



People Rebel Against God | Oct 24, 2021 | 1 year olds and 2 year olds

God created everything and everything He created was good. Sin entered the world through Adam and Eve and spread to impact everyone. God shows His goodness that despite our sin He desires a relationship with us.

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 10-11

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Why do we need a rescuer? God created everything and it was good, but sin wrecked the world and separated us from God.

CHRIST'S CONNECTION: 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. .

THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS: Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

BIBLE PASSAGE CONTEXT

We love to measure the health, success, or sustainability of pretty much anything and everything. We measure our kids by their grades in school. We measure teams by their wins and losses. We measure people by their influence and following on social media. In a world obsessed with measuring "success", we ought to be assessing in our own lives something we cannot see: our motivation.

We can define motivation simply as the reason we do something. Motivation is the driving force behind decisions we make. There is a reason for everything that we do- both big and small- but what that motivation is might not be obvious to those around us.

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 behavior? 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.

Places to Know:

Babel- Name given to the city and the tall tower that the disobedient descendants of Noah began to build so they would not be scattered over all the earth. Referred to as Babylon in some Bible translations.

TAKEAWAYS

- Sin is anything that goes against God's commands. It twists our understanding so that we ignore and disobey God.
- When God told the people to spread out around the earth and they stayed together, they sinned.
- When they tried to build a tower to make themselves famous instead of giving glory to God, they sinned.
- So that they wouldn't keep sinning, God confused their language and spread them out.
- **Bottom Line:** Whenever we go against God, it shows the problem deep in our hearts.

Small Group Prayer: "God, forgive us when we try to bring glory to ourselves and not to You. Help us to obey Your commands so we can honor You. Thank You that Jesus brings all tribes, nations, and tongues together to worship You. Amen."

SOCIAL ACTIVITY: Bean Bag Toss

What You Need: Toss Fold Up, Bean Bags, painter's tape for floor

What You Do:

Set up the Toss game. Put a taped line on the floor to mark where kids will stand to toss. Younger kids might need to stand closer. Give each kid 3 tries to toss a bean bag in the holes. Celebrate any victory.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's pray and listen to our story today."

Introduce the Story

"God told Noah's family to spread out and fill the earth. But the people did not obey God. They found a valley and decided to build a city. They wanted to make a tower out of bricks with its top in the sky. The people wanted to be as great as God is, but God is greater than anyone. God mixed up their words so the builders could not understand one another. They had to stop building and spread out all over the earth. The city with the tower was called Babel."

Play a Worship Song or 2 from DVD or Roku
Play the Teaching Video on DVD or Roku

Check diapers

APPLICATION ACTIVITY: Repair Heart Art

What You Need: heart shapes cut out of construction paper, band-aids (4-5 per kid), people stickers

What You Do:

- Give each kid a heart and band-aids.
- Encourage kids to remove paper from the band-aids to repair the heart.
- Provide people shaped stickers to stick on the hearts.
- Write: "One day Jesus will bring people together again" on each heart.
- Tell the Bible story.

What You Say "God made people spread out all over the earth. They spoke different languages, and they had different cultures. One day, Jesus will bring people together again. People will worship Jesus with their whole hearts."

TRANSITION ACTIVITY: Travel Around the World

What You Need: large laminated world map, cars and trucks, tape

What You Do:

- Tape the map to the floor.
- Invite toddlers to roll cars and trucks on the land and boats on the water.
- They may fly from continent to continent using planes.
- Tell the Bible story as they play.

What You Say “God told Noah’s family to spread out and fill the earth, but they did not obey God. Instead, they build a city with a tall tower. So God made the people spread out all over the earth. This map shows us what the earth looks like. One day, all people will worship Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- **Is being famous a sin?**
- **What excuses do you make when you disobey?**
- **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.
- **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.
- **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 new earth where Jesus will reign forever. There, everyone will bring Jesus glory and honor and praise forever.
- **Can our disobedience stop God’s good plan?** Remind kids that God is at work in the world and in control of all things. Our sin and rebellion separates us from God. We deserve God’s judgment. But God loves us and offers us grace. We know from the Bible that in the end, Jesus will return and God’s plans will succeed. Any rebellion against God will fail, but we can align ourselves with God through Jesus and part of His good plan. Read Psalm 33:11.
- **What kind of opportunities has God given you in your neighborhood, school, community, and beyond to make God’s name great? What steps will you take this week to do that?** Invite kids to share their ideas. Suggest they tell others the good news about what God has done for rebellious people. Kids might choose one or two people to reach out to this week. Pray for God to prepare those people’s hearts. Kids may also invite other kids to join them at church. Read Luke 2:10.

TRANSITION TO HOME: Prepare kids to talk with their family about what they learned today.

- As family members arrive to pick up their kid, greet them and tell them one thing you noticed about their kid that day or something you talked to each kid about remembering this week.
- If there is time to chat with the family, ask how you can pray for them this week.
- Say bye to the kid and call them by name.