

# Old Testament

## The wall is finished

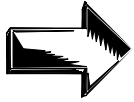
## Nehemiah 6:1-16

### Younger Verse

Nothing is impossible with God. Luke 1:37

### Older Verse

Nothing is impossible with God. Luke 1:37



Teachers: This new unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament.

PLEASE remember to always include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God's ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

### Welcome Time

Has anyone ever made fun of you or tried to stop you from doing something good? Today's lesson is about some people who tried to stop Nehemiah from finishing the wall. Let's see what he does.

### Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Last week we learned that Nehemiah listened to God and asked the king to begin rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem, his home town. Remember how he did just exactly what God wanted.

We left the story last week by seeing how Nehemiah was getting lots of people to help rebuild the wall of the city.

Well, one person who was not from Jerusalem, was named Sanballat. He became furious when he heard what was happening. He made fun of the people. He said to his friends and the army, "What are these weak people doing? They think they can rebuild the wall." Another man said, "Yeah, even a fox could break down the wall they are rebuilding!"

These mean words didn't stop Nehemiah. Do you know what he did? He didn't yell back. He didn't throw a rock. He **PRAYED** to **GOD**! God took care of them.

Later, when the wall was half finished, the enemies started getting nervous. They began to tell the people that they would kill them when they weren't looking.

What did Nehemiah do? He reminded the people that they did not need to be afraid because **GOD** was with them.

God helped Nehemiah to rebuild the wall. He had each person build the wall next to their home in the city. That was a good idea because everyone wanted to do their best job on

**Lesson Goals:** Understand what God did through Nehemiah  
Stand up and do right even when others are making fun of us

the part that was by their home. They would work hard to make it safe and secure from their enemies.

Several more times the enemies tried to stop the building. But each time Nehemiah prayed to God for strength and courage.

Guess what—a record was set! They finished the wall in 52 Days!!!

Do you know that even the enemies realized that only God could have done this because it was a great, big wall!

When the wall was complete, Nehemiah and Ezra helped the people worship God. They took time to read the Bible and obey God. It was a very special time.

Nehemiah not only told the people that he loved God, he showed them. A person could see from his life that he loved God and followed Him. When hard times came, or when people were afraid, he prayed. He trusted God and knew that He would help them.

Jesus did the same thing. He told us that He loved us—and he showed us. He did this by dying on the cross and coming back to life 3 days later. Now that’s a miracle! He did not die for something He had done wrong. Instead, He died to pay the price for all the wrong sins that we have done. If we believe in Jesus and know that He came back to life, He will help us. If we ask Jesus to come into our heart, He will take away all the sin that we have and make us clean on the inside. He will stay with us forever and take us to Heaven one day. That’s how much He loves us! If you want to know more about how to go to Heaven, talk to us about it.

**Learning Activities**

Use some graham crackers/frosting or peanut butter and crackers and construct a wall. Have fun working together. Then you can enjoy eating it!

**Memory Verse Activities**

Bring tools or make paper tools and write a word of the verse on one tool. Let the kids arrange the “tool” in order to form the memory verse. Share how Nehemiah and God’s people did something that everyone else thought was impossible.

**Prayer Time**

Nehemiah prayed when he was unsure, when he was scared, when he needed God’s strength. What can we pray for today?

**Snack Time/CleanUp**

Enjoy the cracker wall or other snacks. Be sure to let the kids have responsibility in cleaning up.

Planning for Lesson 80  
Esther becomes queen  
Esther 1-2

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Preschool Lesson  
For  
Nehemiah finishes the wall

Nehemiah was a man who loved God. Last week we learned how he asked the king if he could go back to his home and rebuild the wall that had been destroyed. God helped him and he began the work. He asked many people to help him rebuild the wall.

The people worked hard building the wall. They hammered, put bricks up and added cement called mortar. Slowly, the wall began to grow taller and taller.

Some of the enemies were becoming afraid. They did not want the wall built. They wanted the city in ruins so that they could raid the town and take things away. They began to laugh at Nehemiah and tried to make him stop building the wall.

Each time the people tried to hurt Nehemiah, Nehemiah would pray and ask God for help. God would help them continue to work and not listen to the mean words that the enemies were saying.

God helped them rebuild the wall in 52 days!! That was amazing. When people heard that the wall was rebuilt, they knew that God had helped them complete it quickly!

When the wall was finished, Nehemiah brought all the people together to worship God. They had a big church time and praised God for helping them finish the wall to their beautiful city. Everyone celebrated and listened as they read the Bible and obeyed God. It was a wonderful time for everyone.

Nehemiah loved God and God helped him finish an important job. When mean people were saying hurtful words, Nehemiah did not say mean things back. Instead, he prayed and asked God for help. When someone is mean to us or says hurtful things, we must pray and ask God for help. He will help us love our enemies and do the right thing!

Finish the song (started last week) to the tune of “The wise man built his house upon the rock.”

Nehemiah prayed as the wall was being built,  
Nehemiah prayed as the wall was being built,  
Nehemiah prayed as the wall was being built,  
And Jerusalem was made safe.

The people worshiped and praised the Lord,  
The people worshiped and praised the Lord,  
The people worshiped and praised the Lord,  
For helping build the wall.

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Hands-on Activities  
For  
Nehemiah finishes the wall

Many construction workers carry work aprons to hold tools. Think of a fun way to make work aprons for the kids. You may want to try to use two plastic bags and wrap the handles around each child's waist in the front and back and tie. Use your imagination to think of a fun way to get the kids involved.

Bring shoe boxes. Divide the kids into two lines. The object of the game is to run to the bricks, assemble one, then run back. The next person will put the next "brick" on the wall. When all the "bricks" are standing, say the verse together!

Make a prayer plate to show times for us to pray! We should pray ALL the time!

Make a JOY banner. Nehemiah encouraged the people. Read Nehemiah 8:10.

Read different "story strips" to see which way we should act. Talk about how we should act towards others, even those who are mean to us.

Play "flashlight tag." Bring a flashlight and let someone be "it." It tries to shine the flashlight on someone's feet to tag them. If they are tagged, they can be set free by someone running to them and saying the memory verse.

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