

WEEK 4

LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

We can honor God with the things we make.

BIBLE

The Tower of Babel:
Genesis 11:1-9

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Made for Praise

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs of your choice, but here are some suggestions that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
 - "Made in the Image" (Yancy & Little Praise Party feat. Erskin Anavitarte)
 - "Brick After Brick" (Sovereign Grace Music)
 - "Creation Song" (Saddleback Kids)
 - "God Makes Everything" (Rain for Roots)

ACTIVITY | Topple a Tower

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Partner up kids in teams of two or three. Have kids use Jenga blocks to build a tower as fast as they can! They have to use all the blocks you provide for them.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Use Melissa and Doug cardboard bricks or alphabet blocks instead of Jenga blocks.
- Today, we are learning about some people who built a super tall tower. They worked together to build it up to the sky. But, I wonder what God thought about that. We'll find out more in our story today!

ACTIVITY | Can You Build What I Build?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, you will need to build a tower, or a simple shape, out of blocks or LEGO Duplo bricks ahead of time. To play this relay game, split the kids into two teams with a bucket of blocks for each team. One kid per team will race down to their bucket, look at your tower, and put just one block in place to copy your tower pattern. Then, they must tag a teammate who will place the next block, and so on. The team that copies your tower first and correctly wins! Want to up the challenge? Use Duplo bricks and have kids copy the exact color order of your block pattern!
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Write or print pictures of simple actions on paper and tape them to large cardboard blocks or small boxes, one action per block. You can include actions, such as run in place, give a high five, take three giant steps, spin in a circle, etc. Place the blocks in a single

layer on the floor with the actions face down. Have toddlers take turns choosing a block, which will tell them what action the group gets to do together. Each time a block is chosen, stack it on top of the last one to form a tower. For added fun, you can have kids perform each action in the tower from top to bottom every time a block is stacked on top.

- In our story today, we'll see how people worked together to build a tower. But they didn't do it with a good heart, so God had to do something about it!

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | Genesis 11:1-9 (The Tower of Babel)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids sit around a pile of LEGO Duplo bricks as you tell the story from Genesis 11:1-9. Invite kids to build tall towers using the bricks. Feel free to use [this video](#) of today's story shown with LEGOs as an additional teaching tool before you tell the story or to review afterward.
- [Read Genesis 11:1-4 while kids build towers with the bricks.]
 - During this time, everyone spoke the same language, and everyone still lived in the same place.
 - They decided to build a city with a really, really tall tower in order to let everyone know who they are.
- [Read Genesis 11:5-6 as kids continue to build their towers.]
 - God was not happy with the tower the people were making. The people were given so many wonderful gifts and abilities. But instead of using them for God, they were using them to make themselves great.
 - They completely forgot about God!
- [Read Genesis 11:7-9. Have kids stop making their towers and place the bricks into a bucket.]
 - God ended up making the people speak different languages so that they couldn't understand each other. That made it really hard to build their tower!
 - They stopped building the city and the tower, and people began to move to different parts of the earth.
- The name of this tower was called "Babel," because it was the place where God changed up everyone's languages.

BIG IDEA | We can honor God with the things we make.

- Let's build our Big Idea out of LEGOs!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use LEGO Duplo bricks to "build" the Big Idea! Print a set of the Big Idea words on repositionable labels, 1 word per label. Place word labels on the sides of the bricks, 1 word per brick. As you build the Big Idea, invite the kids to say the words with you. After you build the tower, you can practice it a couple more times using hand motions.
- The Big Idea is . . .
 - **We can** [Point to yourself.]
 - **Honor God** [Point upward.]
 - **With the things we make.** [Hammer fists on top of each other.]

VIDEO | Make It or Break It, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of Cali's World.

ACTIVITY | Babbling Babel

- Through today's story, we learned that when our hearts are in the right place, **we can honor God with the things we make!**
- We saw how people, who all spoke the same language, wanted to make something to honor themselves instead of God. So, **what did God do?** God made it so people spoke *different* languages.
- Not only that, but many of the people ended up walking and walking and walking, and they found new places to live all across the earth.
- Let's imagine what that might have been like with everyone speaking different languages and having to walk around, not being able to understand each other!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Get a set of animal stickers or animal stamps and select the ones with recognizable sounds. Place a sticker on (or stamp) the back of each kid's hand, then have them walk around the room "talking" to each other like the animal on their hand. Practice with the kids what each animal sounds like before you begin the activity.*
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Give every toddler the same sticker and have them all make the sounds for the same animal. You can stack new stickers on top and repeat this activity a few more times.*

PRAYER

- Dear God, Thank you that we are able to make all kinds of things. Help us to let everyone know how great you are with what we make. Amen.

SHARING TIME

SNACK | Build-A-Snack

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Choose a few food items that kids can use to build with, such as pretzel sticks and cheese cubes, or Pocky sticks and marshmallows. Set items out on the table for kids to use to build their snack. You can offer several options and give them a time limit to build, or tell them to count out ten to fifteen items each. Whatever you feel would work best for your group!*
- **If you could move to any place in the world, where would you go?**

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Pass around a block popcorn style. Whoever gets the block answers a question in a silly voice!*
 - **What were the people in our story trying to make?**
 - **Why did their tower make God sad?**
 - **Why couldn't they finish making the tower?**
 - **What is something you like to make?**
 - **How can we honor God?**
 - Our Big Idea today is that **we can honor God with the things we make.**

ACTIVITY | Keep God in the Frame

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For this activity, you'll need ten jumbo craft sticks and one clothespin per kid. Review [these instructions](#) on how to make a popsicle stick picture frame, then help kids assemble theirs. While the glue on their frame dries, give each kid a piece of paper to draw a picture of anything to show that they love God! If you have an instant camera available, you can have kids clip a polaroid picture of themselves on it to show that they bring honor to God.*

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Give 8 jumbo craft sticks per kid, and use glue dots to help kids assemble a popsicle frame that looks like [this one](#). They can draw a picture on a piece of paper that represents their love for God, which can be adhered to the frame using more glue dots. Then encourage them to decorate their frame with foam or gem stickers.

- If we remember anything today, it's that **we can honor God with the things we make.** We can honor God with these picture frames by showing others our pictures of how we love God!

MEMORY VERSE | Hebrews 3:4 (NIV)

- **"For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything."**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Review the memory verse, then see if the kids can fill in the blanks while continuing to do the hand motions.
 - **For every** _____ [Hold hands over head like a house.]
 - **Is** _____ [Hammer fists on top of each other.]
 - **By someone, but** _____ [Point upwards.]
 - **Is the builder of** _____. [Stretch arms out to the side.]
 - _____ **3:4** [Hold hands out like an open book.]

PLAY TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse.

ACTIVITY | Bristle Blocks

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out [Bristle Blocks](#) and see how tall of a tower the kids can build!

ACTIVITY | Building Mix

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Bring out all the building supplies you've used throughout this series, and let kids build whatever their creative minds are set on!

WEEK 4

SMALL GROUP GUIDE



BIG IDEA

We can honor God with the things we make.

BIBLE

The Tower of Babel:
Genesis 11:1-9

QUESTIONS

Pass around a block popcorn style. Whoever gets the block answers a question in a silly voice!

- **What were the people in our story trying to make?**
- **Why did their tower make God sad?**
- **Why couldn't they finish making the tower?**
- **What is something you like to make?**
- **How can we honor God? We can honor God with the things we make.**

ACTIVITY

For this activity, you'll need ten jumbo craft sticks and one clothespin per kid. Scan QR code for instructions on how to make a popsicle stick picture frame, then help kids assemble theirs. While the glue on their frame dries, give each kid a piece of paper to draw a picture of anything to show that they love God! If you have an instant camera available, you can have kids clip a polaroid picture of themselves on it to show that they bring honor to God.



If we remember anything today, it's that **we can honor God with the things we make**. We can honor God with these picture frames by showing others our pictures of how we love God!

MEMORY VERSE: "For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything." — Hebrews 3:4 (NIV)

[Click here](#) for a memory verse sign language tutorial video you can share with your families and volunteers!