

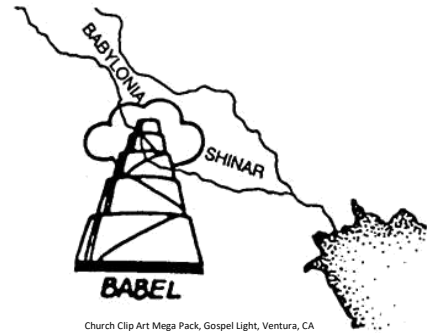
Case Studies

For ages men have tried to achieve unity on strictly human terms, without God. It never works. This case study addresses the problem and a believer's relationship to it. The study consists of a set of questions for class discussion, followed by a scenario that highlights the realities of the problem.

Human Barriers – Genesis 11:1-9 A Case Study in Division and Unity

We live in a divided world

- 1 – Read Genesis 11:1-9. Who is missing from man's effort to "make a name for himself" at Babel?
- 2 – God stepped in to confuse and scatter men. What effect did this have on their desire to be "one people?"
- 3 – What kinds of things divide mankind today? List as many as you can.
- 4 – Is the world destined to remain divided like this forever? How do you know?



Church Clip Art Mega Pack, Gospel Light, Ventura, CA

Modern efforts to unite

- 5 – What are some of the ways that people try to unite themselves today, locally and globally? List several.
- 6 – What do all of these efforts have in common?
- 7 – Who is missing from all of these efforts?
- 8 – Given the lesson of Babel, can man achieve unity by his own efforts? Please explain.

Biblical unity

- 9 – Read Zephaniah 3:8-9. What will God do to reverse the effects of Babel? What will all people do after this?
- 10 – Read Ephesians 1:9-10. Through whom will God unite mankind?

- 11 – Read Ephesians 4:1-6. What are the defining characteristics of believers in Christ? What do they have in common now?

Some things to think about

- 12 – Since God will unite the world, not man, what should our relationship be to the things that currently *divide* men? Should we take sides? Please explain.
- 13 – Since God will unite the world, not man, what should our relationship be to the efforts that men make to *unite* themselves? Should we commit ourselves to any of these efforts? Please explain.

Applying the principles

You are on an overseas flight when two men hijack your plane and demand that it be flown to a country that harbors terrorists. The plane is diverted at their demand. After landing you are held hostage for several days, confined to a cramped room in a shabby hotel.

- 14 – What kinds of difficulties might you encounter as a hostage in this country?
- 15 – After a few days, a hotel worker discovers that you have a small pocket Bible. He smiles excitedly! He gestures to you that he reads the Bible, too. Communication is difficult, but it becomes evident that this man believes in Christ, at great personal risk to himself and his family. How would you feel about this person? How might the rest of your imprisonment be affected as a result?
- 16 – Sometime after being released and returning home, your country sends soldiers into his country in response to a terrorist attack. Knowing that your Bible-believing friend still lives there, how would you feel about this? Where would your loyalties lie? Why?