

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, August 3, 2014

Passage: Genesis 11:1-9

Memory Passage: Genesis 11:9

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Gen 11:1-9.** Chapter 10 lists the lands, languages, clans, and nations that came from Noah and his 3 sons. Chapter 11 describes the events surrounding how these nations were scattered. So chapter 11 is chronologically prior to chapter 10.
- (b) Is it a good or bad thing that “the whole earth had one language and the same words,” and why is this an important fact?
- (c) Why might it not be a good thing for the people to “settle” in the plain of Shinar (cf. 9:1 & 1:28)?
- (d) What do you learn from vs. 3 & 4 about the state of industry & technology at this point in history, and how does this remind you of Cain’s descendants (4:17-22)?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Gen. 11:1-9.** How are the city & tower related, or to put it another way, why did they desire to build both?
- (b) For what purposes did the people desire to build this city & tower?
- (c) Why do the people desire the tower to have “its top in the heavens?”
- (d) What is noticeably absent from the actions and motives of the people?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Gen. 11:1-9.** Did the LORD *need* to “come down” in order to “see” the tower, and if not, why does Moses say this?
- (b) How does the unity of the people result in them being able to do anything “they propose to do,” of which the building of the tower and city is “only the beginning,” and why is this kind of ingenuity and creativity bad?
- (c) How does the LORD acting to “confuse their language so that they may not understand one another’s speech” solve this?
- (d) Is God judging the city, the tower, or the people, and how do you know?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Gen. 11:1-9.** Trace the word “disperse” through this passage and explain its significance to the story.
- (b) How is God’s response to the tower builders similar to God’s response to Adam & Eve in 3:22-24?
- (c) What was the primary problem with what the people were doing?
- (d) In what ways do men & women today display this kind of hubris even as they enjoy the blessings of God?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Genesis 11:1-9.** What have you learned about the character of God from this passage? The character of fallen man?
- (b) What is the importance of the fact that now the world is divided by lands, languages, clans, and nations?
- (c) When the LORD confused their language and scattered the people He was minimizing their ability to sin. Is this still true today? In other words, does the presence of different languages, nations, clans, and lands still prevent mankind from sinning in a greater way than they would if they were still unified in language and people group? Explain your answer.
- (d) What do you see in this passage that reminds us of the hope we have in God’s promise to provide a Seed that will overcome Satan?

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The Tower: Idolatrous Ingenuity