



LEVEL K
K·5
LESSON 5

Imperial Academy *Bible Lessons*



The Tower of Babel

The Tower of Babel

Noah and his family left the ark. They were the only human beings who were still alive. God had drowned the rest of humanity because of their sin, violence and evil. Noah taught his family to never forget the lesson they had just learned in the great Flood: Sin causes destruction. And worldwide sin causes worldwide destruction.

Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth. These sons and their wives had children, and their children had children. Every human being since that time descended from Noah and his sons.

God instructed Noah's descendants to spread out across the Earth. But by the time Noah's great-grandchildren grew up, many of them disobeyed. Instead of doing what God said was right, they decided to choose for themselves what was right. This is the same sin that Adam and Eve committed in the Garden of Eden when they ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Instead of spreading out, Noah's great-grandchildren lived together in cities in a land called Shinar (also called Mesopotamia). These people had a problem: wild animals. Snakes and other animals had been peaceful when God created them in the Garden of Eden, but now they were wild and violent. Animals such as lions attacked people.

But one man used his strength and skill to kill dangerous animals. This man's name was Nimrod. He was the grandson of Ham.

Nimrod protected people from the animals, and the people let him rule over them. He became king of Shinar, and he told the people not to worship the God of Noah. Instead, he led them into worshiping the sun, stars and serpents. Satan was using Nimrod to turn people to other gods. When people worshiped these other gods, they were actually worshiping Satan!

The people remembered the Flood. And they did not believe God's promise to never flood the Earth again. The people decided to build an enormous tower that would stand taller than they thought any flood could reach. With this tower, they could disobey God. If He sent a flood to punish them, they could climb the tower and stay above the water. This attitude has existed throughout human history: Do what you want, then try to avoid the consequences.

The people gathered in the cities of Shinar to build the tower. They did not spread out as God had commanded. Because they were all in one place, Nimrod could more easily rule over them.

God saw what the people were trying to do. They were quickly becoming as disobedient, violent, evil and miserable as the people before the Flood had been.

God intervened. He kept His promise and did not flood the Earth. Instead, He changed the people's language into many different languages. Family groups could no longer understand other family groups, because they spoke different languages.

The people became confused. They began to argue and fight. The people stopped working on the tower, and it was never finished. It became known as the tower of Babel, which means "tower of confusion."

People talked only with those they could understand. They separated from people they could not understand. Finally they left Shinar and spread out across the Earth, the way God had commanded!



ILLUSTRATIONS: MELISSA BARRERO

Animals leave the ark.



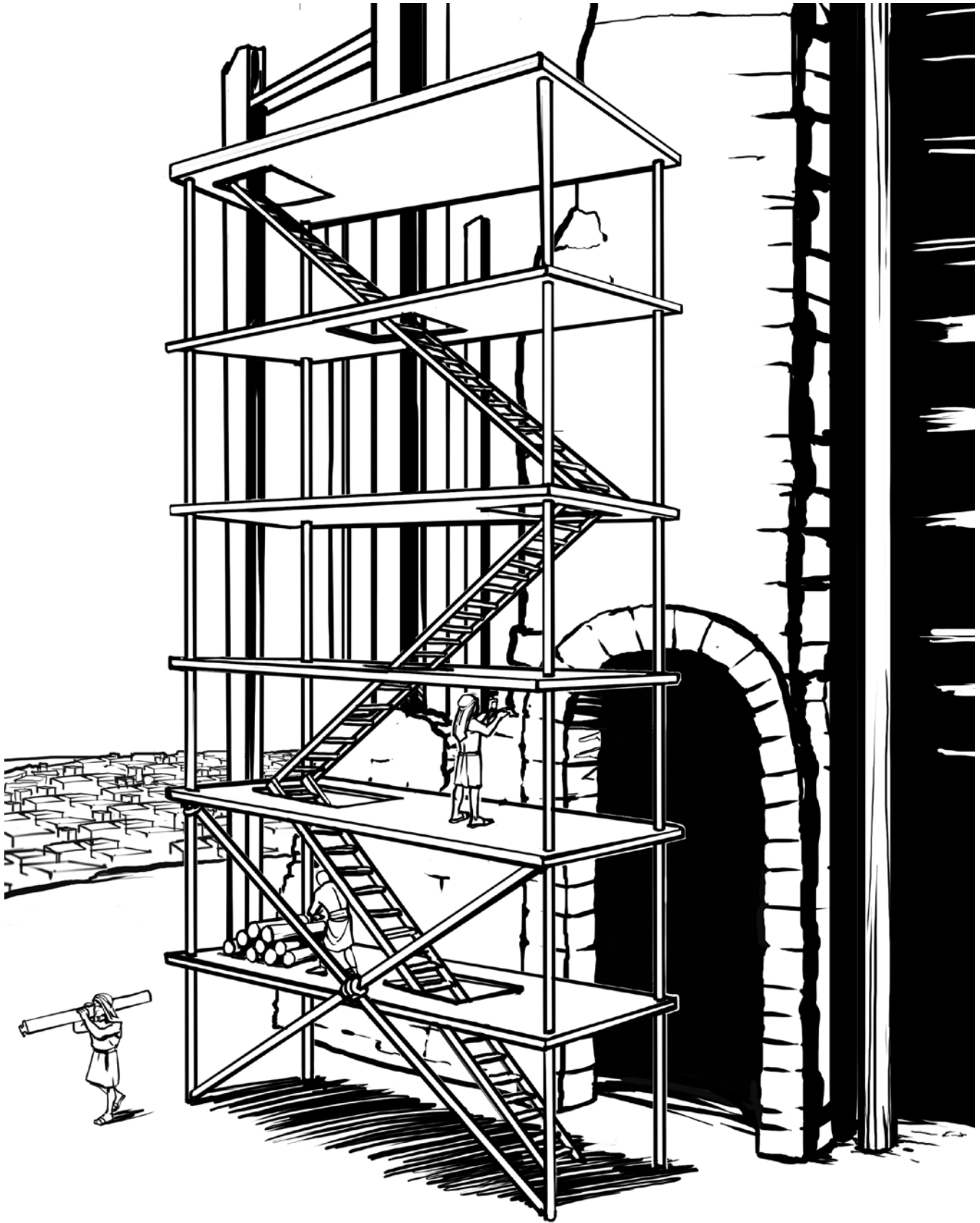
Noah teaches his sons and grandchildren.



People flock to Nimrod for protection.



Nimrod leads people to worship idols.



People build the tower of Babel.



The tower of Babel



God confuses the languages so the people of Shinar cannot understand each other.



People scatter after God confuses the languages.

Tower of Babel crossword

Across

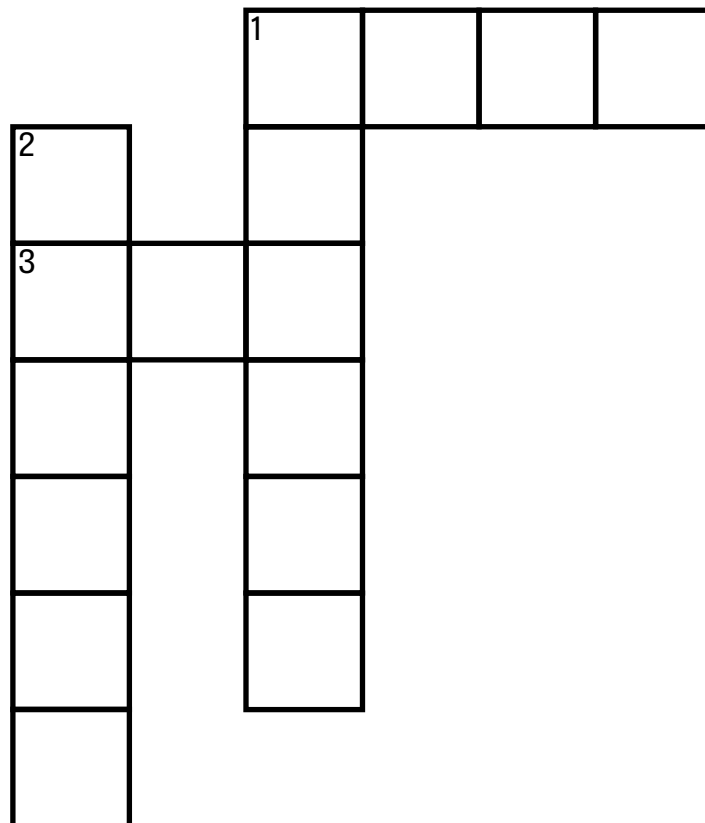
1. Who built the ark?
3. Who was Nimrod's grandfather?

Down

1. Who led the people to build a tower?
2. Where did Nimrod's followers live?

Words

Noah Ham
Nimrod Shinar



Parents: Help your child complete this puzzle by reading them the question and pointing out the answers from the answer bank. Then have them write the correct answer in the crossword blanks.