

October 28-29, 2017

DATE

Nehemiah

LESSON TITLE

Book of Nehemiah

WHERE TO FIND IT

God wants to help us.

MAIN POINT

schedule

First 15 minutes of the service hour:
Engage kids in cooperative play activities to help them connect to other kids

Next 5 minutes: Connect Time

Next 25 minutes: Large Group

Last 25 minutes: Snack and Small Group

tips

Keep Play-Doh confined to one table/area and have a volunteer stationed in that area while it's being used. Kids should only use Play-Doh while seated at a table.

check-in/out

As kids leave, ask them why they used tools and built a wall!

large group heads up

Nehemiah prayed every time he needed help. And even though it wasn't always exactly how Nehemiah expected or hoped, God always answered. In the end, he made a way for Nehemiah to rebuild Jerusalem's wall.



connect time

GOAL: *Connect time is all about engaging kids in a short, interactive game to prepare them for Large Group.*

- **Clean up! (10 minutes after the service start time, when you get the 5-minute warning from the presenter)**
- 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!
 - Take out our hammers (pretend hammer down some nails).
 - Take out our shovels (pretend to shovel).
 - Stack our bricks (pretend to stack bricks; stack them really high).
 - Admire our work (say "ooh" and "ahh").

As you walk into Large Group, encourage kids to put on their listening ears! Remind them that HOPS will be showing us how we should act in Large Group, so we have to listen!

special notes

Kids will learn some motions in Connect Time, and then have them reinforced during Large Group, so make sure to reference those physical “building” motions!

presenter tips

Preview one of today’s videos here:

God’s Story / Nehemiah:

<https://vimeo.com/109579345>

script

WELCOME AND INTRO

Main Goal: Review the beginning of God’s story and rescue plan.

Notes:

- **Say:** Hi Friends! Welcome to Kids’ Club. I’m really glad you’re here today. Before we get started, I want you to meet my friend HOPS.
- **Video: HOPS Put your listening ears on! (fall theme)**
- **Say:** (Holding up the *Bible*.) *This* is God’s story. Out of all the stories in the world, this is the most important. Do you know what it’s called? (Let kids respond “the Bible.”) That’s right, the Bible! It shows us how He rescued us from all the wrong things in the world.
- **(Loop: Sun)** In the beginning, God made the whole world and everything in it. He created the sun! Let’s all pretend to be a sun! (Let kids respond.)
- **(Loop: Water)** He created the ocean, with all the water in it. Let’s pretend to swim!
- **Say:** He made all the animals! Let’s pretend to be...(insert animal). And everything was good. Give me a big thumbs up! (Let kids respond. Then change your tone.)
- **Say:** But THEN, something bad happened. Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and all the wrong things came into the world. Things like sadness and death. Show me your sad face. (Let kids respond.) Even though Adam and Eve disobeyed God, God loved them anyway! He planned a great rescue so that Adam and Eve, and you and me, could be close to God again! Do you know who the Rescuer is? (Jesus!)

INTRO: NEHEMIAH

- **Say:** Today, we're going to hear about a guy named Nehemiah. Can you guys say "Nehemiah"? (Let kids say it.) Good job! Nehemiah had a BIG job to do. You guys practiced Nehemiah's job in Connect Time!
- **Say:** His city was broken down, and the walls protecting it had crumbled. It was the home of God's family, and Nehemiah knew he needed to fix it. Let's practice using our tools to fix and build like Nehemiah!
 - Take out our hammers (pretend to hammer down some nails).
 - Take out our shovels (pretend to shovel).
 - Stack our bricks (pretend to stack bricks; stack them really high).
 - Admire our work (say "ooh" and "ahhh").
- **Say:** Now let's pretend to stack bricks and build a big wall! *(Begin down on the floor and pretend to stack bricks, guiding kids. Add some commentary as you guide them toward building it as high as they can reach. Your commentary might be like: "Wow, this is hard work. Let's add another row. Oh, that's really good. This wall is getting high. Pretty soon we won't be able to reach the top. But it has to be really big—big enough to cover all the houses and stores and parks in an entire city. So let's stretch up as high as we can. OK, whew. Now have a seat.")*

GOD HELPS NEHEMIAH BUILD

- **Say:** Nehemiah knew that he would need God's help for this VERY big job. The worst part was, some mean guys wanted to stop Nehemiah! They did everything they could to keep him from building the wall. So Nehemiah asked GOD for help. And do you think God heard Nehemiah's prayers? (Let kids say: Yes!) Of course He did—because God always hears our prayers!
- **Say:** Let's see what happens. As you watch, see what God does when he hears Nehemiah's prayers.
- **Video: God's Story / Nehemiah**
- **Say:** Wow, what a story! God certainly heard Nehemiah's prayers, because he answered them! It wasn't always in the way Nehemiah expected, but that's OK. He trusted God to hear him and help him. And God did!
- **Say:** Sometimes we have to do hard things too. But we can always ask God for help, right? Right!

WRAP UP AND WORSHIP

- **Say:** Now let's pray! That's when we talk to God, and he listens to us! So bow your head, close your eyes, and repeat after me.
- **Pray (Breaking it into small, repeatable phrases):** God, thank you for helping us and taking care of us, no matter what happens! You love us so much, and we love you. Aaaa-men!
- **Say:** Now let's stand up and worship God with singing and dancing!
- **Music Video: Be Strong**
- **Music Video: Robot Rock**
- **Music Video: Whole Wide World**



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) understand that God used Nehemiah to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem and (2) recognize that God can redeem things in our lives, too.

Why? God used Nehemiah to redeem and rebuild the city. He is constantly making us new.

Tip: Emphasize that no matter what we've done, God makes things new, and he's making us new, too.

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Have you ever built something? What was it?
2. Have you ever broken something? Can we fix broken things?
3. What was Nehemiah's special job? (Building a big wall around his city.)
4. Why did he ask God for help? (The job was big; people wanted to stop him.)
5. How did God help Nehemiah? (God helped him build the wall!)
6. Can God help us fix things too? (Yes!)

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Remind kids that Nehemiah rebuilt a big wall to protect God's family, and God helped him do it! Let's pretend to build our own wall:
 - Give each kid a **popsicle stick** and let them pretend it's a tool (a hammer, a screwdriver, or any other tool). They can pretend to use it as a tool as they build a wall in one or both of the following ways:
 - With **cups**: Set out 3 cups per kid on each table. Let kids stack on top of each other (make sure to return them to the bin for the next service to use; they can use their popsicle stick tool to "tap" the cups, like they're hammering them together, or to knock the cups down).
 - With **Play-Doh** (give each kid a handful and let them use the popsicle stick to cut it, mold it, hammer it, and build it into a wall, or any other structure they want).

*Extra time? Have kids do a **coloring page**.*



connect questions

Tell me about Nehemiah.
How did God help Nehemiah?

lesson supplies

Connect Time			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
No supplies needed			

Large Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Jesus Storybook Bible	1 per large group, reused	BiblesbytheCase.com	site

Small Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Coloring Page - Nehemiah	1 per kid	Page 9, white paper, black & white	site
Plastic cups	3 per kid, reused	Sam's Club, Item #653618	KC National
Play dough	1 handful per kid, reused		site
Popsicle stick	1 per kid, reused	Oriental Trading, Item #IN-57/1008	KC National

name _____



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Tell me about Nehemiah.
How did God help him?

Read more about this week's story in the book of Nehemiah.

CrossroadsKidsClub.net

A/V needs

Preschool



1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Video: HOPS Put your listening ears on (fall theme) (<https://vimeo.com/99633582>)
3. Video: God's Story / Nehemiah (<https://vimeo.com/109579345>)
4. Music Video: Be Strong (<https://vimeo.com/144037020>)
5. Music Video: Robot Rock (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQcHsUevexM>)
6. Music Video: Whole Wide World (<https://vimeo.com/13033365>)