



# Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall

**Lesson Aim:** To know we should work hard 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

**Whisper Verse:** "Work together."

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Blessed are those who 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 we should ask God for wisdom.
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 we should work hard 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 gives us courage.

## 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."

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Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of building blocks or a building tool
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Work together."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	<b>Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "Blessed Are Those" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Guide Me" "I Can Do Everything" "I Will Always Obey" "I Will Listen" "It's Praise Time" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b> "God Is So Good" "This Is the Day" "Trust and Obey" <b>Additional Song Collection Suggestions:</b> Cedarhurst Toddler Bible Songs The Ultimate Bible Song Collection for Kids Vol. 1
		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	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Nehemiah 1:3b; 2:3-5; 4:3, 6-9, 15-18; 6:15	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Nehemiah 1:3b Visual: Building tool, bricks, or building blocks
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> Nehemiah's Tool Belt	Standard-size white sturdy paper, yarn, crayons or markers
		<b>Game:</b> Build the Wall	"God's Tool Belt" crafts, toy blocks (in a pile on one side of the play area), toy horn (or kazoo or paper tube)
		<b>Game:</b> Balance the Ball	Bed sheet, medium size soft foam or inflated ball
		<b>Snack:</b> Cookie Walls	Cookies, frosting, spoon or plastic knife
		<b>Circle of Prayer</b>	None
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 9, Lesson 46 Color This Story: "Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> Nehemiah 1:3b; 2:3-5; 4:3, 6-9, 15-18; 6:15	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Building the Verse	Sturdy paper, large toy blocks, tape
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Listen and Obey	Bible marked with the passages in the list below
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about teamwork

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Work together

## THE 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 sticker help you remember to work together. Today's Whisper Verse is "Work together."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.\***

### **SIGN LANGUAGE: "Work together."**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com).)

**Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with two hand motions:**

- "Work"** Both hands create the letter "s" hand shape by placing the thumb across the front of a closed fist. Tap right fist on top of left fist.
- "together."** Both hands make a fist with the thumb resting on top of the index finger. Place sides of fists together with the outside edge of the thumbs touching each other. Rotate both fists together in a small circle in front of the body.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

**\*Today's Whisper Verse:** "Work together," Romans 8:28. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



The King who builds His kingdom

## THE WORSHIP

**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 “It’s Praise Time!” as children move to that designated area.



**It’s Praise Time—that means it’s time to praise God together. God is the King who builds His kingdom. This is a great day to praise Him! Sing: “This Is the Day.”**

**We love to praise God with our voices and our offering. Let’s do that now as we sing and give our offering. Sing: “God Is So Good” while collecting the offering.**

**God loves to see us join together to praise Him. He loves to see us join to work together. That’s our Whisper Verse for today: “Work together.” Let’s whisper that together. Review Whisper Verse together: “Work together.” Include sign language. Today’s Bible story is about a man named Nehemiah who showed God’s people how to work together to rebuild the city wall.**



**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.**



**Rebuilding a wall would be very hard work. When God’s people became tired, God made them strong again. God will give you the strength to work hard, too. Sing: “I Can Do Everything.”**

**When Nehemiah told God’s people to work together to rebuild the city wall, they obeyed and God blessed them. Sing: “Blessed Are Those.”**



Nehemiah rebuilt the wall

## THE WORD

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

With my eyes on my teacher;

My mouth quiet as can be,

I will listen to hear,

How God loves you and me.

Point to eyes.

Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.

Cup hand around ear.

Hug self, point to others and then self.

Last time, we learned God helped Ezra teach the people about God. Today, we will hear how God helped Nehemiah rebuild the city wall. 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 points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a building tool, bricks, or building blocks. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- 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.
  
- Enemies tried to stop Nehemiah,
- But God's people worked together.
- They held tools in one hand and spears in the other;
- God helped them build the best wall ever!



**What was wrong with the wall?** (It was broken down.) **Let's find our answer in the Bible.**

Read Nehemiah 1:3b from the teacher's Bible.

**What did all the people do to rebuild the wall?** (They worked together.) **Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer! Let's say it together.** Include sign language or hand motions.



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:** 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. On the front of the belt, print: **"Nehemiah rebuilds the wall."**

**Nehemiah 1:3b, 4:16-21.** Punch a hole in each end of the tool belt. Cut a 40-inch length of yarn.

#### **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.)
- **That's our Whisper Verse! Let's say it with the motions right now!** Say the Whisper Verse together with the hand motions. **God wants everyone to work 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), toy horn (or kazoo or paper tube)

**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 child to be the trumpeter.
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 blows the toy horn.
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 to be the trumpeter.
12. Repeat steps 8-11 a few more times 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: COOKIE WALLS**

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

**Snack Suggestion:** Cookies, frosting, spoon or plastic knife

### **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.
  - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate the motions to the Whisper Verse: "Work together."
  - **Nehemiah and the people worked together. What did they rebuild?** (The city wall.)
  - **Let's make our own cookie walls!** Give each child a few cookies and a spoonful of frosting. Children spread frosting on the cookies and stack them together like bricks in a wall.
  - **You can work together like Nehemiah and all the people.**
  - **How can you work together with a friend, brother, or sister?**
  - **God wants us all to work together!**



## **CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ (say each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

**COMPLETED CRAFT:** Take home your "Nehemiah's Tool Belt" craft. Tell someone about Nehemiah and the people who worked together to rebuild the city wall.

**PONDER, PRAY & PLAY:** Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how you can work hard together.**

**COLOR THIS STORY:** "Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall." Discuss Bible story and play Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song "Blessed Are Those" as children color.





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.** (Whisper Verse sign language.)
- **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**

"Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and obey it." Luke 11:28

### **GAME: BUILDING THE VERSE**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Sturdy paper, 13 large toy blocks, tape

**Prepare:** Print each word of the Bible Memory Verse and reference on an individual strip of paper. Tape a strip each on a toy block.

**Teacher Tip:** For groups of less than 13 children, give some children more than one block. For groups of more than 13 children, have children take turns or create additional sets of words and blocks to play the game simultaneously.

#### **Directions:**

1. Say the Bible Memory Verse, pausing after each word for children to repeat.
2. Give a block to each child and help the children stand in the order of the Bible Memory Verse.
3. Ask the child holding the "Blessed" block to place it on the ground.
4. Have the children say, "Blessed."
5. Repeat with each part of the verse in order until all the blocks are set on the floor in order.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: LISTEN AND OBEY**

**Purpose:** Children practice obeying God's Word as instructed in the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Bible marked with the passages in the list below

**Jesus says, "Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and obey it." That is our Bible Memory Verse. We find God's words in the Bible. What should we do when we hear God's Word? (Listen and obey.) I am going to read God's Word and then I will ask you about different choices some children made. If the child obeyed God's Word, clap and stand up tall. If the child did not obey God's Word, sit down.**

### **Directions:**

1. Children stand in a circle as the teacher reads from a Bible in the center of the circle.
2. Read the Bible Verses and examples, allowing the children to respond after each example:

**The Bible says, "We will share." Numbers 10:32**

**Patti shared her crayons with her friend. Did Patti obey God's Word?**

**Sarah didn't let her friend use her crayons. Did Sarah obey God's Word?**

**The Bible says, "Show love." Hosea 1:7**

**Bobby hit his sister. Did Bobby obey God's Word?**

**Sammy hugged his mommy. Did Sammy obey God's Word?**

**The Bible says, "Do not steal." Leviticus 19:11a**

**Billy took Tommy's toy car. Tommy was sad. Did Billy obey God's Word?**

**Molly asked to hold Sally's doll. She waited patiently for her turn to hold the doll.**

**Did Molly obey God's Word?**



## **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!** Read Nehemiah 1:3b; 2:3-5; 4:6-9, 15-17; 6:15 with your family. What did Nehemiah and the people do together? The enemy wanted to knock down their wall. How did they stay ready in case the enemy tried to knock down the wall? How can your family work together?

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

**PLAY!** God wants you to work together. 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. Maybe you can bake cookies for someone who is sad to cheer them up. Work together to complete the project you planned.

**Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse:** Luke 11:28

"Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and obey it."