



October 17-18, 2015

DATE

Nehemiah; Matthew 6:33

WHERE TO FIND IT

#### Vision Weekend

LESSON TITLE

God helped Nehemiah follow him (and he helps us follow him!)

MAIN POINT

# schedule

Please follow this adapted schedule:

- Connect Time (20 minutes):
  Start 5 minutes after service starts
- Large Group Part 1 (15 minutes): Begin 25 minutes after service start time
- Snack and Review (15 minutes):
  In the Large Group script section
- Large Group Part 2 (15 minutes)
- Small Group (10 minutes)
- Extra Activities (keep kids engaged until parents arrive)

## tips

Services will be at least 80 minutes, so the typical flow of the lesson is different. We've got Connect Time with multiple activities, 2 separate Large Group video presentations with snack and review in between them and Small Group with additional activities if you need them.

**Before kids arrive**, plan out who wants to lead which parts of the lesson.

## check-in/out

As kids leave, make sure each one has a sticker.

# large group heads up

While adults and older kids will be getting some vision about readying oneself for following Jesus (and how that can be a battle), three and four year olds will hear that God helps us follow him! To understand that concept, we'll look at how God helped Nehemiah follow him.





# connect time

**GOAL:** Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.

**5 minutes after the service begins, start Connect Time games.** Today, Connect Time is longer than normal, **so play all four of the following activities**. Switch every five minutes, if possible, move to a different part of the room so that each one feels unique:

#### ANIMAL PARTY

- Make a circle.
- Choose one person to be the leader (be the leader first to show kids how it's done).
- The leader names an animal and then everybody imitates that animal! Be as loud and crazy as you want. Do sounds, movements, or both!
- To keep it interesting, limit animal choices per round. Ask kids to choose specific animals such as jungle animals, farm animals, birds, bugs, fish, etc.

#### SIMON SAYS

- Line kids up in a row. Stand a few feet away, facing them.
- Explain that you will give them a command. Before some commands, you will say, "Simon Says." ("Simon says take two steps forward!") If Simon says it, the kids should do it. If Simon doesn't say it ("Jump backwards once!") the kids should stand still.

#### **FOLLOW THE LEADER**

• Walk around the room in a variety of ways--on your heels, on your toes, forward, backward, quickly, slowly, left, right, standing tall, bent over, arms in front, arms behind, hands on head, hands on toes, with a partner, alone in a line, in a curved line, etc! You can lead or choose kids to be leaders, too. For fun, add music.

## 20 after service begins, LINE UP:

- While in line, tell kids we're going to hear about a guy named Nehemiah who rebuilt a wall. Let's take out our pretend tools!
  - o Take out our hammers (pretend hammer down some nails)
  - Take out our shovels (pretend to shovel)
  - o Stack our bricks (pretend to stack bricks; stack them really high)
  - Admire our work (say "oooh" and "ahhh")

Before you go to Large Group, you can also remind kids of the expectations for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.





# instructions

**Goal**: Kids will (1) understand that making Jesus king means following him, (2) recognize that following him can be hard but that God helps us! and (3) identify one way they will follow Jesus this week

**Why?** Following Jesus is a simple phrase but there are quite a few things (our own sin nature, other people or wrong things in the world, and the devil) that can make it tough. It's important for kids to be ready for battle!

Tip: Use the images to review today's story!

# small group

### **SMALL GROUP PART 1 (BETWEEN LARGE GROUP VIDEOS)**

\*Get kids a snack while you review the story.

- 1. What does it mean to follow Jesus? (to make him your king and act like him)
- 2. **(show image of Nehemiah)** What was the name of the guy in the story? (Nehemiah)
- 3. (show image of wall) What was he building? (a wall for God's family)
- 4. (**show image of the enemies**) What did Nehemiah's enemies do to keep him from obeying God? (they made fun of him, tried to attack him, tried to trick him into disobeying)
- 5. (show image of finished wall) Did Nehemiah follow God anyway? (yes!)
- 6. Who helped Nehemiah obey? (God!)

# If kids are finished with a snack and you've gone through the questions, line up and pretend to build again:

- While in line, tell kids we're going to hear about a guy named Nehemiah who rebuilt a wall. Let's take out our pretend tools!
  - Take out our hammers (pretend hammer down some nails)
  - $\circ \quad \text{Take out our shovels (pretend to shovel)} \\$
  - Stack our bricks (pretend to stack bricks; stack them really high)
  - Admire our work (say "oooh" and "ahhh")

## ONE HOUR AFTER SERVICE STARTS, BE READY FOR LARGE GROUP #2 TO BEGIN.

## **SMALL GROUP #2: MAKE IT PERSONAL (and have some fun)**

- Ask God to help us follow him (like Nehemiah)
- Then build a wall in one, two or three of the following ways (just be sure to end on the coloring page):

(Continue on the following page)



- With blocks in the room
- With Play-Doh (for in-room use only)
- o On the coloring page (let kids color it first)
- As you build, help kids come up with ideas for ways to follow Jesus. Here are some examples: obey your parents, share with others, smile at a friend, take care of your pet, etc.

\*Celebrate the wall's completion by thanking God that he helps us follow him!

\*\*Before kids leave, give each one **a sticker** to spark conversation between them and the adult who picks them up!

Then do the **coloring page** and talk about other ways to obey Jesus. You could also build a wall out of blocks in the room or Play Dough. Extra Time? Repeat any of the Connect Time games!



# special notes

Large Group is structured differently this week. There will be no live presenter but a video presentation in TWO PARTS. Someone should announce the videos but the rest of the presentation will be done via video.

# presenter tips

Please choose one adult to stand up in the presentation area and lead the songs along with the video (one song is at the beginning of Video 1 and two songs are at the end of Video 2). It will encourage kids to interact with worship!

# script

\*Click to play intro music.

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you today. For Large Group, we're going to have a special friend come visit us. Let's see who it is!

Video: LARGE GROUP PART 1 (about 15 min.)

\*Return to small groups for a snack and review. One hour after the service start time, come back for Large Group part 2.

Welcome back, everyone. Let's see what our friend has to say now!

Video: LARGE GROUP PART 2 (15 min.)

(Dismiss kids back to small groups)



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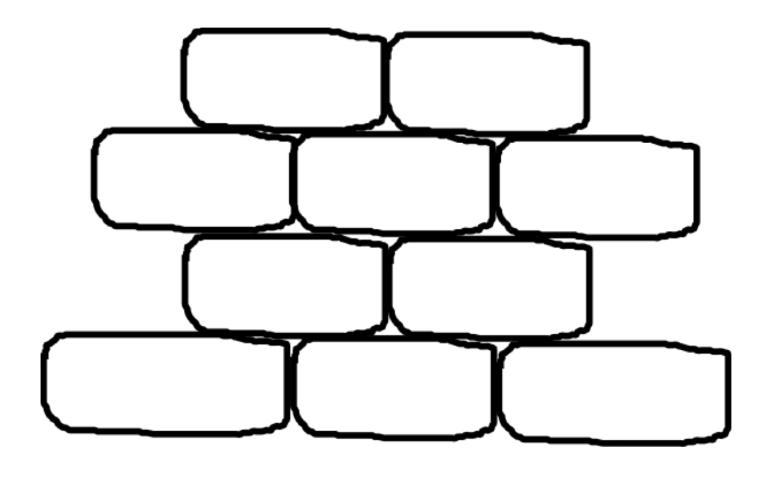


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# name







#### connect time supplies

Per Group

Games - No supplies needed

## small group supplies

Per kid coloring page

To be handed out at checkout:

1 sticker per kid

Per group Markers 1 Bible Playdough

1 set of 5 images with copy on the back (reused for

subsequent services)

#### large group supplies

Bible

#### a/v needs

- 1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
- Video: Large Group Part 1
  Kids' Club slide
- 4. Video: Large Group Part 2

#### connect questions

Tell me about Nehemiah. How can we follow Jesus?

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