



Work Together

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

Granny B walked along the stream, listening to the water running over the stones. The stream was her place for thinking quietly, but today it was not such a quiet place. Granny B could hear voices just up ahead; she knew who she would find.

"Hello, little ones," Granny B called as soon as she spotted Delbert and Lello.

Lello was sitting under a tree. She perked up when she heard Granny B's voice. Delbert pranced back and forth along the stream. Granny B saw something sticking out of his mouth. When Granny reached her two friends, she rubbed Lello's ears and then took a good look at Delbert.

"What have you got there?" she asked.

Delbert was wearing his crown and robe, but something new stuck out of his mouth. His response was mumbled so Granny B removed it for him.

"It's my special king stick. It's hard working being a king and wearing all these things," Delbert explained.

"That stick is called a scepter, Delbert. You do look just like a king. Has Pops told you which king you're going to be in the play?" Granny B asked.

"Haw. I still don't know. There are so many great kings: King David, King Josiah, King Solomon..."

"Baa," Lello bleated sadly.

Granny B looked carefully at Lello and asked, "What's wrong, Lello?"

"I wish I were a king in the play, too," Lello whispered.

"But Lello, Pops told us there is only one king in this play," Delbert said.

"Did you know that kings had special helpers?" Granny B asked.

"Haw! Just like me! Lello has been helping me with my costume," Delbert replied.

Lello perked up a little bit. "What kind of helpers?"

"They were very special helpers. In fact, they were leaders. Remember Ezra? He helped people learn about God and God's rules. Today, I read about another helper named Nehemiah," Granny B explained.

"Who was Nehemiah?" Lello asked curiously.

"God chose Nehemiah to lead God's people in rebuilding the city wall," Granny B answered.

"Haw! That sounds like hard work," Delbert said.

Granny B nodded. "Yes, Nehemiah had many families helping him. They worked together and didn't stop working no matter what happened."

"Haw, no matter what? Even if their enemies tried to stop them?" Delbert asked.

"That's right," Granny B said. "If the people working on the wall heard the trumpets, they knew to pull out their swords to keep their enemies away. Then, they'd go right back to work."

"It's a good thing they worked together," Lello said shyly.

"Yes, Lello, and it's good that you and Delbert have been working together on Delbert's king costume," Granny B said.

Lello smiled with excitement and said, "Baa, I guess you're right. Delbert, we should think of other things that are fit for a king."

Granny B offered to help them make a list of all the things a king would need. The three worked together while they imagined which king Delbert would play.