

“The Beginning of Community Ego”

The Beginning of Everything Series

Babel--Genesis 11: 1-9

1. Hook

- What is your favorite Christmas movie? Why?
- In the sermon, Sager mentioned “The Christmas Story” and the “double dog dare” that caused a boy to put his tongue on a frozen pole. What is the craziest thing you have ever done on a dare?
- Has there ever been a time you took a dare just because you were proud and didn’t want to lose face?
- Why does “pride” and “ego” seem to get in the way of relationships, friendships and even meaningful moments in life?

2. Book

A. Read Gen. 11: 1-4 What motivated Babel?

- How does having a common language and common way of talking help us to get things done?
- Why do you think people move toward city centers and into urban areas? Why do we tend to congregate?
- What was the impressive new technology they developed?

- Why did they want to build a giant tower?

B. Read Genesis 11: 5-7

- Is there irony in verse 5? What is it? (Read Isa. 40: 22)
 - What are the concern God voices about the people and their ability to work together?
 - Is God afraid they'll not need him anymore?
 - Is God concerned about what pride will do?
 - Why did God confuse languages? Scatter people?
- Q: Is the internet connecting people again in dangerous ways? Why or why not?

C. . Read Genesis 11: 8-9

- Do you think this is where languages, cultures and races came from?
- Why would God want us to be different? What was God trying to do by giving us many languages, cultures and nationalities?
- How does Genesis 1: 26-27 serve as a reminder here?
- How sad is a half finishes building? Is there usually a story that goes with it?
- If you had to name the "Tower of Babel" a different name than "Babel" what would it be?

3. Look

- A. Read Psalm 127: 1-2. Why is it so vitally important that God be the one motivating what we do?

- A. Have you ever known someone who dedicated what they do to God? Ever studied Bach?
- A. Read Prov. 18: 10. How does this text instruct us to live differently than Babel?
- A. Consider: Is Acts 2 the reversal of Babel? How? Why would God do this?

4. Took:

- A. How does the birth of Jesus turn “ego and pride” on its head? Consider how differently the birth of Jesus could have been if a king had planned the birth...
- A. Read the Song of Mary from Luke 1: 46-55. How does her song celebrate the world of the Tower of Babel being turned upside down?
- A. Ponder what is really important this Christmas—and focus upon “presence” over “presents.” Consider what you have to give away rather than erect.

A.