

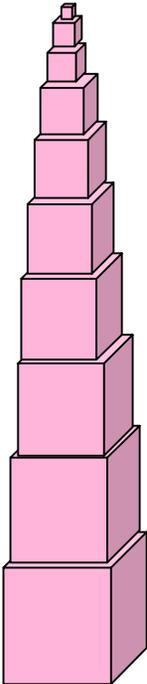
# Let the Little Children Come

## Lesson 22. A PLAY ON WORDS

- Purpose:
- To review the “sixth day” of Creation.
  - To introduce the story of the “Tower of Babel.”
  - To aid the child in understanding that there are times when each of us must work alone for awhile.
  - To deepen the child’s awareness that “our differences” can have beneficial results.
  - Indirectly, to allow the child to see that what is not, at first, understood can be an opportunity for learning something new.

- Materials: The Pink Tower (or any other large tower of building blocks).  
A mat  
2 or 3 adults (beside the teacher, who is narrator for the “play”)... preferably adults who can speak different languages. But if this isn’t possible, people who can speak “gobbledygook” will do.  
A “book,” from which the play is read.

Presentation:



- 1) Have the children sit on one side of a mat on which the pieces of the Pink Tower have been randomly placed. (The adults are standing off to one side of the room.)
- 2) Ask the children if they can remember on what day God created people (Answer: Sixth.)
- 3) Tell them that a long time ago all the people on earth spoke the same language...just as we are all speaking the same language in this room...and, today, they are going to see a play about those people.
- 4) The teacher narrates the following story from her “book.”

“It was such a long time ago that these people didn’t know very many words...like a baby or a very young child doesn’t know many words, at first. But they could understand each other very well. The only problem was that they were afraid of going off by them selves and trying something new...so...they all gathered around the plain of Shinar, together...”

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*(At this time, the adults should gather behind the mat, facing the children.)*

“And they decided to build a very big tower...much bigger than this tower, but this one will have to do for our play.

Day after day they built their tower...week after week...And one day, God came to see how they were doing.

He saw that they were building a very nice tower, and He knew that this was just the beginning of what they would, eventually, be able to do...and that someday they would learn to do lots of different things...

But not if building a tower was all they ever did!

People can't learn something new unless the try something new!

Heavens! They weren't even learning any new words? Just listen to them...”

*(At this point, the adults should use some very simple words while they are working on the tower, such as*

*bigger  
smaller  
yes  
no  
thank you, etc.)*

“So God decided to teach them some new words!

But God doesn't give us all the same gifts...so He didn't give everyone the same words, either. Each person was given his own special word(s)...word(s) that no one else had ever heard before.”

*(At this point, the narrator should point to each of the adults, in turn; and each should respond by saying something in a different language...or...each should say one special word, different from any one else's word.)*

“They had to stop building their tower, of course, because they couldn't understand one another...and each person

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was sent off to find out more about the word(s) he had been given...because they couldn't ask each other, could they?"

*(The narrator sends each adult off to a different part of the room, where they become interested in some piece of equipment in the room.)*

“AND GUESS WHAT THEY FOUND OUT?!...That there are lots of other interesting things to do besides just building a tower!

They traveled all over the world...”

*(As each adult leaves the room, the narrator should say “Goodbye” in that person’s special language.)*

“But, you know what? Someday, they would all come back together, again...and God would teach them how to tell one another about all the wonderful things that they had seen and learned. And they would live happily together ever after.

The End.”

Song: **Seek and Ye Shall Find**

Activity: Send the children into the room to find things that they think are interesting. Perhaps they would like to work on something by themselves.