

## *Fellowship Kids*

# 4s/5s Lesson Plan - Sunday School

*Sunday, September 13*

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UNIT 18 | SESSION 1

## THE WALLS REBUILT

NEHEMIAH 1-6

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**MAIN POINT / CHRIST CONNECTION:** Nehemiah helped rebuild the walls to protect the people from their enemies. Jesus protects us from our enemies of sin and death. When we follow Jesus, He keeps us safe, and we will live with Him forever.

**MEMORY VERSE of the Month:** JOHN 20:31 - "These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God."

**LESSON CONTEXT:** This Unit - After 70 years, the exile was over, and God brought His people home to Judah. Through the prophet Zechariah, God spoke a message of hope to His people about what would happen in the future. The people began to rebuild the temple so that they would have a place to worship God. Years later in Persia, God used Esther to save His people through her bravery and sacrifice.

## Fellowship + Play/Coloring Time

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One volunteer should greet children and families at the door.

### FELLOWSHIP TIME

Allow children time to engage with one another and play. Use this time to get to know your students and hear about their week. What was a good part/hard part or "yay duck"/"yuck duck" of their week?

### FREE PLAY & ACTIVITY PAGES

For free time before the lesson, ask children to come to the tables and give them the option to play or color their activity pages (pages in Activity Box). Use this time to ask them questions about their week and get to know them.

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**TRANSITION:** Give children a **warning** before you ask them to come to a circle

**SAY** *"Everyone, in 5 minutes we are going to pick up our toys and gather in a circle!"*

*Sing the clean up song and ask children to come find a seat in the circle.*

## Activity

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### KNOCKED DOWN WALLS

Gather a beanbag and several blocks (in classroom). Stack the blocks into several towers on the floor in front of a wall. Tape a line that is 3–4 feet away from the block stacks. Lead children to stand behind the tape line. Give the first child the beanbag and direct him to gently toss it at the block towers so the blocks tumble down. (If needed, give the child several attempts.) Rebuild the block towers and give the next child in line the opportunity to knock down the blocks.

**SAY:** *Were you able to knock down the blocks with the beanbag? The walls around Jerusalem were knocked down and needed to be fixed. This made Nehemiah very sad because the people who lived in the city were not safe. He prayed to God for help. The king decided to help Nehemiah, and he sent Nehemiah to the city. God's people rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem.*

## Lesson

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*As the children gather in a circle on the floor, let them know your expectations - that you would like them to sit quietly, keep their hands to themselves, listen to the story, etc.*

### 1. Open the Bible & Pray

Open to **NEHEMIAH 1** in your Bible. **Reverently display the open Bible.**

**SAY** *Today, we will be in the book of NEHEMIAH, which is in the Old Testament. Let's hear this true story from God's Word.*



**Pray** quickly for your time in the Word of God.

## 2. Tell the Bible Story

Use the [visuals](#) (in Activity Box) if you'd like to help children follow along with the story.

### THE WALLS REBUILT

Nehemiah was one of God's people who lived in Persia. Nehemiah had an important job in Persia as a servant of the king.

One day, some men came from Judah. Nehemiah asked, "How are God's people doing?" The men had bad news: "The people are in trouble. The walls around the city are broken."

This was very bad news! Without a wall, the people could not protect themselves from their enemies. Nehemiah was sad. He prayed to God for several days.

"What's wrong?" the king asked. Nehemiah said, "The city where my family is from is in trouble. The walls around the city are broken."

The king sent Nehemiah to Jerusalem to help rebuild the city. He made sure Nehemiah had everything he needed. When Nehemiah got to Jerusalem, he walked around the walls and looked at them. Then he told the people there, "Let's rebuild the wall!"

Nehemiah and the people worked together. They started to fix the walls, the gates, and towers in the wall. Some people stacked stones. Others filled in holes in the wall. Before long, the wall was halfway rebuilt!

Some men who lived nearby did not like God's people, and they did not want them to have strong walls to keep them safe. These men made fun of God's people. They said, "You can't fix these walls! They are too broken." But that wasn't true. God's people could rebuild the walls because God was helping them.

Nehemiah prayed. God's people kept working on the walls, but their enemies planned to attack them. God's people chose men to guard the walls all day and all night and they carried weapons with them while they built. God's people kept working. They were always ready to fight, just in case.

Nehemiah was a good leader for God's people. He helped them and told them to trust God. Before long, the wall was finished! The gates and walls were fixed, and God's people were

safe. The wall was finished so quickly that the people around the city knew that God was with them.

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** *Nehemiah helped rebuild the walls to protect the people from their enemies. Jesus protects us from our enemies of sin and death. When we follow Jesus, He keeps us safe, and we will live with Him forever.*

### 3. Review the Bible Story

- **Why was Nehemiah sad?** *(Because he heard that the walls in Jerusalem were all broken down)*
- **What did the people hold while they worked?** *(They carried weapons to defend themselves.)*
- **Did God help them rebuild the walls quickly?** *(Yes! The people around them knew that God had helped his people.)*
- **Who keeps us safe?** *(God keeps us safe!)*

### 4. Pray

## Memory Verse

Open your Bible to **JOHN 20:31** and lead the kids to repeat the verse several times, using hand motions if you'd like:

**“These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.”**

**- JOHN 20:31**

**SAY:** *Our key passage reminds us that the stories in the Bible show us that Jesus is the Son of God. Like Nehemiah helped rebuild the walls to keep the people safe, Jesus protects us from our enemies. The Bible is about God's plan to save people through Jesus. When we choose to follow Jesus, He rescues us and keeps us safe.*

### MAKE MOTIONS

Ask the kids to help you create a jingle or motions for the key words in the memory verse. Review the motions as you say the verse a few times all together.

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## PLAY THE MUSIC VIDEO

Have the children repeat the verse with you several times. Then play the memory verse music video from the YouTube app on the Roku TV (*YouTube account should be Fellowship Kids (switch accounts on the top of the left sidebar if not) > go to Library on the left side bar > Choose Playlists on the top > choose your classroom*).

## Snack + Bible Video

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**Have students sit at the tables for snack time.**

1. **Pass Out Snacks.** Pass out the water and Cheerios in cups. Double check for any allergies on the classroom tablet.
2. **Watch the Bible Lesson Video.** While they eat, you can play the Bible lesson video from the YouTube app on the TV (*YouTube account should be Fellowship Kids (switch accounts on the top of the left sidebar if not) > go to Library on the left side bar > Choose Playlists on the top > choose your classroom*).

## Activity

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### PATCH THE WALLS

Pass out the “wall” papers to each child at the table (in Activity Box). These papers will have holes punched out of them. Provide children with dot stickers (in Activity Box). Encourage kids to “fix the wall” by covering the holes with the stickers. Retell the Bible story as the children work.

**SAY:** *Did Jerusalem’s walls get fixed? Yes! The walls of Jerusalem were broken, but Nehemiah and his friends worked hard to fix the walls. Nehemiah helped keep his friends safe and showed the people how to trust and follow God.*



## Dismissal

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As parents arrive,

- Match the 4 digit code on the parent's tag to the child's tag
- Check out the child on the tablet by clicking the check box to the left of their name on the roster.
- Give feedback! Tell parents how the student did that morning.

## Clean Up

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- Wipe down tables if any messes were made with activities. [Magic eraser sponges can erase markings on desks.]
- Put teacher and activity items back in the Activity Box or Teacher Box.
- Place the TV remote in the white holder on the dry erase board.
- **Return the small Activity Box and your lanyards to the check-in desk.**