WHEN UNITY MISSES THE POINT

November 15th, 2026

The Search for Significance // Genesis 11:1-9

Message Context

Genesis 11 brings The Search for Significance to its climax. At Babel, humanity is remarkably united; but united around the wrong purpose. Rather than obeying God's command to fill the earth, they settle together, build for themselves, and seek to "make a name" for themselves. Their unity is strong, but it is aimed at human glory rather than God's glory. In contrast, Scripture points us toward another united multitude: people from every nation, tribe, people, and language gathered around the throne proclaiming the glory of God and the Lamb. The message reminds us that unity is only as good as what it is centered upon. God calls His people not to build their own names, security, or kingdoms, but to trust Him, obey His commands, depend upon His provision, and live for the glory of Christ.

CONNECT – Announcements (page 2) & Building Relationships

1. What has been one highlight from our group this trimester?
2. What is one way God has encouraged, challenged, or grown you through our time together?

REFLECT - Out of the Word and Into Our Lives

3. **Read Genesis 11:1-9.** What stands out to you most from a fresh reading of the passage, and is there anything from the message that you want to be sure we don't miss as a group?
4. The people of Babel had remarkable unity: the same language, the same location, and the same ambition. Why wasn't their unity pleasing to God?
5. Pastor Jeremy said, "Unity is only as good as the center that it gathers around." What are some good things that Christians or churches can become united around that could still become distractions from Christ?
6. God had commanded humanity to "be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth," yet the people at Babel deliberately settled together so that they would not be scattered. What does their response teach us about the difference between being successful at our plans and being obedient to God?
7. The sermon described unity as "a multiplier" rather than "a compass." Why is truth more important than simply getting everyone to agree?
8. The builders substituted man-made bricks for naturally occurring stones. Pastor Jeremy used this to warn against allowing God's gifts; books, medicine, technology, musicians, abilities, and resources, to replace our dependence upon God. Where are you most tempted to trust what you can accomplish rather than depend upon God?
9. Babel's builders said, "Let us make a name for ourselves." What are some modern ways people attempt to make a name for themselves? How can Christians subtly fall into the same temptation?
10. Pastor Jeremy asked, "When you meet someone… whose name do they carry out of that conversation? Are they impressed by you, or do they walk away impressed by your Savior?" What

would it look like for Christ's name rather than your own to increasingly shape your reputation, work, family, and relationships?

11. The scattering at Babel was judgment, but it was also an act of mercy that restrained humanity's united rebellion. Can you identify a time when a closed door, failed plan, or unexpected change eventually proved to be an expression of God's kindness in your life?
12. Pastor Jeremy contrasted Babel with the gospel: human religion attempts to build from earth to heaven, while the gospel is heaven coming down to us. Why is that distinction essential to understanding Christianity?
13. Babel sought to make a name, but immediately afterward God called Abram and promised, "I will make your name great." What does this contrast teach us about receiving our identity and significance from God rather than trying to manufacture them ourselves?
14. The sermon began and ended with the multitude of Revelation 7 gathered around the throne, united not around their own greatness but around the Lamb. How does knowing where history is ultimately heading reshape what you want your life to be about today?

🛡 PROTECT – Care for one another (divided, gender-specific groups)

15. Where are you building a tower? Is there an area of your life where your plans, security, reputation, comfort, or ambitions have begun to matter more than obeying and glorifying Christ?
16. Where is God calling you to scatter rather than settle? Is there a relationship, ministry opportunity, act of obedience, or gospel conversation you know you need to pursue instead of remaining comfortable?
17. Who is your one? Identify at least one person God has placed in your life who does not know Christ. Commit together to continue praying for that person and looking for opportunities to share the gospel, even while Life Groups are between trimesters. Pastor Jeremy specifically challenged the church to pray for boldness, opportunities, and a burden for that person.

Announcements

Thanksgiving Meal: November 24th @ 6:00 pm – Sign-up at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054EA8A92AA7F4CF8-66998325-church?useFullSite=true#/

Love My Neighbor Day: Mayodan Christmas Stroll: December 4th – Information at https://my.nvf.life/stroll

Resources for Going Deeper

- It would be helpful to read through Genesis 4-11 as a whole unit again. Seeing how man's search for significance