



"Let God's Grace Define Your Life"

Genesis 11:1-9

Language plays a big part in our lives, allowing us to connect, collaborate and to build intimacy.

- Today's narrative describes a time when everyone spoke the same language. *Gen. 11:1-3*
- Man's collaboration led to advancements that enabled them to attempt something great.

Motivation #1: *"let us make for ourselves a name"* *Genesis 11:4*

- A God-given name was tied to one's identity and to past or future accomplishments.
- By naming us, God declares that His grace is to be the defining factor in our lives.
- If we don't embrace our God-given identity, we're left striving to make a name for ourselves.
- Only God can make our name great in a way that really matters. *Genesis 12:2; Revelation 22:4*

Motivation #2: *"otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."* *11:4*

- They sought to find security, meaning, and identity by remaining together as a group.
- God's plan is for us to multiply and scatter in order to magnify His glory around the world.

Method: *"let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach into heaven."* *11:4*

- When man edges God out, he feels compelled to fill the void with religious experience.
- Ziggurat: A temple structure intended to link man with his gods through rituals. *Is. 2:12-15*

God sees the danger and immediately reverses man's misguided collaboration. *Gen. 11:5-9; Is. 40:22*

- Sometimes God fights against us in order to save us from ourselves.
- God kept His mission of rescue alive by scattering people over the face of the whole earth.

Further Study and Pondering:

1. Did you ever have a confusing language experience? How did it affect you?
2. Explain what it means to: "Allow the grace of God to be the defining factor in your life."
3. List ways that we might act when we are trying to "make for ourselves a name"? *Gen. 11:4*
4. Prayerfully consider if there are indicators that you're striving to make a name for yourself.
5. Further study/God-given name: (*Genesis 12:1-3; 17:1-6; 32:24-28; Matt. 1:21; Revelation 22:1-5*)
6. Why, from the beginning, has it been so important to God that we scatter around the world?
7. Why do we resist "scattering" and at times influence those we love not to scatter?
8. Prayer: Ask God if He desires for you to "scatter" in some new way. Say yes to Him. Tell God that you want Him to be the defining factor in your life & to use you to make His name great.

"Allow God to Define and Scatter You."