

#### CHURCH EDUCATION

The Holy Bible The Book of Mormon



'...and they shall become one in thine hand.' Ezekiel 37.17

# LESSON TITLE

Tower of Babel

# **UNIT 6 - Evidence of Authority and Establishing the Church**

#### **GRADES 1-3**

#### **HOLY BIBLE**

Genesis 11:4, "And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."

# THE BOOK OF MORMON

Ether 1:33, "Which Jared came forth with his brother and their families, with some others and their families, from the great tower at the time the Lord confounded the language of the people, and swore in his wrath that they should be scattered upon all the face of the earth; and according to the word of the Lord the people were scattered."

# **OBJECTIVES**

The students will be able to:

Dramatize the account of the tower of Babel, Genesis 11:1-9

#### **ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS**

- Why was the Lord unhappy with men's desire to build a tower to heaven?
- How did the Lord stop them from building the tower?

#### **MATERIALS**

Holy Bible (KJV) The Book of Mormon

Video: God's Story - Tower of Babel, 3:44 minutes

Song: This Little Light of Mine

**Story Map:** For dramatization – copies for narrator and actors.

#### **TEACHER NOTES**

30 -minute lesson

To prepare for this lesson, study scriptures in **OBJECTIVES**.

Q = Teacher asks question

Note: The Church of Jesus Christ uses the Authorized King James Version of The Holy Bible and The Book of Mormon published by The Church

### **PROCEDURE**

# Motivation/Introduction (1-2 minutes)

1. Engage students in a conversation focused on the meaning of "time out" (Example below)

**Q:** (Make the "time out" hand symbol.) Who knows what this means?



Q: What does "time out" mean? (Time for rest or a break.)

Explain: When a coach or referee calls a time out during a ball game, the players have to stop playing. It's usually because the coach or referee has something to tell them. Maybe they need to make a new plan, or they broke a rule and got a penalty.)

**Q:** Have you ever been put in "time out"? What is the purpose of being put in "time out"? (It's a means to **change** someone's behavior (from unacceptable to acceptable); To **separate** someone and **stop** misbehavior.)

Goal: Dramatize the account of the tower of Babel.

# Lesson Development (25 minutes)

- Video: Watch video of the tower of Babel (Link page 1).
- 2. Students act-out the story of the tower of Babel (See Story Map below):
  - a. Read through Story Map with students.
  - b. Assign roles and direct students. Teacher can narrate or assign to a student.
  - c. Students perform one or more times.
- 3. Discuss Essential Questions.
- 4. Song: Teach "This Little Light of Mine."

Key words: Evidence of Authority and Establishing the Church, Babel, Jaredites, brother of Jared

# **Story Map - The Tower of Babel**

(Narrator) A long time ago, after God saved Noah and his family from the flood, the world became populated with people again. All people in the world spoke the same language. One day the people said...

(Citizens) "Let's build a city and a big tower, tall enough to reach heaven. Everyone who sees the tower will remember us, and we will be famous." (Citizens pretend to build.)

# (Narrator speaks. Actor playing God observes, frowns, and gestures "No" with his head.)

The Lord came down from heaven to see the city and the tower. He was very displeased that the people did not listen to Him.

(Narrator or actor playing God speaks. Actor playing God gestures appropriately to the statements.) "This behavior makes me very unhappy. I do not want My children to build a tower to reach heaven. I want them to believe My Son, Jesus Christ, will bring them to Me. I do not want My children to think they are better than others. I want all My children to love one another and treat everyone well. I must put a stop to this improper behavior and get My children to listen to Me."

(Actor playing God) "I know what I will do, I will give them a time out - a time to think about what they are doing wrong, and how to do things right. How will I get their attention? I know what I will do, I will change their language – make it impossible for them to communicate and work together. Then, I will separate them – send them to live in different parts of the world. This will get their attention and remind them to listen to Me."

(Actors playing citizens pretend to speak different languages, act amazed and frightened at not being able to communicate, and move to different parts of the room, as actor playing God directs.)

(Narrator) When the people realized that their language had changed and they could no longer understand one another, they remembered that God is great – only He can perform such amazing things. They remembered His instructions - to always pray, to always ask His permission, and to always listen to Him.