

## **OVERVIEW CARD**

# Nehemiah Builds a Wall

Key Question: Who are you thankful for?

Bottom Line: I am thankful for people who help me.

Memory Verse: "Always give thanks to God."

Ephesians 5:20, NCV

Bible Story Focus: I am thankful for people who help me

Nehemiah Builds a Wall

Nehemiah 1-6

Coloring Page: Nehemiah rebuilds the wall

Music: Praise the Lord Everyday

WooHoo I Can Help You

Wherever I Go

Bible Lesson: The Beginner's Bible

Nehemiah Rebuilds the Walls

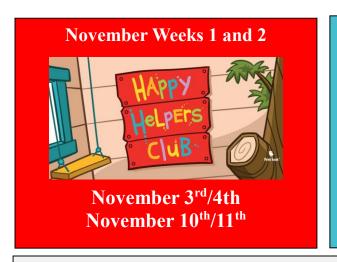
Pages 226 to 229

Story: I'm Thankful Each Day

by P.K. Hallinan

### **Memory Verse –**

"Always give thanks to God."



## Activity FOR ALL AGES

# Nehemiah Builds a Wall

#### **Memory Verse Activity**

Big Idea: Children will say the Memory Verse together and then shake off the soft bricks.

What You Need: Parachute and soft bricks

#### What You Do:

Spread the parachute in an open area of the room.

- Encourage the children to gather around the perimeter of the parachute.
- Have the children grab the sides of the parachute.
- Let the children move their arms up and down to create waves.
- Toss several of the soft bricks onto the surface.
- Encourage the children to keep the bricks on the parachute while saying the Memory Verse together. "Always give thanks to God!"
- Collect all of the bricks and Bring it Back to Jesus\*

#### What You Say:

After the Activity: "Okay friends, all eyes on me. (Wait until everyone is looking at you.) WOW! You did a really great job working together to shake all of those bricks. It would be really hard to do by yourself! Nehemiah used bricks to rebuild a broken wall around his city. It was a big job and the people helped him get the job done! God is SO good and helps us when we need it. He gives us people to help us! Do you think Nehemiah was thankful for everyone who helped him? Me too! Who are you thankful for? I am thankful for people who help me!"

Memory Verse -

"Always give thanks to God."



## ACTIVITY FOR ALL AGES

# Nehemiah Builds a Wall

#### **Building a Wall**

Big Idea: Help the children build a wall with toy cardboard blocks.

What You Need: Cardboard blocks (make sure you have one block for each child)

#### What You Do:

- Place the blocks in a pile in the middle of the play area.
- Have the children each take a block and, one at a time, allow them to stack the blocks.
- If the blocks fall, help the children restack them.
- Make sure each child has a turn to stack a block.
- If you have a large class, you may want to encourage the children to build several smaller walls instead of one large wall.
- If you choose, you can have the children knock down the wall. Play as long as the kids are interested.
- Collect the blocks and \*Bring it Back to Jesus

#### What You Say:

Before the activity: "Let's help each other build something! I have many blocks and we can work together to build a wall just like Nehemiah did in our lesson today!"

At the end of the activity: "Wow! Look at this awesome wall that we have built together. You did a really great job! I love how you worked together just like Nehemiah and the community worked together. Nehemiah used bricks to rebuild a broken wall around his city. It was a big job and the people helped him get the job done! God is SO good and helps us when we need it. He gives us people to help us! Do you think Nehemiah was thankful for everyone who helped him? Me too! Who are you thankful for? I am thankful for people who help me!"

Memory Verse -

"Always give thanks to God."



# ACTIVITY 4's/5's ONLY Nehemiah Builds a Wall

#### **Building Relay**

Big Idea: Children will have relay race to see who can build the wall fastest.

What You Need: Toy blocks (Jenga game set)

#### What You Do:

• Divide the children into two teams. Have each team line up in a single-file line.

- Give each child in both lines a block. Designate a place for each team to stack their blocks.
- When you say "GO," send the first child in each line to their designated area and encourage them to place their block down to start their team's wall with their toy pieces alternating their direction on each level. (Be prepared to help them build a base to get started.)
- Have the other children go down one at a time from each line to continue to stack the blocks.
- If the wall should fall over before the activity is finished, you may start over, or stop the activity and repair it.

#### What You Say:

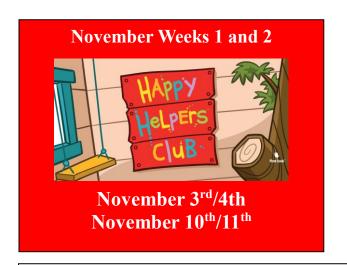
Before the Activity: "Let's see if we can build a wall like Nehemiah!"

After the Activity: "You all did such a great job working together and building your wall! Things go much better and faster when you have help.

Nehemiah used bricks to rebuild a broken wall around his city. It was a big job and the people helped him get the job done! God is SO good and helps us when we need it. He gives us people to help us! Do you think Nehemiah was thankful for everyone who helped him? Me too! Who are you thankful for? I am thankful for people who help me!"

Memory Verse -

"Always give thanks to God."



# ACTIVITY 2's/3's only Nehemiah Builds a Wall

#### **Scatter and Gather**

#### Big Idea:

Children will find scattered Little People around the room and talk about how people help us.

What You Need: Little people

#### What You Do:

- Show the children the Little People and explain that God gives us people just like these to help us.
- Scatter the Little People around the room.
- Explain that they are to collect the Little People and bring them back to you.
- When the child brings a Little People back to you ask, "Who is someone who helps you?"
- Continue scattering and collecting the people as long as there is interest
- Collect the Little People and \*Bring it Back to Jesus

#### What You Say:

After the Activity: "Wow! You did a great job finding all of the people! In our story today, the people all got together to help Nehemiah. Nehemiah used bricks to rebuild a broken wall around his city. It was a big job and the people helped him get the job done! God is SO good and helps us when we need it. He gives us people to help us! Do you think Nehemiah was thankful for everyone who helped him? Me too! Who are you thankful for? I am thankful for people who help me!"

**Memory Verse –** 

"Always give thanks to God."



## **CRAFT WEEK 1**

# Nehemiah Builds a Wall

#### **Memory Verse**

What You Need: Colored Cardstock (1/4 Sheet), Memory Verse Label, Stickers (5 per child) Crayons/Markers, Magnet

#### What You Do:

- Place on the table a Dixie Cup with 5 stickers for each child and crayons/markers.
- Pass out cardstock and help child place a memory verse label in center to make a "frame".
- Have the children decorate the frame around the verse with stickers and crayons/markers.
- Help the children add the magnet to the back.
- \*Bring it Back to Jesus

#### What You Could Say:

Before the Activity: "We have a new memory verse this month! It is: Always Give Thanks to God, Ephesians 5:20. Now let's say it together." (Repeat several times.) Today, we are going to make a picture frame displaying our memory verse that you can take home to help you practice saying our memory verse."

After the Activity: "Our memory verse tells us to always give thanks to God. Nehemiah used bricks to rebuild a broken wall around his city. It was a big job and his friends helped him get the job done! God is SO good and helps us when we need it. He gives us people to help us! Do you think Nehemiah was thankful for his friends? Me too! Who are you thankful for? I am thankful for people who help me!"

Memory Verse -

"Always give thanks to God."



### **CRAFT WEEK 2**

## Nehemiah Builds a Wall

#### **Help Nehemiah**

What You Need: "Blank Wall" Activity Page on white cardstock, kitchen sponges, clothespins, brown paint, small plastic bowls, and wet wipes

#### What You Do:

- Give each child a copy of "Blank Wall."
- Pour some brown paint into a bowl.
- Pick up a sponge with a clothespin for each child.
- Show the children how to hold the clothespins while they dip their sponges in the paint and press it to their page to make brick prints.
- Write the child's name on their activity while you \*Bring it Back to Jesus

#### What You Say:

During the activity: "Our Bible lesson today was about a man named Nehemiah! First, Nehemiah helped lead the people so they would know how to rebuild the wall. Then all of the people started working together and before long they had helped Nehemiah finish the wall! They rebuilt the wall! Today we're going to help Nehemiah make a brick wall with some paint and sponges."

At the end of the activity: "Your walls look great! You can take them home and tell everyone about how Nehemiah helped others and how you can help others too. Nehemiah used bricks to rebuild a broken wall around his city. It was a big job and the people helped him get the job done! God is SO good and helps us when we need it. He gives us people to help us! Do you think Nehemiah was thankful for everyone who helped him? Me too! Who are you thankful for? I am thankful for people who help me!"

**Memory Verse –** 

"Always give thanks to God."



## PLAYDOH/ PRAYER TIME

Nehemiah
Builds a Wall

#### Playdoh/Prayer Time

What you Need: Parent Take Home Card, Playdoh, People Cookie Cutters, Rolling Pins, and Sticker Roll

**SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL):** "It's Playdoh and Prayer time! It makes God happy when we have a thankful heart. Today we're talking about being thankful for people who help us. "Nehemiah used bricks to rebuild a broken wall around his city. It was a big job and his friends helped him get the job done! God is SO good and helps us when we need it. He gives us people to help us! Do you think Nehemiah was thankful for his friends? Me too! **Who are you thankful for? I am thankful for people who help me!**"

"Let's pray and thank God for the people who help us. Fold your hands like this, bow your heads like this, close your eyes like this, and I'll pray!"

**SGL:** "Ok, it's time to review our lesson. I am going to ask you some questions and you will get a sticker for answering them. I have some really cool stickers today. Are you ready? (*Pause.*) Great!

- Go from child to child and have them repeat the memory verse for a sticker.
- Ask the children the Bottom Line question for a sticker.
- Using the Parent Take Home card, ask each child individually the questions pertaining to this week's lesson and give out a sticker.

**Memory Verse –** 

"Always give thanks to God."