

People Build a Tower at Babel

Genesis 11:1-9

Bible Point: We put God first

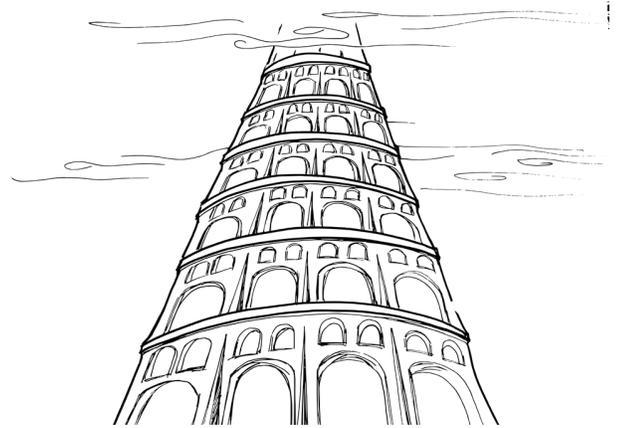
Today we'll learn about putting God first. A long time ago, after God rescued Noah and his family from the flood, God told them he wanted them to fill the whole earth with people. So they scattered out all over the land and started their own families in faraway places. But after a while the people decided they didn't want to be scattered all over the earth. They liked to be together.

The people decided that they knew more than God, so they thought they could do whatever they wanted. At that time, everyone in the whole world spoke the same language. Where you live, most people probably speak the same language, but that's not true throughout the whole world—there are many different languages now.

So the people found a very flat part of the country and decided to build a big city there. There were no rocks to build with or trees to make boards out of, so they decided to build their city out of bricks. They made huge piles of bricks. The people decided that they would use their bricks to build a tall tower in the city, with a top that would reach the sky.

They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. 4 Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth." Genesis 11:3-4

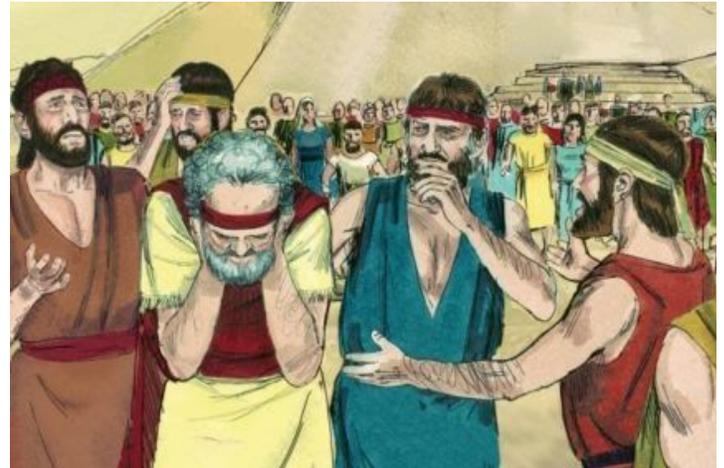
The leaders of the people wanted this tower to be a meeting place for everyone so they wouldn't be so scattered from one another. The people were disobeying God when they built the tower. God wanted them to trust in him and scatter out all over the land, but they decided that they didn't need God. They wanted to stay together in their city and build a tower to show how important they were.



God knows what's best for us, even though we may not always understand. While the people were building the tower, God came down from heaven. He was sorry when he saw the huge tower and the city. He said:

But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. The Lord said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other." Genesis 11:5-7

So God decided to give them different languages so they wouldn't be able to understand one another. God gave them different languages because he knew they were working together for the wrong reasons. Instead of working together to serve God or to help others, they were working to make themselves famous. By giving them different languages, he was protecting them from going down the wrong path.



When the people discovered that they couldn't understand one another anymore, they stopped building the tower. They began to move away from one another and scattered all over the land once more. That's why the tower is named Babel—because God confused the people by giving them many languages.

When we put God first, God will always give us what we need. Instead of turning away from him as the people of Babel did, let's look to him and listen to him in all we do.

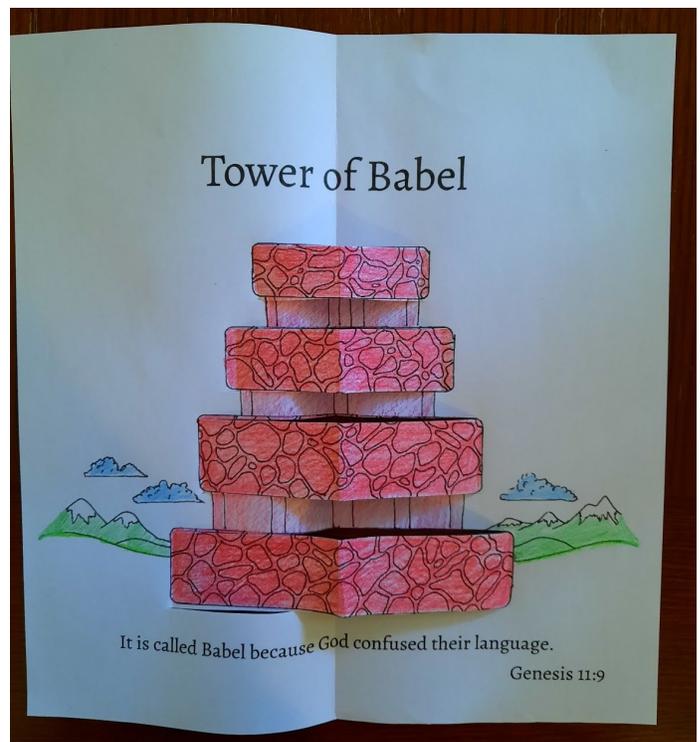
Prayer:

Dear God,
Help us remember how to put you first.
Thank you for being so strong and for giving us your strength.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen

Tower of Babel Craft:

Supplies:

Paper
Print of the Tower of Babel template (see last page below)
Crayons, coloring pencils, or markers
Scissors



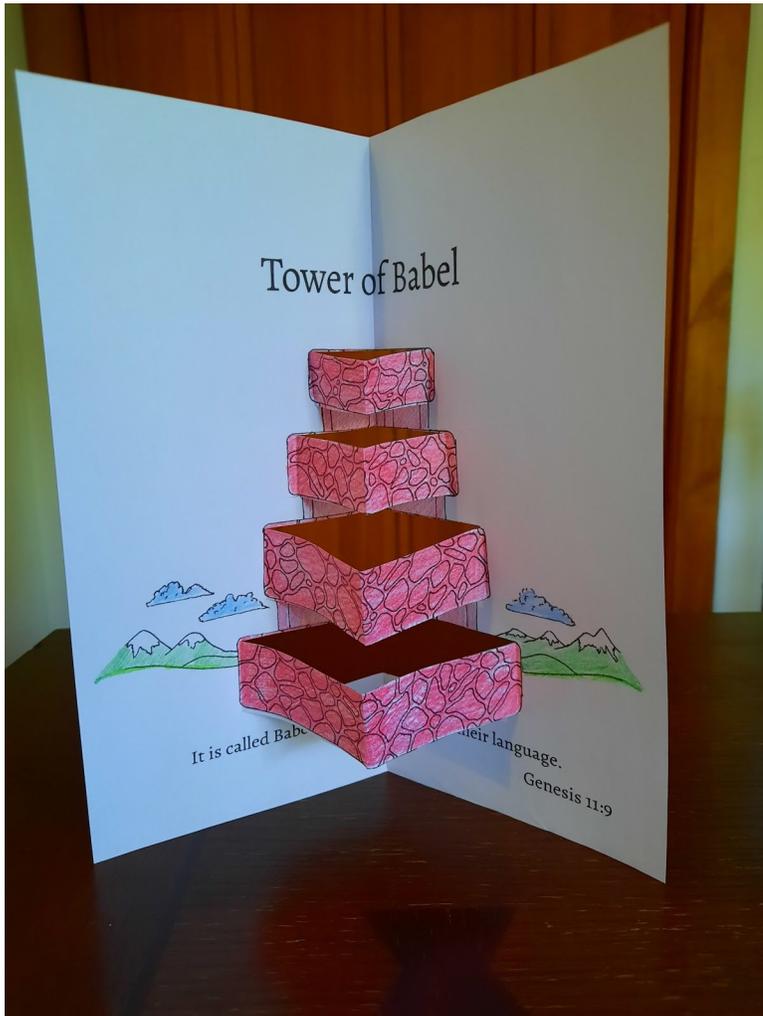
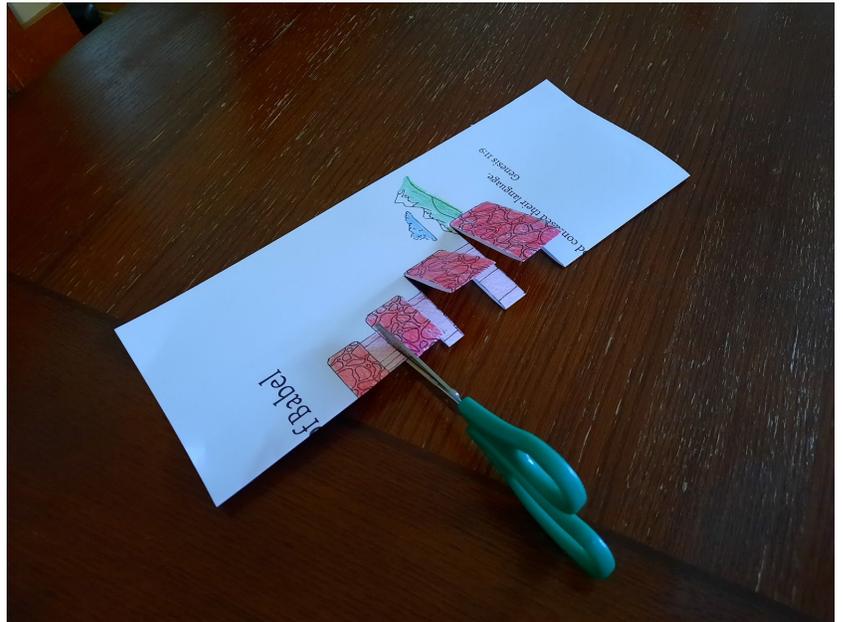
Instructions:

Print the Tower of Babel template and color. Trim the bottom of the picture about 2 inches-this will help the card stand up.

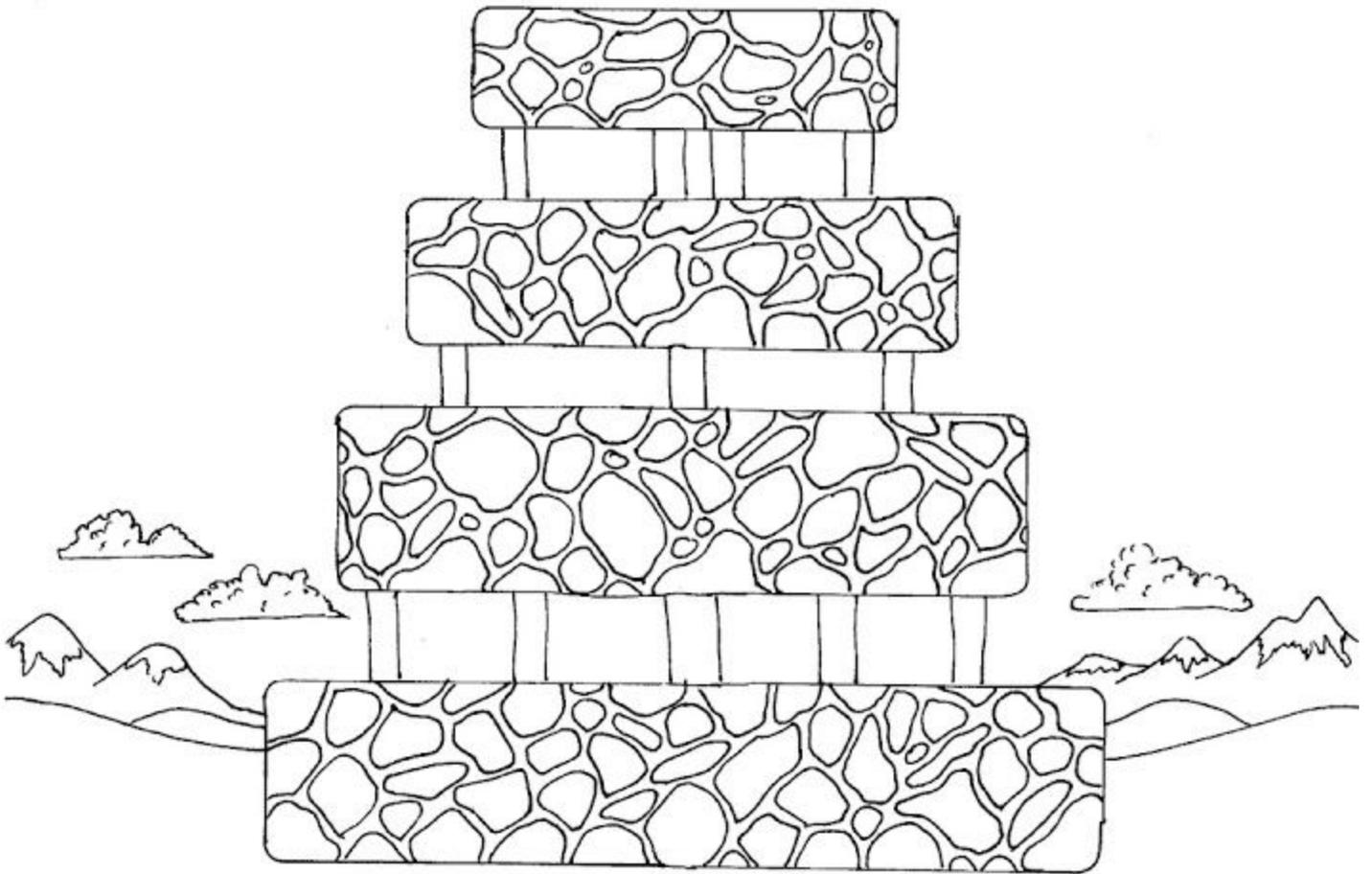
Fold the picture vertically in half and cut the bottom and top of each layer of the tower, just to the end of each layer and fold upward (see picture).

Unfold the picture and re-fold so the picture is on the inside making a card.

Gently open and pinch the four layers of the tower forward making the tower 3-D. Stand up your picture!



Tower of Babel



It is called Babel because God confused their language.

Genesis 11:9