



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: **The Tower of Babel**
Speaker: **Rich Villodas – Lead Pastor**
Scriptures: **Genesis 11:1-9**

The Tower of Babel

11 Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. 2 As people moved eastward,[a] they found a plain in Shinar[b] and settled there.

3 They said to each other, “Come, let’s make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. 4 Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth.”

5 But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. 6 The Lord said, “If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. 7 Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other.”

8 So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. 9 That is why it was called Babel[c]—because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday, we continue our summer sermon series, Sunday School, with a look at the well-known story of the Tower of Babel. Together, we'll explore how this ancient account speaks directly to our modern world, and what it means to follow Jesus in a culture where appearances of unity often mask deeper divisions. Join us as we seek wisdom, clarity, and purpose through God's Word.

Sermon Questions:

1. East in the Bible means moving away from the presence of God, reminding the reader they are moving away from God's desires for them. Share about a time in your life when you made a deliberate move away from God and how it impacted your life.
2. The people building the tower were afraid of being scattered. The problem was that God had commissioned humanity to fill the earth and multiply- to carry the presence and glory of God to fill the earth. They wanted to be in a setting of sameness instead of letting their life bless others. When we start creating a culture of sameness, we are creating the conditions for exclusion and demonization. Where have you witnessed this dynamic at work in the world? What towers of sameness do you observe being built? (Ex. politics, religion, ethnicity, social class, financial status, etc)
3. What has been most tempting for you: building towers of sameness or building in isolation from God?
4. Verse three states the people's motive for building: “Come let us build ourselves... so that we may make a name for ourselves.” The motivation of building a tower is fear and pride. We are inundated with messages that we are not enough, especially through marketing and social media. When we are trying to build a life on being enough apart from God that is an unstable foundation. Every single day we have the temptation to be enough without God, in essence we become functional atheists. Prayerlessness and not reading Scripture are signs that we are functional

atheists. Take time to share one way you would like to grow in your prayer life or reading of Scripture.

5. Acts is an anti-Babel story. We exist to bless the world not to stay in our holy huddles. Take time to pray that God would give you vision and courage for how he is inviting you to bless the world this week.