

Biblical Retelling – Living in the Modern World

Based on Genesis 11:1-9

Voice 1: Genesis 11:1-2

Voice 2: Now the whole people had one focus and goal. And they migrated to the county of Waterloo, and the communities of St Jacobs, Elmira, Heidelberg, Conestoga, Waterloo and Kitchener and settled there.

(Insert county and community names that are relevant to your context)

Voice 1: Genesis 11:3

Voice 2: And they said to one another, “Come, let us work hard as laborers, as managers, as teachers and caregivers, as owners of businesses.”

(Insert job categories that are relevant to your context)

Voice 1: Genesis 11:4

Voice 2: Then they said, “Come, let us build up our safety nets and personal net worth; let us have good retirement plans and life insurance. Let us be well respected and successful through our hard work, otherwise we shall be seen as lazy or aimless and lacking in purpose.”

Voice 1: Genesis 11:5

Voice 2: And the Lord came down to see the life that the people had built for themselves.

Voice 1: Genesis 11:6-7

Voice 2: And the Lord said, “Look, they are one people, and they have only one thing on their minds. They look tired and overworked, striving beyond their means. Life is out of balance. They think that nothing is impossible, that they can achieve anything. Come, let us go down and add some unpredictability in their lives so that they may be confused and begin to examine their priorities.”

Voice 1: Genesis 11:8-9

Voice 2: So the Lord caused them to re-evaluate the role and balance of work in their lives by introducing them to the complexities of life. And it was called living in the modern world.

Mark Diller Harder (Canada), 2016. St. Jacobs Mennonite Church
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