

Real World Skit

You and an assistant will read a skit discussing where different languages came from.

Student 1: Hey! Can I ask you something?

Student 2: Sure.

Student 1: I saw a science show last night. It said that people may have started talking like thirty thousand years ago! Or did they say fifty thousand? . . . Or maybe it was two million.

Student 2: What were you watching? Did they know what they were talking about?

Student 1: I thought they did. The scientists seemed really smart! But now that I think about it, some things didn't really make sense.

Student 2: So, what do you want to know?

Student 1: Well, why are there so many languages instead of just one?

Student 2: OK. First of all, you do know you can't believe everything you see on TV, right?

Student 1: Right.

Students 2: Good. So, there are lots of ideas out there about languages! But I did hear our pastor explain it at church, and it really made sense.

Student 1: What? At church?!

Student 2: Yeah! The Bible explains different people groups and languages really well.

Student 1: Hmm. They didn't mention THAT on TV.

Student 2: No, they probably wouldn't. A lot of those shows are done by people who don't believe the Bible and don't want us to believe it either.

Student 1: So the Bible tells us the answer?

Student 2: Yes. It tells how the different languages began a short time after the flood of Noah's day.

Student 1: OK. So, only Noah and his family got off the ark, right? And I'm sure they all spoke the same language. What happened after that?

Student 2: After the flood, God told Noah and his sons to have families and move away and spread across the whole world. About one hundred years later, there were

more people on the earth, but they didn't obey God and spread out. They decided to stay in one place and build a big city and a great tower.

Student 1: I've heard about that! You're talking about the tower of Babel, right? But what does that have to do with languages?

Student 2: Well, the people were disobeying God. They wanted to make themselves great and do their own thing.

Student 1: That wasn't smart, was it?

Student 2: No, it sure wasn't! So God stopped them.

Student 1: What did he do?

Student 2: Remember, they all spoke one language—they understood each other. But God suddenly changed the one language into MANY languages. And this caused major confusion!

Student 1: Really? So it would be like we are talking, and suddenly we would start speaking another language and not understand each other at all? Wow! That would be confusing!

Student 2: Yep. So, the people in families probably spoke the same language. And after they found each other in all the confusion, they packed their things and headed out of Babel to find some other place to live.

Student 1: And they spread all over the world looking for new places?

Student 2: Right. Their families kept growing. And that is how we got different languages, people groups, and nations.

Student 1: Wow! That really makes sense. So, how long ago was it?

Student 2: Well, according to the Bible, the flood was about 4,400 years ago. And this happened about 110 years after the flood. So the different languages started about 4,300 years ago.

Student 1: So it wasn't millions of years ago! Somehow that makes a lot more sense than that TV show! Thanks. That really helped.