



Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall

Lesson Aim: To know God wants us to work together.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The King Who Builds His Kingdom

THE WORD

Bible Story: Nehemiah 1:3b; 2:3-5; 4:3, 6-9, 15-18; 6:15

What He Has Done: God helped Nehemiah rebuild the city wall.

THE WAY

"Hear the Word of God and obey it." Luke 11:28

Unit 9: The King Who Builds His Kingdom			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
43	King Solomon Asks to Be Wise, 1 Kings 3:5-14	God gave King Solomon wisdom.	To know God helps us make good choices.
44	King Josiah Obeys, 2 Kings 22:1-2, 18-19; 23:1-4, 25	God saw King Josiah obey.	To know we should obey God.
45	Ezra Teaches God's People, Ezra 7:6, 8-10	God helped Ezra teach His people.	To love learning about God.
46	Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall, Nehemiah 1:3b; 2:3-5; 4:3, 6-9, 15-18; 6:15	God helped Nehemiah rebuild the city wall.	To know God wants us to work together.
47	Queen Esther Helps God's People, Esther 2:7, 9; 4:14-16; 5:1-2; 7:1-3	God gave Queen Esther courage to help His people.	To know God makes us brave.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 147. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for the emotional and physical strength You provide so that we can serve You by teaching the children. Inspire them to work together as the body of Christ. Amen."

TEACHER'S TIP

Work together! Take time this week to have the children help you in every aspect of the lesson. During the opening time, have the children work together to build a tower of blocks. Encourage everyone to help clean up. Ask the children to perform tasks for you such as holding pictures or handing out napkins at snack time.

Permission is granted to reproduce these materials. Not for resale. Use is subject to the Terms of Use available at ResourceWell.org. Terms are subject to change without notice. All other rights are reserved.



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Welcome	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of building blocks or a building tool
		Coloring Center: Nehemiah Rebuilt the Wall	Coloring pages of Nehemiah and the people rebuilding the wall, crayons or markers
		Play-Dough Center: Build-A-Wall	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		Dramatic Play Center: Work Together	Dishes, cups, napkins, play food,
		Block Center: Build Together	Toy tool set, blocks or other child-friendly building materials
	Up to 5	Prepare for Worship	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org. Additional Song Suggestions: "This Is the Day"	Praise music, optional: musical instruments Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Blessed Are Those" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" "Give Thanks" "Guide Me" "I Can Do Everything" "I Will Always Obey" "I Will Listen" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 9, Lesson 46
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Nehemiah 1:3b; 2:3-5; 4:3, 6-9, 15-18; 6:15	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Nehemiah 1:3b Visual: Picture of the Bible story, toy tool set
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Nehemiah's Tool Belt	Standard-size white sturdy paper, yarn, crayons or markers
		Game: Build the Wall	"God's Tool Belt" crafts, toy blocks (in a pile on one side of the play area)
		Game: Balance the Ball	Bed sheet, medium size soft foam or inflated ball
		Snack: Tall Wall	Stackable snack like crackers
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's: Unit 9, Lesson 46
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Nehemiah 1:3b; 2:3-5; 4:3, 6-9, 15-18; 6:15	None
	Up to 10	Game: Hear and Obey	Beanbag
	Up to 10	Game: Listen and Do	None
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about teamwork

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



The King who builds His kingdom

THE WELCOME

WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of building blocks or a building tool. **Let this stamp (or sticker) help you remember to work together.**

Teacher's Note: These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

COLORING CENTER: NEHEMIAH REBUILT THE WALL

SUPPLIES

Coloring pages of Nehemiah and the people rebuilding the wall, crayons or markers

DO

Children color their picture as they talk about today's story.

TALK ABOUT

What can you see in the picture? (Children respond.) **The people are working together to rebuild the walls of a city called Jerusalem. The walls were there to keep them safe from their enemies. If you could build something, what would you like to build?** (Children respond.)

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: BUILD-A-WALL

SUPPLIES

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

DO

Children play with the play-dough while talking about today's Bible story. Encourage children to work together to make a stone wall with the play-dough.

TALK ABOUT

In our story today, a man named Nehemiah helps God's people rebuild the walls around their city. Let's work together and make our own wall out of play-dough. Have the children make stones from the play-dough and stack them together to make a wall.

THE WELCOME *continued...*

DRAMATIC PLAY CENTER: WORK TOGETHER

SUPPLIES

Dishes, cups, napkins, play food

DO

Children work together while learning the lesson aim.

TALK ABOUT

God is happy when we work together. We can work together right here. Teach the children this rhyme. Sing it to the tune of "Here We Go 'Round the Mulberry Bush."

This is the way we work together, work together, work together.

This is the way we work together all day long.

Make up new verses based on the children's activities.

This is the way we cook and clean...

This is the way we feed the baby...

This is the way we wash the dishes...

BLOCK CENTER: BUILD TOGETHER

SUPPLIES

Toy tool set, blocks or other child-friendly building materials

DO

Children work together to build a wall or other structure.

TALK ABOUT

Nehemiah showed God's people how to work together to rebuild the city wall that protected their homes. Let's use these tools and work together. What would you like to build? (Children respond.)

Guide the children in building together. Encourage them to share and to take turns.

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away. Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com)

**"Hear
the Word
of God**

Hold hand to ear.

The pointer finger and thumb of one hand touches the index finger of the other.

The open right hand, with fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.

and obey it."

(obey) Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.

Luke 11:28

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



The King who builds His kingdom

THE WORSHIP

Supplies: Praise music, optional: musical instruments

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



God loves to see us join together to praise Him. Before we praise Him with singing, let's praise Him with prayer. Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear God, we praise You. Thank You for family and friends who we can join together with to praise Your name. Amen.**



God is the King who builds His kingdom. Through Him we can do all things. Sing: "I Can Do Everything."

In our story today, a man named Nehemiah listened and obeyed when God asked him to help His people rebuild their city walls. God is happy when we listen. Let's sing a song about listening as we give our offering. Sing: "I Will Listen" while collecting the offering.



I wonder if our friends Delbert and Lello have ever heard of Nehemiah. Let's call them both to come out for a visit. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 9, Lesson 46.



Nehemiah heard and obeyed God's plan and was blessed. That reminds me of our Bible Memory Verse. "Hear the Word of God and obey it." Luke 11:28. Let's say it together with the motions. Practice the verse together a few times.

"Hear	Hold hand to ear.
the Word	The pointer finger and thumb of one hand touches the index finger of the other.
of God	The open right hand, with fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
and obey it."	(obey) Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.
Luke 11:28	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



Sing: "Blessed Are Those."



Nehemiah rebuilt the wall

THE WORD

Supplies: Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Nehemiah 1:3b, picture of the Bible story, toy tool set

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears. Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

Show the children the tool set. **Today, I brought some tools with me.** If you have time, have the children identify the different tools and/or take turns helping you build something. **Do you know someone who has grown-up tools?** (Children respond.) **What do they do with their tools?** (Children suggest items that could be built or fixed.) **Who helps them when they are working?** (Children respond.) **God loves when we work together.** Our story today is about a time when God's people worked together to build something big. **Let's find out what it was.** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Nehemiah 1:3b.



WATCH THE WORD:

NEHEMIAH 1:3B; 2:3-5; 4:3, 6-9, 15-18; 6:15

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **Nehemiah asked the king,**
- **"May I go to my city now?**
- **My city's gates are ruined.**
- **The wall is broken down."**
- **The king let Nehemiah go**
- **To rebuild Jerusalem's wall.**
- **Nehemiah had a plan,**
- **But he needed help from all.**
- **The enemies tried to stop Nehemiah,**
- **But God's people worked together.**
- **With tools in one hand and spears in the other;**
- **God helped them make the best wall ever!**

What was wrong with the wall? (It was broken down.) **What did all the people do to rebuild the wall?** (They worked together.)



You can work together

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: NEHEMIAH'S TOOL BELT

Purpose: To remind the children of the story of God helping Nehemiah rebuild the city wall.

Supplies: Standard-size white sturdy paper, yarn, crayons or markers

Prepare: Cut a 40-inch length of yarn. From sturdy white paper, cut out a sword shape and a hammer shape. From a standard-size sheet of sturdy paper, make a tool belt by placing the paper horizontally. Fold 1/3 of the paper up to create a pocket. Tape both sides of the pocket. Punch a hole in each end of the tool belt. On the front of the belt, print:

**Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall
Nehemiah 1:3b, 4:16-21**

Directions:

1. Color the sword, hammer, and the tool belt.
2. Thread the yarn through both holes in the tool belt.
3. Teacher or helper ties the tool belt around the child's waist.
4. Put the sword and hammer in the tool belt.

Craft Discussion:

- **The city wall was broken! What did the people do to fix it?** (They worked together.)
- **Everyone helped rebuild the wall. They carried their tools in one hand. Let's put our hammers in our tool belts.**
- **Did the enemy outside the city like the wall?** (No.)
- **The people building the wall were ready to fight the enemy. They held their swords in their other hands.**
- **Let's put our swords in our tool belts. Now, you are ready to build a wall, too!**

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: BUILD THE WALL

Purpose: Children use their craft tool belts to work together to act out the story of Nehemiah and the people rebuilding the wall.

Supplies: "God's Tool Belt" crafts, toy blocks (in a pile on one side of the play area)

Let's pretend I am Nehemiah. Put on your tool belts and let's work together to build this wall.

Directions:

1. Help children put on their tool belts.
2. Designate a place to build the wall.
3. Children take turns adding a block to the wall.
4. Once the wall is built, choose one or more children to be the trumpeter. Show trumpeter how to hold both hands to his or her mouth to form a "trumpet."
5. Children pretend to hammer the blocks into place using the hammers from their tool belts.
6. While you work, sing this rhyme (Tune of "Frere Jacques"):

**"Nehemiah, Nehemiah,
Build the wall! Build the wall!
We will work together! We will work together!
Well done! Well done!"**

7. **Oh no! The enemy wants to knock down our wall! Be ready. If you hear the trumpet, put your hammer back into your tool belt. Then, pull out your sword.**
8. The trumpeter(s) blow their "horns."
9. Children put away their hammers and pull out their swords to fight an imaginary enemy.
10. After a few moments, the children return to work on wall.
11. Choose another child or children to be the trumpeter.
12. Play as often as you like or until each child has a turn as the trumpeter.

GAME: BALANCE THE BALL

Purpose: Children work together to balance a ball on top of a sheet.

Supplies: Bed sheet, medium size soft foam or inflated ball

Nehemiah and the people worked together to rebuild the wall. Let's work together to keep this ball on the sheet!

Directions:

1. Spread the sheet on the floor.
2. Children stand at the edge of the sheet and grab the edge in front of them with both hands.
3. Children practice working together to raise and lower sheet as you direct them.
4. With the sheet on the ground, place the ball in the middle of the sheet.
5. Lead the children in raising and lowering the sheet as before, this time working together to keep the ball on the sheet.
6. **When we work together, God is happy!**

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: TALL WALL

Purpose: Children construct a snack to remind them that God's people rebuilt the city wall.

Snack Suggestion: Stackable snack like crackers

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Nehemiah and the people worked together. What did they rebuild?** (The city wall.)
 - **Let's make our own walls with our snack. See how high you can build your wall.** Children stack the crackers.
 - **You can work with others like Nehemiah and the people. How can you work together with a friend, brother, or sister?** (Children respond.)
 - **God wants us all to work together!**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

"Hear the Word of God and obey it." Luke 11:28	Hold hand to ear. The pointer finger and thumb of one hand touches the index finger of the other. The open right hand, with fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up. (obey) Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead. Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.
---	--

PRAY

Let's pray together. Say a closing prayer with the children.

PLAY

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

DISMISSAL

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: NEHEMIAH 1:3B; 2:3-5; 4:3, 6-9, 15-18; 6:15

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Nehemiah asked the king,** (Put hands on head as a crown.)
- **“May I go to my city now?”** (Point to self.)
- **My city’s gates are ruined.** (Shake head sadly.)
- **The wall is broken down.”** (Hands reach high and then point to the floor.)

- **The king let Nehemiah go** (Wave goodbye.)
- **To rebuild Jerusalem’s wall.** (Use an imaginary hammer.)
- **Nehemiah had a plan,** (Point to head.)
- **But he needed help from all.** (Point to everyone.)

- **The enemies tried to stop Nehemiah,** (Hold palm out as a signal to stop.)
- **But God’s people worked together.** (Use an imaginary hammer.)
- **With tools in one hand and spears in the other;** (Palms face upward at waist level.)
- **God helped them make the best wall ever!** (Clap hands to celebrate.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“Hear the Word of God and obey it.” Luke 11:28

GAME: HEAR AND OBEY

Purpose: To help children learn the meaning of the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Beanbag

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. Toss the beanbag to one of the children in the circle as you say, “Child’s name **can...**”
3. Lead the children in saying “...**hear the Word of God and obey it!**”
4. Child tosses the beanbag back to you.
5. Repeat until each child has a chance to say the verse.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: LISTEN AND DO

Purpose: To help children learn the meaning of the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

Our Bible Memory Verse tells us to “Hear the Word of God and obey it.” Let’s practice our listening skills with this game. Listen carefully and do what I tell you to do.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. Give an instruction such as sit down, spin in a circle, clap, touch your nose, shake a friend’s hand, wave your hand, jump, stand up, stomp your feet, shout “Praise God!” Help the children follow your instruction. **Great job! You are hearing what I am saying and obeying it.**
3. Repeat with other instructions. You may choose to let the children take turns giving instructions.
4. Play as long as you like.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about teamwork.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 9, Lesson 46: Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall

PONDER! Nehemiah and the people worked together to rebuild the city wall (Nehemiah 1:3b; 2:3-5; 4:6-9, 15-17; 6:15) How did they stay ready to fight the enemy? (They held tools in one hand and swords in the other.) How can your family work together?

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: “Lord, thank You for helping Nehemiah and the people rebuild the wall. Help us to work together, too. Amen.”

PLAY! Your family can work together to help others. Plan a special project. Maybe you have a neighbor who needs their flowerbeds weeded or their windows washed or maybe you can bake cookies for someone who is sad to cheer them up. Work together to complete the project you plan.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

“Hear	Hold hand to ear.
the Word	The pointer finger and thumb of one hand touches the index finger of the other.
of God	The open right hand, with fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
and obey it.”	(obey) Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.
Luke 11:28	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.