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## WARM UP

What's a place that you're yet to visit, but you can't wait to get to?



#### Read Genesis 11:1-9

The account of the people building the tower of Babel in Genesis 11 holds within it many lessons for all of humankind. Although unity is often a great attribute, when we are unified around a wrong and selfish cause, we inevitably see the tower of self-exaltation take a huge tumble.

## **NOTES**



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### 1 Found a Plain and Settled There

<sup>1</sup>Now the whole earth had one language and the same words.<sup>2</sup>And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there.

**Genesis 11:1-2** (ESV)

The Hebrew name *Shinar* means, "sleeping while supposed to be watching." Despite the people's unity around language and vocabulary, it would seem that there was a "settling" for a purpose that was safer, yet different from what God had intended for them.

- What is one thing you have tried that required the most courage?
- Do you find it easier now to obey God than you did 5 years ago? Why or why not?

## 2 Make a Name for Ourselves

<sup>4</sup>Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth."

#### Genesis 11:4 (ESV)

Their cause is exposed here: "to make a name for themselves" by building a tower that reaches to the heavens so they would not have to go all over the earth. This differs from the cause of God: that His name is made glorious in all the earth.

- Why do you think the people feared being dispersed over the face of the whole earth? Is this different from how you would act in this scenario? Why or why not?
- Is there a difference between what you hope people say about who you are, and who you believe you are? If so, how?

### **3** Making Disciples with the Master

<sup>8</sup>So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. <sup>9</sup>Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

#### **Genesis 11:8-9** (ESV)

<sup>28</sup>And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 1:28 (ESV)

<sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

#### Matthew 28:19 (ESV)

God's intention was always for us to be dispersed over the face of all the earth. His desire has always been for us to spread ourselves worldwide, so people everywhere may see His image in us.

• How visible is the image of God in your surroundings? How can people see that you know the love of God?

# PRAYER

- Pray that God will reveal to you how to love others the way He loves you.
- If you're a follower of Jesus, pray for the boldness to go out of your zone of comfort to tell others about the love of Christ.
- Pray for the names of people that don't know Christ in their lives, so that God would supernaturally open conversations to take place about the Gospel, and that the Gospel will advance.
- Pray for your nation, that God's name would be the only name that matters.