

# The FALL

**Date: 02.22.26 | People Rebel Against God**  
**Scripture: Genesis 10:32-11:9**

## CENTRAL TRUTHS



### PRESCHOOL:

God loves me and helps me make the right choices.

### YOUNGER KIDS (K5-2ND GRADE):

God loves me, forgives my sin, and helps me choose to do what's right.

### OLDER KIDS (3RD-5TH GRADE):

God is holy, and He calls us to live for His glory. When we sin, Jesus offers forgiveness and the Holy Spirit helps us choose what's right.

### STUDENTS:

God is holy and calls us to live for His glory. Though sin separates us from Him, Jesus died to redeem us, and the Holy Spirit helps us walk in purity and self-control.

### ADULTS:

The holy and perfect God calls us to live for His glory in purity and obedience. Though sin leads to death, Jesus redeemed us through the cross, and the Holy Spirit empowers us to walk in holiness and self-control.

## MEMORY VERSE

*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*  
**Romans 6:23**



## DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

*What happens after death to those not united to Christ by faith? At the day of judgment they will receive the fearful but just sentence of condemnation pronounced against them. They will be cast out from the favorable presence of God, into hell, to be justly and grievously punished, forever. New City Catechism q. 28*

## BACKGROUND INFO FOR LEADERS



After the flood, God gave Noah's family a clear command: **"Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth"** (*Genesis 9:1*). God wanted people to spread out, create communities around the world, and live under His good rule. But in *Genesis 11*, we see humanity do the opposite. Instead of trusting God, the people came together and used their skills and resources to build a large city with a tower that reached "to the heavens" (*Genesis 11:4*). This tower was a symbol of human pride and independence—people seeking to determine their own future without God. They believed they could make a name for themselves and build a life where they were in charge.

Their unity wasn't centered on obeying God; it was centered on **rejecting God's authority**. They refused God's command to fill the earth and instead said, "Let's build a city so we won't be scattered" (*Genesis 11:4*). Their confidence came from their technology and teamwork, not from God. They thought they didn't need Him at all.

Then comes the irony Scripture highlights: **"The Lord came down to see the city and the tower"** (*Genesis 11:5*). People thought they were building something great, something that reached the heavens—but God had to "come down" just to look at it. God saw that a united, self-confident humanity determined to live without Him would lead to even greater rebellion and harm. So, in His wisdom, God stepped in. He **confused their language** so they could no longer communicate clearly, and the people were scattered across the earth (*Genesis 11:7–9*). The city was named **Babel**, meaning "confusion."

Throughout the Bible, "Babel/Babylon" becomes a symbol of humanity's attempt to **take God's place** (see also *Isaiah 14:13–14*). But the Tower of Babel also points us forward to the gospel. The people tried to go **up to heaven**, but they couldn't reach God. Later in Scripture, we see the opposite miracle—**God comes down to us** in

Jesus. Where sin scattered and divided people (*Genesis 11*), Jesus' death and resurrection bring people from every tribe and language together again (*Revelation 7:9*). And at Pentecost, God gave the Holy Spirit so the good news of Jesus could be understood in **every language** (*Acts 2:6–11*)—the perfect reversal of Babel's confusion.

The Tower of Babel reminds us that we cannot save ourselves or reach God by our own efforts. **We need a Savior.** Through Jesus, God offers the unity, hope, and purpose that humanity lost when it tried to build life apart from Him.

## TELL THE STORY

### *Genesis 10:32–11:9*

After the great flood, God told Noah and his sons to grow their families and fill the earth. Noah's sons and their wives had children, and all their families grew. Over time, the people traveled through a valley and decided to live there.



At this time, everyone in the world spoke the same language. The people said, “We don’t want to be scattered all over the earth. Let’s build a city with a tower so big that it touches the sky. The tower will make us famous! Then we can stay here together instead of spreading out over the earth.”

The people were not doing what God had told them to do. They wanted to be as important as God. They wanted to say, “Look how great we are,” instead of “Look how great God is.” They sought glory for themselves rather than for God. But God is greater than anyone. God created people to worship Him and give glory to Him alone.

The people made bricks from clay and baked them in the fire to produce stone. Then they used the stones to start building the tower.

God came down to look at the tower. God said, “If they are doing this as one people all having the same language, they will keep thinking up more bad things to do. We need to stop them.”

So God mixed up the people’s words. Instead of everyone speaking the same language, everyone spoke different languages. When people tried to make plans, they could not understand one another.

If one workman said, “Hand me another brick,” nobody else knew what he wanted.

The people had to stop building the city. God made it so the people did just what He had told them to do after the flood: They were scattered all over the world. The city with the unfinished tower was called Babel.

People ignored God’s plan and tried to make a name for themselves, so God confused their language and scattered the people all over the earth. One day, Jesus will gather together all of God’s people- people from every tribe and people who speak all kinds of languages- and they will worship Him. (*Revelation 7:9-10*)

## REBUILD THE STORY



1. What command did God give Noah’s family about their purpose on the earth after the flood, and why do you think this command mattered for the future of humanity? *Genesis 9:1*

2. As Noah’s descendants multiplied, which clans, families, and nations began to form, and how does this chapter help us understand the diversity of the world today? *Genesis 10*

3. Instead of spreading out as God instructed, where did the people choose to gather, and what does this reveal about their mindset? *Genesis 11:2*

4. What major building project did the people begin in Shinar, and what does this tell us about their ambitions and priorities? *Genesis 11:3–4*

5. What were the people hoping to achieve by building the tower, and how does their plan show a desire for independence rather than obedience? *Genesis 11:4*

6. What ironic detail does Scripture include about God “coming down” to see their enormous tower, and how does this highlight the limits of human pride? *Genesis 11:5*

7. How did God intervene to stop their plans, and why was confusing their language an act of protection rather than just judgment? *Genesis 11:7*

8. What happened to the people once their language was confused, and how did this fulfill God’s original purpose for humanity? *Genesis 11:8–9*

9. Where do you see people today trying to “make a name for themselves” instead of finding their identity in God?

10. In what ways do we rely on our own abilities, accomplishments, or strength instead of trusting God daily?

11. How does the good news of Jesus show you that you don’t have to earn your way to God, because He came to us first?

## GOSPEL EMPHASIS

The people who built the Tower of Babel tried to lift themselves and reach heaven by their own strength. No matter how hard they worked or how high they built, they could never get to God on their own. We are the same—our efforts, goodness, or accomplishments can’t save us or earn our way to heaven. But the good news of the gospel is that **God came down to us**. He made a way for heaven to be opened through His Son, Jesus. Because Jesus lived a perfect life, died for our sins, and rose again, anyone who trusts in Him can be brought into a close relationship with God forever. The tower shows our efforts can’t reach God, but the cross shows that Jesus came to rescue us.



## WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TEACH US ABOUT GOD?

Use your Attributes of God poster as a guide.

## PRAYER PROMPTS

Thank You, God, for sending Your Son, Jesus, to save us as the only way for us to reach You. Thank You that we don't have to work or strive to make a name for ourselves, because we already belong to You as Your children. Please help us rely on You alone to save us, lead us, and guide us all the days of our lives. Amen.



## THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READING

*Genesis 12-17*