

Esther and Emmett – November 13

Esther: Hi Emmett. Wow! Look at what you are building! (Emmett is building a tower out of Duplo Blocks)

Emmett: Hi Esther! Do you like it?

Esther: It's very impressive. What is it?

Emmett: It's a whole bunch of blocks put together.

Esther: I can see that...but what exactly are you building?

Emmett: Well, I guess it's a tower!

Esther: You 'guess' it's a tower?

Emmett: Well, it doesn't have to 'be' anything, it just has to be really tall!

Esther: Why does it just have to be really tall!

Emmett: It has to be really tall for two reasons. Reason number one: it has to be really tall so that when people see it they will say, "Wow, look at that really tall thing built out of blocks!"

Esther: People will certainly say that!

Emmett: Reason number two: It has to be really tall so that I can knock it over and people will say, 'Look, that really tall thing made out of blocks got knocked down and now the blocks are all over the floor!'

Esther: They may also want to know why you built this tall tower out of blocks, only to knock it down.

Emmett: It's because I didn't have any really big stones to use to build something really tall to knock over.

Esther: But why are you building something really tall just so you can knock it over?

Emmett: It's so that when I knock it over and the blocks are all over the floor, I can say, "Jesus was right again!" You see, I'm trying to recreate a story from the Bible!

Esther: A story of Jesus playing with building blocks?

Emmett: No...is that story in the Bible, too?

Esther: No it's not!

Emmett: I didn't think so. I'm recreating the story of Jesus and his disciples talking about what will happen to the temple.

Esther: Oh, I know that story. Jesus and his disciples are in Jerusalem and they see the temple. That temple was BIG. It covered as much land as about 18 football fields!

Emmett: Wow! That's a big temple!

Esther: And the walls were made out of stones – some very large stones, some very, very large stones, some enormously large stones.

Emmett: That's just what the disciples said - well, they didn't say 'enormous', but they said "what large stones and what large buildings."

Esther: The disciples probably lived in villages of small one-or-two-room houses, so the temple would have looked so impressive, they probably would have thought it would last forever.

Emmett: But Jesus said that it wouldn't last, that it would all be knocked down and all the stones would be scattered all over the place!

Esther: And much of the temple did come down. About 40 years after Jesus and his disciples visited the temple, the Roman army attacked the city of Jerusalem and much of the temple was destroyed by fire.

Emmett: Gee, that's sad!

Esther: It was! But Jesus told his disciples that lots of things get knocked down in life, that lots of awful things happen in life, but no matter what happens in the world, or happens to us, this is still God's world.

Emmett: And God loves this world! And God loves the people who live on this world!

Esther: Jesus said that the world and the world's people are like God's children and that God is still giving birth to this world.

Emmett: What does that mean?

Esther: It means that God's love never ends and that even when life seems rough, God is still bringing hope and life and peace and joy into the world.

Emmett: So, even after I knock this tower down, God can still help me use the blocks to start building something else?

Esther: That's a good way to think about it, Emmett.

Emmett: Thanks, but I don't think I'll knock it over right away. I think I'll just look at it for awhile and think, "wow! nice tower!"

Esther: You have a nice tower, and we all have a loving God... Amen.

Emmett: AMEN!