when they were finally finished everyone would see how great they were. (Show your children the picture of the Tower of Babel.)

Then one day God came down from heaven and saw what all the people were doing. He was very sad and angry. They weren’t building this tower for him. They were building it to make themselves look good. They weren’t thinking about God and what he wanted them to do, they were just thinking about themselves, and how they could make themselves happy.

God decided to stop them right then and there and teach them a lesson. He could have knocked down their tower, but he didn’t. Instead he changed their languages. All of a sudden they started speaking in other languages. Now you know how difficult it is to talk to someone who doesn’t speak your language. Just think how difficult it would be to build a tower when everyone spoke a different language. It was so difficult that they stopped building the tower, and the people started moving away forming their own settlements and eventually forming countries. And that is why we have so many different languages today.
Prayer

Father, help us to glorify you in everything we do. We know that you made us and that we could do nothing without you. Amen.

Activities

1. Knock Down the Tower Bible Verse Review

What you will need:

Boxes, Paper, Tape, and Small Bean Bags. (If you don’t have bean bags, you can make them out of socks. Just fill an old sock with rice, tie the top closed, and cut off the top. What to do:

What to do:

1. Before class collect a bunch of boxes to make a tower. Stuff the boxes with crumpled up newspapers or junk mail to make them heavier and tape them closed.

2. Print out the Bible verse word sheets and cut the words apart. (Pages 17-20)

3. Stack up the boxes and tape words on the front of the boxes starting with the first word of the Bible verse on the bottom of the box tower. To save time you can just write the words on the boxes with a Sharpie marker.

4. In class spread out the boxes on the floor so the children can see the words on the boxes. Write one word of the verse on the board and have a child find that word on a box and place it in a designated area. Write the next word and have another child find the verse and place it on top of the first box. Keep going until all the boxes are piled on top of each other. Remind you child that the people in the story built a tower for the wrong reason and disobeyed God.

5. Go over the verse several more times, reading the words on the tower, and then play a bean bag toss game. Let the children take turns saying the Bible verse and then throwing a bean bag at the boxes to knock a box off of the tower. Tell them to try to knock off the top box of the tower first and then say the Bible verse again. Keep playing until all the boxes are knocked off the tower.
6. Experiment before class to find a bean bag that is not too heavy or too light. You don’t want the children to knock over the tower on the first throw, but you don’t want the bean bag to be so light that it doesn’t move the boxes. Keep playing until your children get tired of the game or can say the Bible verse.

2. Take Down the Tower Review Game

Before class build two towers from blocks that are exactly the same. Make up questions before class relating to the lesson and lessons that you have taught previously. In class divide your children up into teams and take turns asking them questions. If a team member answers a question correctly, he or she gets to remove a block from his or her team’s tower. The team who removes all the blocks first wins.

3. Saying Hello

Before class print out the stick puppets and glue them to craft sticks. Hold up one puppet at a time and tell the children what nationality the puppet is and how that puppet would say hello. Have them say the word several times and then play a game. Mix up the puppets and quickly hold one up to see if the children can remember how that puppet would say hello. Keep picking them up quickly and holding them up until all the children remember how each puppet says hello.

Konichiwa (koh-Nee-chee-wah) - Japanese
Ya at eeh (YAH-AHT-AY ) Navajo
Hola (OH-la) - Spanish
Shalom - Hebrew
Howdy Partner - Western United States
Aloha - Hawaiian Pattern

4. Find Your Mates

Give each child a picture of one of the paper dolls or write words on pieces of paper. Tell your students not to let any of the other children see their pictures or words. Ask the children if they remember how the paper doll picture they are holding would say hello. If a child doesn’t remember, take him out of the room and remind him. On the word go, all the children should form groups that have the same puppet (without showing each other their picture). They form groups by saying hello in the language of their paper doll. When all the children are in a group, have them show each other their pictures to make sure they are in the right group.
5. Make up Your Own Words

Tell your children that there are 2800 known languages in the world. Today they have learned how to say hello in several different languages. Tell them to pretend that they are at the Tower of Babel and all of the sudden they start to speak another language. They know what they are saying, but no one else does. Tell them to make up a word for hello. When all your children have thought up a new word have them share it with the class. Write the words, phonetically, on the board and then have the children read them all.

6. Practice Pig Latin

Learn how to speak in Pig Latin and say the Bible verse in Pig Latin. If you don’t know how to speak pig Latin, look up directions on the web. Practice the Bible verse before class.

He’s The Way
Written by Nancy Foss
Sing to the tune of “I’m Gonna Sing”

He’s the way, way, way,
He’s the truth, truth, truth,
He’s the life, life, life,
Praise the Lord!

When you find your way to Jesus,
You’ll find your way to God,
He’s the way, He’s the truth,
He’s the life.

I’m gonna Seek
Written by Nancy Foss
Sing to the tune of “I’ve go the Joy, Joy Joy Down in My Heart”

I’m gonna seek, seek seek, seek,
Seek the kingdom of God,
What? Seek the kingdom of God,
What? Seek the kingdom of God. I
I’m gonna seek, seek, seek, seek,
Seek the kingdom of God,
What? Seek the kingdom of God,
What? Seek the kingdom of God.

The Tower of Babel
Sing to the tune of “On Top of Old Smokie”
By Narita Roady

Way back in the Bible,
Many years ago,
Men tried to build a tower,
Seeing how far they’d go.

God was not happy,
With what they had built,
So He changed their languages,
To discourage them.

So then when they all talked,
They were so surprised,
They couldn’t understand,
Any one else.

It sounded so strange,
And weird to hear,
It sounded like babel,
To all of their ears.

Find Genesis11:1,
In your Bible,
You can read all about,
The tower of Babel.
Konichiwa!

Ya at eeh!
Konichiwa!

ya at eeh!
Howdy Partner!

Hola!
Aloha!

Shalom!
But seek ye first the kingdom of God

Matthew 6:33
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But seek ye first the kingdom of heaven.
of God, and his righteous
ness; and all these things shall be
added unto you.