



PEOPLE REBEL AGAINST GOD: GENESIS 10-11

UNIT 2: SESSION 4

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KEY PASSAGE:

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”. Romans 3:23.



BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What does it mean to sin? To sin is to think, speak, or behave in any way that goes against God and His commands.



CHRIST CONNECTION:

People disobeyed God, so God mixed up their language and spread the people over the earth. One day, Jesus will bring His people back together. People from every language will worship Him together.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

In Genesis 11, Noah's family had grown and began to rebuild the earth's population. At some point along the way, they decided to ignore God's command to spread out and subdue the earth for God's glory. Instead, the people decided to build a tower to show their greatness. Their motivation was both obvious and arrogant.

Read Psalm 127:1-2. These verses provide a blatant reminder that God is the only true builder. His glory is our only proper motivation. Additionally, this psalm gives us a promise that those who love God will be able to rest from being driven by selfish motivation.

Doesn't it sound pretty attractive to be able to rest from selfish motivation that plagues so much of our thinking and behaviour? In God's economy, He's less worried with the outcome of our decisions and more concerned with the reason for our decisions. That's not to say that it doesn't matter what we do. Rather, if our motivation is right—if our hearts are right—our actions will follow. And not only will our motivation and behavior honor God, but much of the anxiety of life will fade away too.

When was the last time you measured your motivation? Is the driving force behind what you do making a name for yourself, your kids, or even your church? Or is the primary desire driving your life boasting in the name of Christ? Read Psalm 127:1 again. May we be driven by God's glory and not our own.

1. GAMES

OPTION 1: STAND AGAINST

Invite kids to play a game similar to “Simon Says.” Call out a command, preceding it with “Simon says” (“Simon says touch your nose.”) Explain that kids should play this game opposite of the usual method. When Simon says to do something, do not do it. But if you do not say, “Simon says ... ,” then kids should do the command. Suggested commands: Sit down, clap your hands, turn around in a circle, pat your belly, do a silly dance, pretend you are sleeping, do a push up, stand on one foot.

SAY: Can anyone tell me what it means to rebel? [Allow kids to respond.] To rebel is to stand against or oppose the one in authority. In our game, ‘Simon’ was in a position of authority. Who has authority in our lives? (teachers, leaders, parents, God) As we will learn today, all people have rebelled against God. What does that mean? What are the consequences? We’ll soon find out.

OPTION 2: ON THE “THRONE”

Before the session, set up chairs in a circle with the backs of the chairs toward the center. Remove one chair so you have one less chair than the number of players. Instruct kids to walk around the circle while you play music. When you pause the music, everyone should find a seat. The player left standing will choose a remaining number. The player sitting in that chair is out. Remove that player’s chair from the circle, too. Play additional rounds as time allows.

SAY: Only one person could sit in each chair. When you hear today’s Bible story, remember a throne. We’re going to talk about who sits on the ‘throne’ in your life. Is it you? Or God? Or someone else?



2. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

We’ve been talking a lot about sin. The big truth about sin is important to understanding the Bible. We’ve heard three Bible stories about how sin changed everything.

Sin entered the world through Adam and Eve, and it **spread to all people**. God hates sin, but He loves people. He judged sin by **sending a flood** but spared Noah on the ark. After Noah got off the ark, God commanded Noah and his family, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth’ (Gen. 9:1). This was the same command God gave to Adam and Eve in Genesis 1.

God created people in His own image and for His own glory. He commanded people to **spread out** on the earth to **live as His representatives**. As we will see in today’s Bible story, **people rebel against God**. They turned against God long ago, and people still rebel against Him today. One way people rebel is by seeking their own glory.

Open your Bible to **Genesis 10-11**. **Read the story and/or watch the childrens story** on the Sunday Scrum.



3. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Invite the children to form groups of two or three. Give each group an equal number of blocks. Encourage each group to build the tallest tower they can in two minutes. Congratulate the team with the tallest tower when time is up. Change teams and play again.



SAY: You all built some great towers! In today's Bible story, the people worked together to build a tower, but God was not happy about what they were doing. They disobeyed and did not spread out like God told them to. Then they tried to **make themselves great instead of God by building a tower.** God knew it was not good for them to continue in their sin. He mixed up the people's words so they would have to spread out and fill the earth like He said. When we try to make ourselves look greater than God, **God steps in and reminds us He is greatest of all.** God sent Jesus to save people from sin and bring them back together. One day, people from all over the world will worship Jesus together. **Jesus deserves all the glory.**



4. GROUP DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions. Lead the kids to discuss their answers.



SAY: Why did God confuse the people's language?

Help the kids to understand that the people did not obey God. God commanded them to scatter after the flood, filling the earth and glorifying God. Instead, the people settled in one place and tried to glorify themselves. God saw what was happening and confused their language so they would obey His command. Help the kids consider times when God may do something in our life that seems bad for us, but is actually for our own good.



SAY: Why does God deserve all glory?

Help the kids understand that God is worthy of all honor and glory because of who He is. God is our Creator, our Sustainer, our Savior and our King. Only He is worthy of glory, honor, and praise because only He is perfect in every way. Help the kids to understand that God created people to bring Himself glory.



SAY: Will there ever be a time when all people are brought back together?

Help the kids understand that one day, Jesus will return. When He does, He will bring together all people who believe in Him from all tribes and tongues. Help kids to understand that there will be a new heaven and a new earth where Jesus will reign forever. There, everyone will bring Jesus glory and honor and praise forever.

5. ACTIVITIES

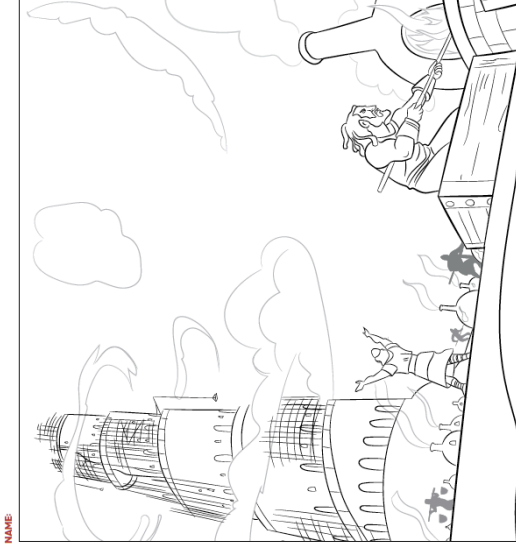
People Rebel Against God

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

- God commanded people to fill the earth and glorify Him.
- People decided to settle in one place and build a tall tower to make a name for themselves.
- God confused their language so they were forced to stop building and obey God by scattering around the earth.

CHRIST CONNECTION: People wanted glory for themselves instead of God. They ignored God's plans, so He confused their language and scattered them all over the earth. One day, Jesus will gather together all of God's people—from every tribe and tongue—and they will worship Him together.

KEY PASSAGE: Romans 8:25
BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What does it mean to obey? To sin is to think, speak, or behave in a way that goes against God and His commands.



NAME _____

Rebellion Right or Wrong

Circle the statements that are true and cross out the statements that are false. (Bonus: Correct the false statements.)

- The people build a tower to make God famous.
- God created people to give glory to Him alone.
- God made everyone speak the same language.
- The people had to stop building the city.
- The city with the unfinished tower was called Babel.
- God's people from every tribe and language will worship Jesus together.
- One day, Jesus will gather together all of God's people.

Tower Maze

Find the path from point 1 to point 2.

TOWER OF BABEL WORD SEARCH

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be left to right, up and down, or diagonally.

Z	R	R	T	E	B	F	E	U	P	E	O	P	L	E
L	A	S	R	E	M	U	L	O	R	S	I	T	E	R
S	U	P	I	N	E	I	R	E	T	B	T	V	E	
L	I	E	I	T	N	U	L	L	A	F	R	C	I	D
U	N	A	A	L	I	S	U	A	D	U	I	R	I	T
I	T	K	I	A	T	C	H	E	N	I	C	M	O	D
T	I	O	N	S	B	A	B	E	L	I	K	M	V	E
L	A	I	Q	U	A	T	N	O	N	S	S	C	T	E
T	A	E	D	O	L	T	R	T	A	L	L	I	Q	U
L	O	N	E	R	S	E	C	T	E	M	D	I	T	O
N	U	L	G	A	M	R	O	N	S	E	A	R	T	H
N	O	N	S	U	Q	E	I	S	C	I	L	L	A	N
D	R	E	V	E	A	X	E	T	O	W	E	R	R	
L	A	O	R	E	M	G	L	O	R	S	I	T	E	R
S	U	M	I	N	E	N	E	R	E	T	A	T	V	E

BABEL	LANGUAGE	TALL
BRICKS	PEOPLE	TOWER
BUILD	SCATTERED	
EARTH	SPEAK	

PEOPLE REBEL AGAINST GOD

Unit 2 • Session 4
 Genesis 10:1-11

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SIN IS TO THINK, SAY, OR BEHAVE IN ANY WAY THAT GOES AGAINST GOD AND HIS COMMANDS.

After the great flood, God told Noah and his sons to grow their families and fill the earth. One day, the people traveled through a valley. They liked it there and decided to stay. They decided to build a city and a tower to make a name for themselves. They said, "Let's build a city and a tower so big that it reaches the sky. The tower will make us famous!"

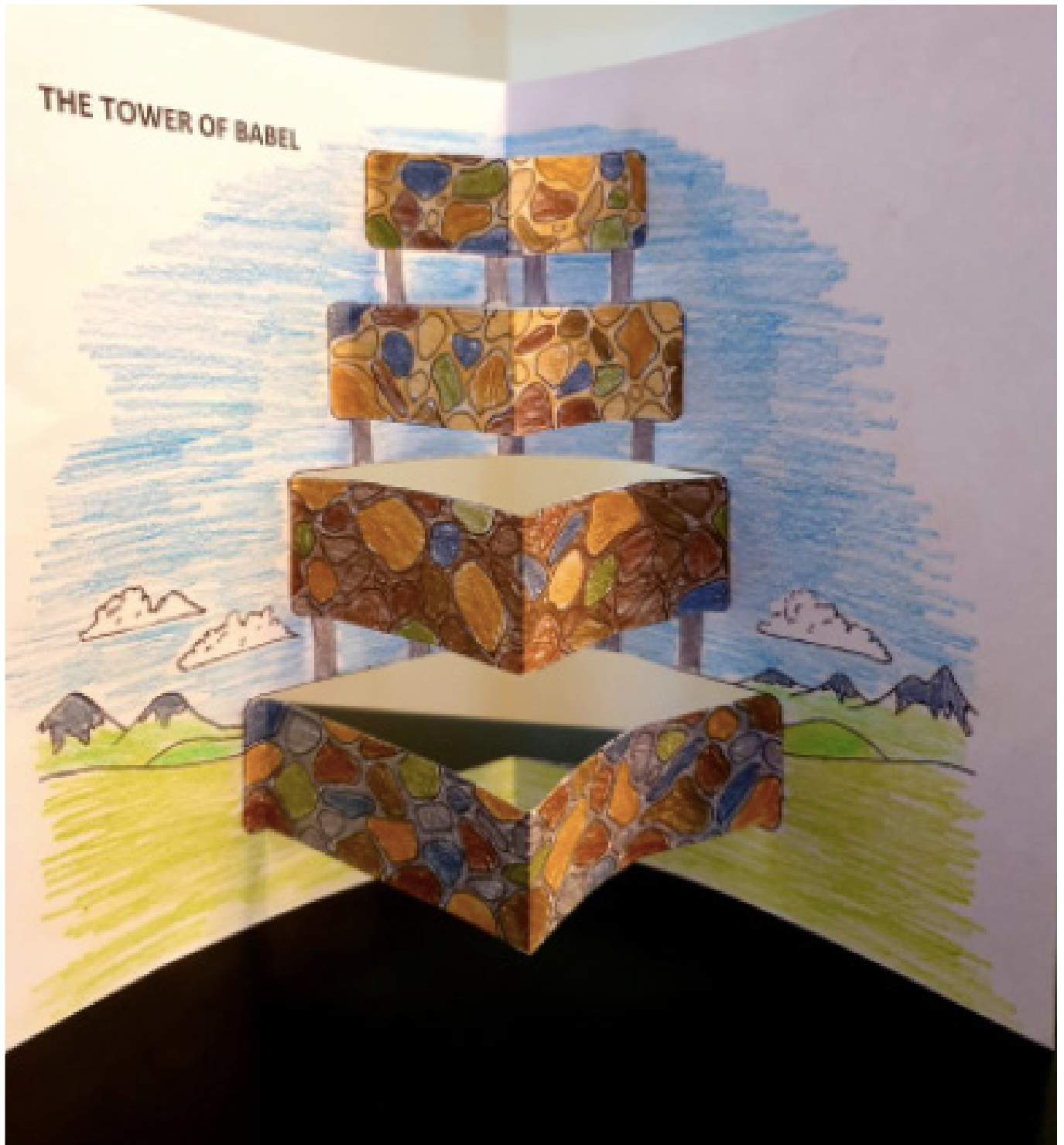
God came down to look at the tower. He said, "If they are doing this, they will keep thinking up more wrong things to do." So God mixed up the people's different languages. The people had to stop building the city. Families had to move away from each other and speak different languages. The city with the unfinished tower was called Babel.

Christ Connection: People wanted glory for themselves instead of God. They ignored God's plans, so He confused their language and scattered them all over the world. One day, Jesus will gather together all of God's people—from every tribe and language—and they will worship Him together.

JOURNAL PAGE

1. What does this story teach us about God or the gospel?
2. What does this story teach us about myself?
3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
5. How does this story help me to live on mission better?

6. CRAFT



People Rebel Against God

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- God commanded people to fill the earth and glorify Him.
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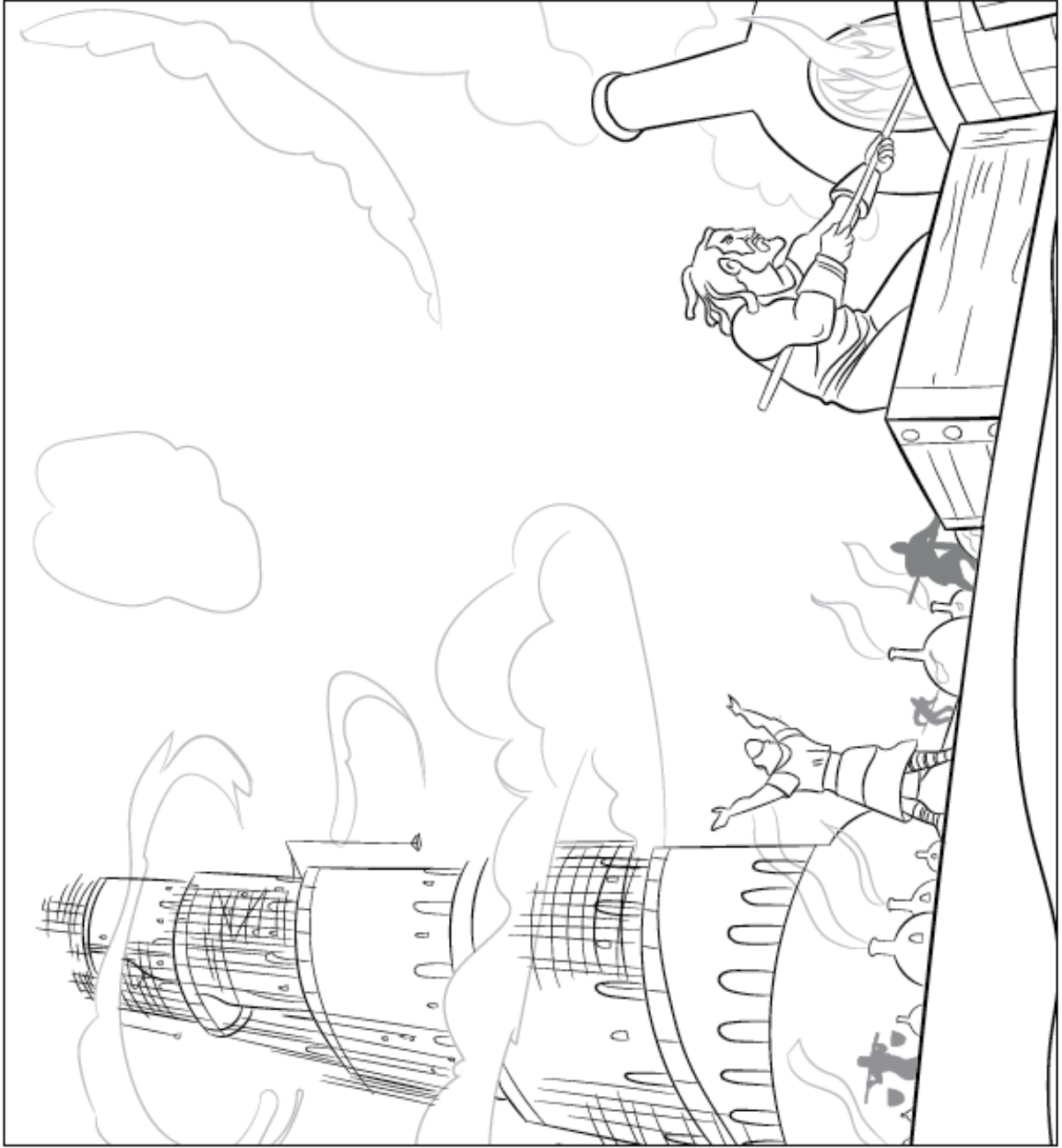
People wanted glory for themselves instead of God. They ignored God's plan, so God confused their language and scattered them all over the earth. One day, Jesus will gather together all of God's people—from every tribe and language—and they will worship Him together.

KEY PASSAGE: Romans 3:23

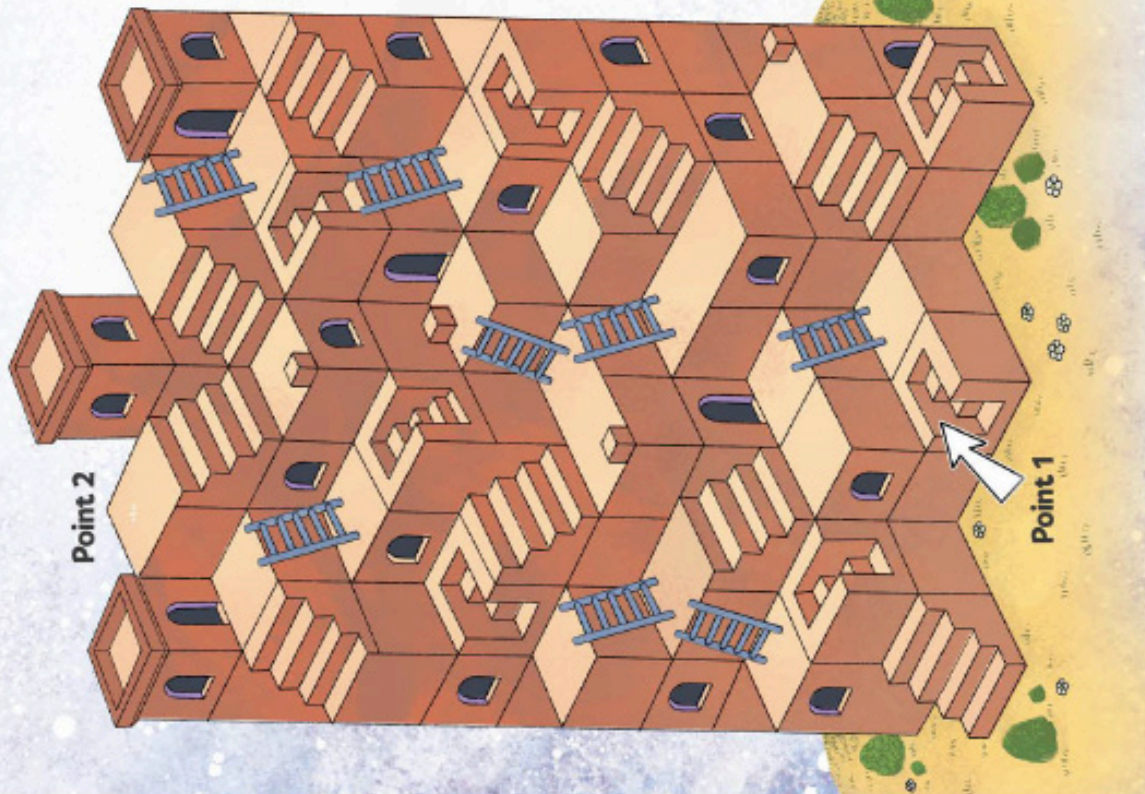
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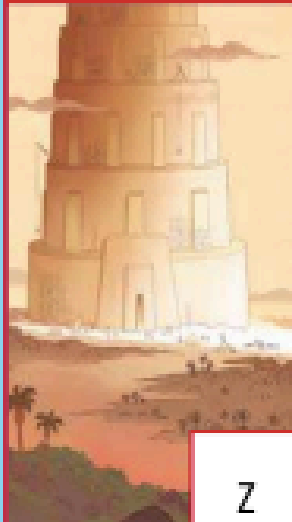
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 The people wanted to build a tower to make God famous.	 God is greater than anyone.	 God created people to give glory to Him alone.
 God made everyone speak the same language.	 The people had to stop building the city.	 The people were scattered all over the world.
 The city with the unfinished tower was called Bethlehem.	 One day, Jesus will gather together all of God's people.	 God's people—from every tribe and language—will worship Jesus together.



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U N A A L I S U A D U I R I T
I T K I A T C H E N I C M O D
T I O N S B A B E L I K M V E
L A I Q U A T N O N S S C T E
T A E D O L T R T A L L I Q U
L O N E R S E C T E M D I T O
N U L G A M R O N S E A R T H
N O N S U Q E I S C I L L A N
D R E V E A D X E T O W E R R
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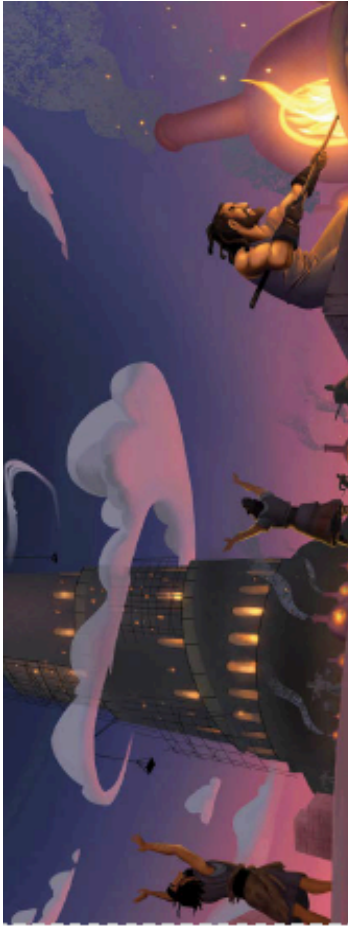
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Unit 2 • Session 4

PEOPLE REBEL AGAINST GOD

Genesis 10–11

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FOLD