

## Session 6

### Tower of Babel

People think they are more important than others, even more important than God. This session wants to help children to tangibly see that everyone is different, but that no one is more important than other people.

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

**Supplies:**

- 9 wooden blocks where one side has a greeting written in a specific language and on the opposite side of the block it has the name of the language. For example, olá is written on one side and Portuguese is written on the opposite side.
- This is the list of the 9 languages with their greetings:
  - Chinese – ni hao
  - French – bonjour
  - Hebrew – shalom
  - Italian – ciao
  - Japanese – konnichiwa
  - Portuguese – olá
  - Xhosa – molo
  - Russian – privet
  - German – guten tag
- Clay
- The game “Jenga” (if available)



### Welcome

Teach 9 children one of the greetings each and let the other children guess which language they’re speaking. See who gets it right and then teach everyone the different ways to greet.



### Worship

**Settle down ritual:** like the previous session



### Word

Choose 10 children and give 9 children each a block or cardboard box with the different greetings. The tenth child gets a staff or a stick.

Read Genesis 11:1-9 verse by verse.

Each time you’ve finished reading a verse, a child must place a block in front. Stack the blocks verse by verse on top of each other until you’ve made a tower.

Read the whole section so that 9 blocks are stacked on top of each other. However, don’t read the last sentence from verse 9: “From there God spread people all over the world.”

Now ask the children which language is on top of the tower. Is this the most important language? Is the language at the bottom the least important?

Now read the last sentence of verse 9 and let the tenth child push the whole tower over so that there isn't one block left.

Ask the children again which language they think is the most important.

Children reflect on the story:

1. I wonder why the people thought they could be just as important as God if they built a tower into heaven.
2. I wonder if people today still think they're more important than others.
3. I wonder how you feel when others think they're more important than you.
4. I wonder if you also sometimes think you're more important than others and how it makes them feel.



### Working and Playing

- Give the children blocks or Lego to play with and see how tall a tower they can build. You can also give them stones or cards and challenge them to build a high tower.
- Give the children paper and crayons to draw the tower of Babel.

### Closing prayer to end the session

Fold a rectangular paper in half. Cut slices as indicated on the pattern. While the paper remains folded, fold each "step" in the opposite direction. Unfold the paper and fold each step as shown in the photo.



