

BABEL TO BAPTISM: FROM BEING SCATTERED TO BEING GATHERED

GENESIS 11:1-9; ACTS 2:1-12

Lean In

Have you ever played treasure hunt? If yes, what is it that you enjoyed most about it? Was it finding the treasure or searching and looking for it? Share your experiences.

Look Down: Read Genesis 11:1-9 and Acts 2:1-12

1. Building Babel:

a. What attitudes and beliefs were behind the reasons to build the tower of Babel?

Reasons for building the tower. See Genesis 11:1-4	Attitudes and beliefs behind this reason:
Let us reach the heavens	
Let us make a name for ourselves	
Let us establish ourselves (not be scattered over the whole earth)	

b. What particular promise of God did they ignore? See Genesis 9:1

c. How did God frustrate their plan? See Genesis 11:5-8

2. Read Jeremiah 2:13

a. How does God describe Himself and therefore what is His plan and purpose for us?

b. What was the result of forsaking the Lord? How did the people try to fulfill themselves without God?

c. Why did their method not work?

d. How does this verse illustrate further the people's reasons for building Babel and their failure?

3. Read Genesis 12:1-3. In contrast to wanting to stay secure in Babel, what does God call Abraham to do? What blessings does He promise? Contrast God's plan to Abraham with the humanistic efforts of Babel.

Man's Plan	God's Plan
Let us reach the heavens	
Let us make a name for ourselves	
Let us establish ourselves (not be scattered over the whole earth)	

4. How are the promises of God to Abraham fulfilled in the New Testament? Read Gen 22:18 and Ephesians 2:4-6

5. In Acts 2:1-12, the apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit (whom Jesus promised He will send after His ascension to heaven -- see Acts 1:5). What 3 signs are given in connection with the coming of the Holy Spirit? What in particular did the speaking in other tongues (that were recognized by people from every nation) reveal about God's purpose regarding the unity and universality of His plan of salvation?

Look Out

6. How do people in our times express their spiritual thirst apart from the Living God?

Look In

7. In what ways do you try to make a “name” for yourself? In what ways do you satisfy your spirituality apart from God? What will you do about that?
8. What are you wrestling with in your own efforts? Pray over Proverbs 3:5-6 and Romans 8:26-27
9. Is there any un-confessed sin that maybe quenching the Holy Spirit from working in your life? In quietness before the Lord, ask Him to speak to you.