LESSON 8

THE TOWER OF BABEL



Aim: **To show the children that mankind's pride separates us from God. Pride also separates people from each other.**

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

Memory Verse: **Proverbs 11:2**
When pride comes, then comes disgrace ...
NOTE: The word "Babel" has two meanings: (1) the court or gate of God and (2) confusion. In English, "babble" describes a confused sound with no meaning.

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Get the children to all talk at once. Once they have created a fair racket, stop them and ask if they could hear what everyone was saying. No! They could not, because there was so much noise and confusion.

If the class consists of members from various language groups, ask each child to greet the class in his or her mother tongue. Ask the class if they could understand every language. Many people can speak several languages, but no-one speaks all the languages of the African continent, let alone the world!

MAIN POINTS OF TODAY'S TEACHING

1. Today we hear how the Bible explains the existence of so many different languages among the human family. **Show Picture 5. Ask the class if they remember the story of Noah.** He obeyed God, built an enormous ark and saved his family from God's judgement.
   Noah's family grew. They became many people, but they all still spoke one language (11:1).
2. People eventually learnt to bake bricks like we do today, and decided to build a city with a mighty tower. The builders wanted to show off how clever they were. They had forgotten that it was God who had given them their building skills (11:1-4).
3. God had to cut down their pride and limit their wickedness. He did this by mixing up their language so that they could not understand each other. **Show Picture 8.** Point out the confusion and anger on the builders' faces (11:5-7).

Look,Listen&Live_Book1.indd 24 2012/09/07 16:12 PM



4. The building project was abandoned and people scattered again, inhabiting all the earth, as God had originally instructed them (1:28; 11:8-9).

Instil the Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

When babies have just learnt to walk they are very proud of their achievement. They will run off in one direction, even though it may be into danger, and refuse to come back. Someone has to go and collect them. Often, we are like such babies, very proud of ourselves. We want to be independent of God. But God did not make us that way. He wants us to have fellowship with him by obeying Him.



Look,Listen&Live_Book1.indd 25 2012/09/07 16:12 PM