



Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall

Nehemiah 1-6

Running time: Approximately 6 minutes

Setting: The set for Units 7-10 is designed to look like the outside of the King City Herald, a large newspaper building circa 1940's. A door leads to the office. A phone booth provides the place for the superheroes' quick costume changes. The center panel can be removed to reveal the superheroes "Secret Lab," filled with screens and gadgets (similar to Batman's Bat Cave), where the heroes watch over the city. There is a useable fire escape with a door and a ladder down to ground level. There is a ramp on stage right. For added interest, build windows, entrances, and levels where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

Characters: Scoop Gibson is a street-wise, savvy reporter who hides his secret identity as superhero "Scripture Guy." Kasey Carter is a young, college-educated reporter (can be male or female) whose secret identity is superhero "Kingdom Crusader." The Philistine was an evil enemy who wanted to take over King City; recently he is trying to change his evil ways. The Obliterator is another evil enemy who wants to take over King City (appears on video or on a side stage).

Plot: Scripture Guy plans to build a wall around King City to protect her from the Obliterator. All of King City comes together to repair the wall. We learn we can do anything with God's help.

Costumes: Kasey: Fedora, 1940's Zoot suit (high-waist, wide-legged, tight-cuffed pegged trousers, long coat with wide lapels and wide padded shoulders) and/or 1940's dress suit (padded shoulders, thin belt), Superhero

costumes (worn underneath by Kasey): capes, face masks, body suit, tights, etc., "SG" emblem on Scripture Guy costume, "KC" emblem on Kingdom Crusader costume. Philistine: Black robe, red mask, Princess Leia wig

Props: Bible, "Hammer Sword" (Hammer and sword taped together)

Sound effects (SFX):

1. Intro/Outro music suggestion: Heroic music
2. Newspaper box: "Good news" or other triumphant song clip. Music plays when box is opened to reveal the Bible.
3. Phone ringing

Visual effects (VFX):

1. Video Intro featuring superheroes is available at ResourceWell.org
2. Fallback slide reads "King City Chronicles"
3. A newspaper box holds the Bible. When opened, light shines out and music plays.
4. Scripture Slide: **"So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days. When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God." Nehemiah 6:15-16**
5. Motto Slide: **"We Give Everything to Honor Our King!"**

Adaptations:

1. Sound Effects: instead of using recorded effects, have children make the sounds
2. Voiceovers: may be spoken off stage
3. This illustration is also available in storybook form at ResourceWell.org

King City Chronicles
Unit 9, Lesson 46
Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall
Nehemiah 1-6

Voiceover (VFX: short video intro)

Dateline: King City, a city devoted to the glory of God. But in her dark underbelly, there are villains gathering ... evil men who seek to steal God's glory! Will King City find her hero? Can she be saved and restored to her former glory? For the answer to these questions and more, tune in every week to the King City Chronicles!

Scripture Guy

Good day, children! I'm glad you're here. We have not heard from the Obliterator since last week but he has caused extreme damage to King City. Kingdom Crusader and I have been working on a plan to rebuild God's city.

Kasey

Hey, Scripture Guy, I got the message that you wanted to meet me.

Scripture Guy

Yes, Kasey Carter. We need your help to carry out our plan.

Kasey

What plan?

Scripture Guy

We believe the Obliterator is building up an army of criminals to attack King City. The Philistine has told us where his secret hideaway is located. It's dangerously close to King City. We want to build a wall around our fair city to protect her from his attack.

Kasey

Hey, one of our sponsors at the King City Herald is a building supplier. I'll get in touch with them and see if they can donate some lumber, bricks, and cement.

Scripture Guy

Good. Scoop is organizing some volunteer teams to share the work.

Kasey

Great! Anything else?

Scripture Guy

Yes, we also want to share God's Word with the entire community. If we give our hearts to the Lord, the Obliterator can never harm us!

Kasey

I'll run an article in the paper asking people to donate Bibles! Great plan, Scripture Guy! You're a regular Nehemiah! See ya! (exits)

Scripture Guy

Nehemiah? I hadn't thought about that but Nehemiah did rebuild the city wall around Jerusalem. Let me get the Good News and show you right now. (He opens box, SFX: Good News, VFX: Beam of light shines from box) Nehemiah was cupbearer to the king. He must have been very brave because the cup bearer makes sure no one has put poison in the king's drink by taking the first drink.

At that time, enemies had burned down the city gates and broken down the wall which once had protected the city. When Nehemiah found out, he was so sad that he cried and did not eat. He prayed that God would help him talk to the king. Then Nehemiah asked the king to let him lead a team to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls. The king showed favor on him and wrote letters telling everyone he had the king's permission to rebuild Jerusalem. But, while they were working on the wall, they were being attacked by their enemies. There was a group of men led by two angry fellows named Sanballat and Tobiah that would not leave them alone. So, Nehemiah placed guards behind them to protect them as they worked. Wow! Now that's what I call teamwork!

Kingdom Crusader

Did someone say teamwork?

Scripture Guy

I was just telling the kids about Nehemiah.

Kingdom Crusader

The guy that rebuilt Jerusalem's city wall?

Scripture Guy

That's the one. He lined up the families side by side—each with their own part of the wall to repair. They carried building supplies in one hand and their weapons in the other!

Kingdom Crusader

Wow! Talk about multi-tasking! Nehemiah sure knew how to build a team, didn't he?

Scripture Guy

Exactly! I loved his plan!

Kingdom Crusader

Then you are gonna' love this! (holds up "Hammer Sword") Look what Uncle...the Philistine invented!

Scripture Guy

That is the strangest thing I've ever seen. What is it?

Kingdom Crusader

It's a Hammer Sword! The sword side is for defending King City, but once the bad guys run away, you flip it over and ...

Scripture Guy

It's hammer time! I think this plan could work if we all work together! (SFX: phone rings)

Kingdom Crusader

I'll get it! (answers phone) Kingdom Crusader here! ... Yeah, he loved it ... I'll tell him. (hangs up) That was the Philistine. He said he could have a hundred "Hammer Swords" by tomorrow.

Scripture Guy

Wow! That's quick service! His inventions have really been a great help. (SFX: Phone rings, he answers) I'll get it. ... Scripture Guy here. ... (to Kingdom Crusader) It's Kasey Carter!

Kingdom Crusader

It is?

Scripture Guy (on phone)

Yes, she says her editor let her run the article asking for Bible donations.

Kingdom Crusader

That's good...

Scripture Guy (on phone)

And she got her supplier to donate enough supplies to complete the wall. Thanks, Kasey! (hangs up)

Kingdom Crusader

You're welcome.

Scripture Guy

What?

Kingdom Crusader

Nothing! Was that the phone ringing? (SFX: Phone rings) I've got it! Hello! ... to Scripture Guy) It's Scoop Gibson!

Scripture Guy

It is?

Kingdom Crusader (on phone)

He says he's got a hundred workers ready to meet us at the wall tomorrow!

Scripture Guy

Great! Tell him we've got a hundred Hammer Swords!

Kingdom Crusader (on phone)

He says what's a Hammer Sword?

Scripture Guy

Let me talk to him.

Kingdom Crusader (hangs up)
He had to go. He said his volunteers will be there tomorrow.

Scripture Guy
Well, it looks like we're building quite a team. We've got the King City Herald on our side.

Kingdom Crusader
And The Philistine on our side!

Scripture Guy
And building suppliers on our side!

Kingdom Crusader
And hundreds of volunteers on our side!
We should call this the "Nehemiah Project!"

Scripture Guy
That has a nice ring to it.

Kingdom Crusader
If we all work together there's no way we can lose.

Scripture Guy
We only need one more person on our side.

Kingdom Crusader
Who's that?

Scripture Guy (SFX: Scripture Slide)
I'll let Nehemiah tell you! Look what the Bible says: "So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days. When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God."

Kingdom Crusader
Of course! With God on our side that old Obliterator can never defeat us!

Scripture Guy
We should pray and ask God for his help.

Kingdom Crusader
I know exactly what I'm going to ask God to help me do!

Scripture Guy
Yes, let's all ask together! Lord, please help us to ...

(SFX: "Heroic music," VFX: Motto Slide)

All
Give everything to honor our King!