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NEHEMIAH

LESSON 2: REPAIRING THE WALLS ☆

Lessons in this series: [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [Overview](#)

In this lesson, the children will see how Nehemiah stood firm in the face of opposition and remained focused on God's plan by inspecting and repairing the walls in Jerusalem.

by Kristy Thornton

TOPICS

Abilities, Difficulties, Faith, Grumbling, Pleasing God, Self-Control, Teamwork, Unity

AS KIDS ARRIVE (10 MINUTES)

What Is Broken? (Activity) [Click here](#)

WORSHIP TIME (5 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

BIBLE VERSE (7 MINUTES)

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong." 1 Corinthians 16:13 NIV

Repeat the Bible verse to the children. Have them repeat it with you two more times adding motions. This will prepare them for the song at the end of the lesson.

Be on your guard – Have the children cross their forearms in front of them like an "X."

Stand firm in the faith – Have the children stand tall with their arms by their sides.

Be courageous – Have the children put up one arm showing their bicep muscle.

Be strong – Have the children put up the other arm showing both bicep muscles.

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you think it means to be on guard? (*Be ready and alert. Be prepared to protect.*)
2. What do you think it means to stand firm? (*Always believe and trust in God. Don't doubt.*)
3. What do you think it means to be courageous? (*Be bold and brave. Have courage.*)
4. What do you think it means to be strong? (*Be mighty. Use your strength in God.*)

BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

Introduction:

Today, we are going to continue our story of Nehemiah. God provided a way for Nehemiah to travel to Jerusalem safely. He even provided all the materials to fix the walls and gates. Now, Nehemiah is headed to Jerusalem to inspect and repair the walls and gates that the enemy destroyed. Jerusalem can't keep its people safe if all of its gates and walls are in ruin. Our story starts when Nehemiah arrives to see the damage for the first time.

Read Nehemiah 2:11-20 (Nehemiah Inspects Jerusalem's Walls)

Optional: Make signs of the names of each gate and tape them around the room in the same order as Nehemiah inspection. As a class, walk to each gate as you read about it in the story. You can use name or pictures to represent each gate. ([Click here for signs](#))

Discussion Questions:

1. In the beginning, does Nehemiah tell anyone what he was doing? (*No, he doesn't tell anyone what God had put in his heart to do for Jerusalem. He may have gone out at night so others wouldn't see him and talk badly about him.*)
2. What do the people say when Nehemiah tells them he is there to help fix the walls? (*Some reply immediately saying, "Let us start rebuilding," while others mock and ridicule him.*)
3. How do you think Nehemiah felt when the mockers tried to stop him? (*He didn't let it bother him. He stood firm in believing and trusting God not doubting that he could do what God called him to do. "The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding, but as for you, have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it." Nehemiah 2:20 NIV*)
4. Has anyone ever made fun of something you wanted to do? How did it make you feel? (*Allow for responses.*)

FUN TIME (10 MINUTES)

Build It Together (Activity) [Click here](#)

ALTERNATE FUN TIME (10 MINUTES)

Nehemiah Stands Firm (Activity) [Click here](#)

PRAYER/SNACK (10 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

Provide Cheerios. See how many Cheerios they can stack on their napkin before they fall down. Thank God for His protection and for this snack.

CLOSING ACTIVITY (10 MINUTES)

Stand Firm (Song) [Click here](#)

NEXT WEEK

Come back next week to continue the story of Nehemiah and rebuilding of Jerusalem's wall.

TAKE HOME PAGE

Give one copy to each child at the end of the class to take home [PDF]. [Click here](#)

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WHAT IS BROKEN? ☆

The children will learn that many times broken things can be repaired once they are carefully inspected.

by Kristy Thornton

TOPICS:

Difficulties, Faith, Grumbling, Self-Control, Unity, Wisdom

MATERIALS:

Screwdriver, batteries, box
Items that need to be fixed (See examples in "What You Will Do.")



DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Gather items with removable batteries or items that will stop functioning once one part is removed. Put all the batteries and pieces in a box, so later you and the kids can fix the broken items together. Examples of these types of items are a flashlight, clock, radio, a game that needs batteries, camera, remote-controlled car, electric tooth brush, etc. Have a few fully functional items as well. Examples of these types of items include a watch, a phone, a necklace, a pencil sharpener, a pen, an electric toothbrush, etc.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

Have you ever picked up a flashlight or maybe even your toothbrush and it didn't work? What did you do? Did you grumble and complain, yelling to your parents, "It's broken!" Or did you look at the problem and say, "How can I fix this?"

Today, I have several items for everyone to look at and inspect. Inspect means to look at something closely. I would like you to take turns looking at items and decide if they are broken or working properly. If it looks broken, let's think of a way to fix it together. (Allow time for the children to really inspect the items. Guide them to find the places where the batteries go to discover that there are no batteries. Together fix the broken items.) We have a lot of fixing to do.

Discussion Questions:

1. Can you recall examples in the Bible that required someone to fix a problem? (Allow children to respond. Examples: Nehemiah repaired the walls and gates in Jerusalem. David defeated the giant, Goliath, etc)
2. What should we do when we think a problem is too big for us to fix alone? (Ask God for help and wisdom, ask our family and friends to help us, etc.)
3. Should problems cause us to grumble?(No, we should see problems as opportunities God gives us to grow and learn new things.)

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