

NEHEMIAH

BUILDING
MINISTRY
TOGETHER

Lesson 4: Nehemiah 2:9-20 Building Ministry Through Planning Part 2

Welcome and Play Time 10 Min

If you've ever done any kind of building project before, then you know that nothing ever goes quite how you plan for it to go. The biggest reason we get so overwhelmed by troubles is because of our expectations. We must plan or we're sure to fail, but we must also expect the unexpected! Nothing worthwhile is ever easy!

Use this time as people are arriving for the kids to get comfortable with each other and settled in so that Mom and Dad can enjoy small group.

Bible Lesson Activities 20 Min



Activity 1: Wall Knockers We all could use some work in being patient under persecution right? This game will encourage your kids to expect opposition and not be ruffled by it! Split your group into two teams: Wall Builders and Wall Knockers. As one group builds with blocks, the other group throws balls of paper at the wall to try and knock it down. After a couple of minutes have groups trade sides. When you are finished talk about how you felt when you were trying to build with someone trying to stop you.

Activity 2: Super Inspectors In any building project they always say, "Measure twice and cut once." That is what we see Nehemiah doing in chapter 2. He made his plan before he left, and now that he's on the job site he's making sure that all of his plans will work out. We are so quick to look over seemingly unimportant details! Let's practice some observation skills to make us Super Inspectors!

Bible Reading Time & Scripture Memory 10 Min

Have a small snack for the kids like pretzels or cheerios to help encourage quiet mouths and listening ears. Pray and thank God for directing our steps and using our plans to work in His great plan. Read the Word straight through and then give yourself time to discuss after you've read the whole passage.

Read Nehemiah 2:9-20 (NASB) Read from a Bible if you have one available

9Then I came to the governors of the provinces beyond the River and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent with me officers of the army and horsemen. 10When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard about it, it was very displeasing to them that someone had come to seek the welfare of the sons of Israel.

11So I came to Jerusalem and was there three days. 12And I arose in the night, I and a few men with me. I did not tell anyone what my God was putting into my mind to do for Jerusalem and there was no animal with me except the animal on which I was riding. 13 So I went out at night by the Valley Gate in the direction of the Dragon's Well and on to the Refuse Gate, inspecting the walls of Jerusalem which were broken down and its gates which were consumed by fire. 14 Then I passed on to the Fountain Gate and the King's Pool, but there was no place for my mount to pass. 15 So I went up at night by the ravine and inspected the wall. Then I entered the Valley Gate again and returned. 16 The officials did not know where I had gone or what I had done; nor had I as yet told the Jews, the priests, the nobles, the officials or the rest who did the work.

17 Then I said to them, "You see the bad situation we are in, that Jerusalem is desolate and its gates burned by fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem so that we will no longer be a reproach." 18 I told them how the hand of my God had been favorable to me and also about the king's words which he had spoken to me. Then they said, "Let us arise and build." So they put their hands to the good work. 19 But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard it, they mocked us and despised us and said, "What is this thing you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?" 20 So I answered them and said to them, "The God of heaven will give us success; therefore we His servants will arise and build, but you have no portion, right or memorial in Jerusalem."

Discuss with the children what the verses mean. Last week we saw how Nehemiah planned for his ministry. This week he makes sure his plan will work and prepares to put his plan into action. **What did the king send with Nehemiah?** *Letters, officers of the army and horsemen.* **Did Nehemiah start work right when he arrived?** **No** **What did he do?** *He examined the work that needed to be done.* **What did Nehemiah do next?** *He encouraged the people to help him rebuild the wall.* **Was everyone happy that Nehemiah was doing this good work?** *No, Sanballat, Tobiah and Geshem were not. They were mean and tried to stop Nehemiah's work.*

Let's memorize this week's verse:

**"The fear of man brings a snare,
But he who trusts in the LORD will be exalted." Proverbs 29:25**

Coloring Sheet 10 Min

Pass out the memory verse coloring sheets and have children color them. As you color repeat the verse several times to help the words sink in!

Closing/Clean Up 5 Min

Clean up and make sure everyone has shoes on, coloring sheets in hand and everything is put back in the room. Praise God for a wonderful group of young people!

HOW MANY OF THESE IN THIS ROOM?



= _____

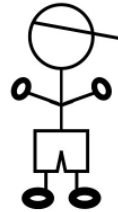
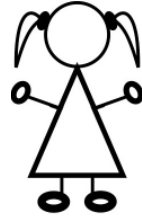


= _____

SUPER INSPECTOR



= _____



= _____

COLOR THE BOX TO MATCH THE PART OF THE ROOM:



FLOOR



WALLS



CEILING

HOW MANY STEPS DOES IT TAKE TO GET ACROSS THE ROOM? _____

HOW MANY STEPS DOES IT TAKE TO GET ACROSS THE ROOM GOING THE OTHER WAY? _____



INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE

DATE



**THE FEAR OF MAN BRINGS A SNARE,
BUT HE WHO TRUSTS IN THE LORD
WILL BE EXALTED. ”
PROVERBS 29:25**