

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION
Our Sin; God's Mercy - Genesis 11:1-9 - "God Graciously Disperses Humanity"

1. Is there anything specific from this message that the Lord has impressed upon your heart?
If so, what is it & how do you feel the Lord calling you to respond?
2. Can you think of a time in your life when you've been motivated to make a name for yourself? (i.e. sought your glory over God's)
What was/is the situation and how have you been able to identify your own motivation?
If it's a past situation, how did things ultimately play out for you, & how did the Lord open your eyes to what was happening?
3. Read Genesis 11:1-9 (The Tower off Babel narrative)
What stands out to about the actions of the people, and what makes their endeavor wicked? (Need help? See Gen. 1:28 & 9:1)
In addition to their disobedience of God's command to "fill the earth" how do their motivations cause their actions to be evil?
(i.e. are forming bricks & building a tower wrong, or does the motivation of the people in doing so make it wrong)?
Based on this, would you agree that it is the internal motivation that can cause an otherwise neutral action to be good or evil?
Why would you agree or disagree with this and what Scriptural evidence do you have to inform & back-up your position?
4. How does God's intervention in this passage (and specifically His work to disperse all of the people) reveal His merciful character?
How does a right understanding of God help us to see his intervention (even if it's a form of chastisement) as beneficial for us?
Have you ever experienced the discipline of the Lord in your life and then come to see the benefits in the aftermath of it?
How can we rightly see God's discipline as a means of growth rather than let it lead us to unjustly accuse God of wrong?
5. How does the coming of Christ, and specifically, Jesus sending the Holy Spirit to indwell us give us a new perspective on this story?
Look at the New Testament command given to the Church of oneness/unity in Christ & compare it with the oneness in Gen. 11.
What is the difference between the two, and how are God's grace and mercy each evident in both situations?
How does the return of Christ and His promise to complete the work He began in us motivate us to live with His glory in mind?
6. Below are the "Today's Takeaways" from the sermon. Do any of these particularly encourage, convict, challenge, you, & if so, how?
 1. **People exist for God's glory, not our own!**
In seeking His glory we fulfill our purpose!
 2. **Defying God always has consequences!**
His ways are always better than our own!
 3. **God is mercifully intervening in our lives!**
In light of God's great mercy, turn to Him!
 4. **As you see God at work, respond in faith!**
God is always at work; choose to trust Him!