

# Don't Want to Be Famous | Tower of Babel (Youth)

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Did you know that one of the oldest stories in the Bible is about people wanting to get famous, and what happened to them when they tried? It's important because everyone seems to be trying to get famous today, whether it's on YouTube, The Voice, or in sports. But is getting famous really what we should be focusing on?

Maybe you hear a story about a YouTuber getting famous overnight because of a ridiculous video, and now you're Jonesen to get famous too. You've thought about starting your own YouTube channel, getting a retweet from someone famous, or pulling off a crazy stunt so that others can see how amazing you are.

Well, here's the story from the Bible that you might want to hear first. It's from [Genesis 11](#), and it's the story of the Tower of Babel.

**Genesis 11:1-2** *At one time all the people of the world spoke the same language and used the same words. 2 As the people migrated to the east, they found a plain in the land of Babylonia and settled there.*

Here's the part where they try to get famous:

**Genesis 11:3-4** *Then they said, "Come, let's build a great city for ourselves with a tower that reaches into the sky. This will make us famous and keep us from being scattered all over the world."*

## They wanted to make a name for themselves

This story takes place right after Noah had built the ark. His family had grown and now had a bunch of people, and they wanted to be great so they could brag about it. That's the main thing they wanted. They wanted to be famous and tell everyone "Look how great we are! Look how tall our tower is!"

Now, building the tower was not the bad thing, just like being famous isn't. There are a lot of famous people who have done amazing things for God. It's the reason most people want to be famous that is bad, because they care about getting recognition for themselves and being better than other people. God knew this is what was in their hearts, so he decided to do something about it.

**Genesis 11:5-9 (NLT)** *5 But the Lord came down...Come, let's go down and confuse the people with different languages. Then they won't be able to understand each other." 8 In that way, the Lord scattered them all over the world, and they stopped building the city.*

## Don't want to be famous

Famous people usually get really big heads and walk around acting like God. The only problem is that there's only one God, and it's not you. That's why you shouldn't try to be famous. Just try to be a humble teen who loves God and puts him first.

Oh, and if you do become famous someday, make sure you point people to God, not to yourself. Learn from the Tower of Babel – try to stay down to earth.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. *Watch the video together or invite someone to summarize the topic.*
2. *What is your initial reaction to this video? Do you disagree with any of it? What jumped out at you?*
3. *Who is someone famous that you admire? Why do you admire them?*
4. *Why would you want to be famous? How do you think your relationship with God change if you became famous?*
5. *What are some things that we do to make ourselves more popular or liked? How do these things take the focus off of God?*
6. *Read [Genesis 11:3-4](#). What was the attitude of the people? Why didn't God like their attitude?*
7. *Why is it foolish to find our happiness in our own popularity or accomplishments?*
8. *What does it look like to be humble? Why does God prefer you to be humble?*
9. *Write a personal action step based on this conversation.*