

Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church
Sermon Series: Modern Day Babel – June 5, 2022



*This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, we need to do more than listen. The Bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only (James 1:22)." **Step 1: GATHER** with your family or group. **Step 2: REVIEW** and **DISCUSS** the key points and scriptures from the sermon. **Step 3: PRAY** for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.*

DISCUSSION STARTER

Ask your group to share the story of "The Tower of Babel" as they remember it. Maybe they grew up hearing it in Sunday School or through their own reading of the Bible. Ask, "How do the actions of the people in the story of "The Tower of Babel" differ from what God commanded in **Genesis 9:1 – "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth?"**

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Read Genesis 11:1-2. Pastor Sam showed the significance of the east being the direction away from God's presence and God's glory. **Read the following passages and discuss with your group: Genesis 3:24; 4:16; 11:2; 13:11-13; Leviticus 1:16; Psalm 103:12; and Ezekiel 43:4.** Ask, "What do you think is the importance of Jesus coming through the east at Bethany at His Triumphal Entry and moving westward into the Temple?"

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Read Genesis 10:8-10 and 11:3. Nimrod was not only a significant part of the story because he founded Babel in defiance of God, but he also may have attempted to waterproof the tower to guard against another flood. Notice the use of "they" means that they were united in their rebellion against God and moved away from God and settled in a place away from God. Ask, "How might the word 'settled' signal more than just where they lived? What is the spiritual significance of 'settling' far from the will of God and the glory of God?"

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Read Genesis 11:4. The use of plurals - "they," "us," "ourselves," "we" – continue to show that all the people wanted all the glory instead of God getting the glory He deserves. Pastor said, "When you focus on your own glory, you often ignore the word of God." Pastor also shared four reasons he believes we are in a "Modern Day Babel."

We are living in a modern-day Babel where...

- ... people defy the word of God and build their own kingdoms rather than God's kingdom.
- ... people's belief in themselves trumps their belief in God.
- ... more and more people believe their own good works are a pathway to Heaven.
- ... people's pride is the source of their motivation.

DOING THE WORD

Read James 4:6 and Romans 12:3. Pride is always dangerous for the people of God. Ask, "What do these verses tell us about the problem of pride and the problems it creates?" Pastor gave us this final challenge, "When your motivation becomes about making God's name famous more than your name, then you position yourself to be used by God in all situations." Encourage your group or family to seek to bring glory to God every day and in every situation. **Read and invite your group to memorize 1 Corinthians 10:31 and use it this week as a reminder to seek to do everything to the glory of God.**