

1: Creative Bible Lessons in Nehemiah - Small Groups

Creative Bible Lessons in Nehemiah will get your students thinking about the kinds of leaders God is calling them to be and provide them with the tools to be that leader today. Read more Read less Prime Book Box for Kids.

Related Media People cry about a lot of things. They cry at weddings. Parents cry when their children leave home. Sometimes they cry at the birth of their children and grandchildren. They cry at sad movies. Included in that assumption is that you have come to know Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord by trusting in His shed blood to cover your sins. You cannot serve the Lord until you have done that. But if you have done that, the Bible is clear that you have been given a spiritual gift to use in service for the Lord 1 Pet. It is a great blessing when you see the Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth, use you in some capacity to serve the Lord Jesus! God wants to use each one of us, but He also wants to develop us into people who are more usable to Him. As we look at the life of Nehemiah, we will learn many qualities of service and leadership. The book falls into two broad sections: Rebuilding the Wall chapters ; and, Rebuilding the People chapters Nehemiah arrived in Jerusalem in B. He was a great leader whom God used to pull off a phenomenal feat: In spite of much opposition and numerous hurdles, they accomplished the task in just 52 days. The temple had been rebuilt for about 70 years, but the walls that Nebuchadnezzar had destroyed in B. As we saw in Ezra 4: But when some Samaritans and other pagan residents of the land had complained, Artaxerxes issued a decree to stop the project, which these enemies had done with force of arms. Nehemiah inquired about the condition of the city and the people. Nehemiah knew most of these facts before this. The wall and gates had been destroyed over years before. He wept, mourned, fasted, and prayed for days, entreating God to do something about these deplorable conditions. God responded by doing somethingâ€”through Nehemiah! We learn that â€” The person God uses has a burden for His people, a vision for His purpose, and a commitment to His purpose. First, Nehemiah saw the great need, which burdened his heart. He also saw what God wanted to accomplish. And, he committed himself to see it through in spite of the many difficulties. The person God uses has a burden for His people. When God wants to use you in some capacity, the first thing He does is to burden your heart with the situation. Perhaps, like Nehemiah, you will have known in general about the need for a long time. When you compare the date of 1: Rather, he waited on God in prayer for four months before the opportunity arose to talk with the king. But the man that God used to do something about it not only heard about the need. He felt their need. He wept, mourned, fasted and prayed for days about what he had heard. God used that burden as the basis for action. How do I discern which particular need God wants me to get involved with? Sometimes you hear about the overwhelming needs around the world and run for cover because there is no way to respond to them all. Out of emotional survival, we throw up a barricade around our hearts that blocks all of the needs from moving us. We end up engrossed in our own pursuit of pleasure and ignore the needs of others. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest. Give me the heart of Jesus to feel compassion for them. And raise up workers for the harvest to meet these overwhelming needs! The needs are simply endless. Nobody could do that. Rather, wait on God in prayer until He burdens your heart with a particular need that you can do something about. Nehemiah was realistic in assessing the problem. He quickly realized that at the heart of things was not a lack of organization, although they desperately needed someone to organize things, which Nehemiah subsequently did. The root problem was not a lack of resources, although the project required resources. The root problem was sin. The Bible is clear that at the root of all our global and personal problems is sin. Why are there wars and terrorist attacks? Why are there famine and disease? Why are governments and businesses riddled with greed and corruption? Why is the mission task of the church not fulfilled? On the personal level, why do couples argue and have problems communicating? Why do kids from Christian homes rebel against God and their parents? Whatever the problem, you can trace its roots back to sin, either to the original sin of Adam and Eve, or directly to the sins of the people with the problems. If God is going to use us to help alleviate any great need, we need to keep clear in our focus, that at the root of the problem is human sin. We also need to be aware of and confess our own sins. Nehemiah included himself with the sins of the people. We are sinners who have been shown mercy. But we dare not get distracted from

the root problem. And lost people need repentance so that they can be reconciled to God. He begins his prayer addressing God: Then he prays 1: What does that mean? What should you do? It could mean that you are not born again, because you are not concerned about the things that God is concerned about. If that is your condition, you need to repent of your sins and trust in Christ to save you. You need to go before God and get your priorities in line with His priorities. He does not save us so that we can live happy lives pursuing the American dream. He saves us so that He can use us to further His purpose. That leads to the second quality of the person God uses: The person God uses has a vision for His purpose. We live in Babylon and have lived here for over years. Why not just settle down and worship God here? But why does He want to save people from around the globe? Be careful how you answer! But that is a man-centered goal. God does love people and He wants them to be happy, but not as the final end in itself. He wants to display the riches of His glorious grace and His manifold wisdom through the church to all of the angelic hosts Eph. I will warn you: Grappling with the truths that Edwards presents makes your brain ache! He does that when His people not only know and dutifully obey Him, but when they joyfully know and obey Him Piper, p. The person God uses has a commitment to His purpose. I hope that somebody does something about it. Nehemiah notes that he was cupbearer to the king 1: The cupbearer was a high position in the court. His responsibility was to choose and taste the wine before it was served to the king to make sure that it was not poisoned. He would have been a handsome man, well-trained in court etiquette. He would have to be a friendly companion, willing to lend an ear and even to give advice to the king. Since he enjoyed closest access to the king, he was a highly trusted man. Nehemiah lived in the palace at Susa with the king. Excavations have shown that it was built with cedar, gold, silver, and ivory. The walls were decorated with artistically colored glazed bricks and relief designs of winged bulls Donald K. Man in Charge [Victor Books], pp. Nehemiah would have eaten the best food, worn the best clothes, and lived in very comfortable quarters.

2: What can we learn from the life of Nehemiah?

Creative Bible Lessons in Nehemiah: 12 Sessions on Discovering What Leadership Means for Students Today by Andrew A. Hedges We may think of them as the leaders of tomorrow, but the kids you minister to are already leaders—they're the leaders of today.

This lesson was taught to a small group of children ranging from Nehemiah , 6 Bible Story Title: Ages K-5th Grade U. Sunday School Supply List: Students will learn that God protects His people. While students are waiting for others to arrive allow them to use building blocks to build a wall. Prepare index cards before class with 2 sets of the names of the gates: Allow students to take turns finding matching gates. Review Questions Memory Verse: Guards could stand on the high walls and see far into the distance to know if danger was coming toward their city. Today do people still build walls to protect cities? Walls are no longer the best way to protect our cities because we have planes and other ways to attack a city How do cities protect themselves today? Answers will vary Last time you learned about Nehemiah. Nehemiah was a cupbearer to the king of Persia who lived in Susa. His brother Hanani and some other Jewish men came to visit him. Nehemiah asked about the Jews that had returned to their land and what was happening in Jerusalem. Nehemiah found out that the walls and gates were broken down and the Jews were in great trouble. This news made him very sad. Nehemiah fasted and prayed. When the king asked why he was so sad he told him about the condition of Jerusalem. The king allowed Nehemiah to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls. It was an opportunity for them to mock God and the Jews because His city Jerusalem was a mess. Is He not powerful enough to protect His people and His own city? He is a holy God and must punish sin. His people sinned over and over again and did not repent and turn back to Him to be forgiven. He punished His people by allowing enemies to come in and attack them and destroy Jerusalem. Many Jews were taken to Babylon to live for 70 years. God allowed His people to return to Jerusalem after the 70 years were over. The work of rebuilding the walls and repairing the gates was going to be a lot of work. It would take many people to work together to complete this job. Nehemiah 3 tells us of the people who participated in rebuilding the walls and repairing the gates. The work was done by priests, leaders, and ordinary people goldsmiths and perfumers 3: Unfortunately, there were some important leaders in Tekoa who would not help Nehemiah do the work. The high priest and the other priests began repairing the Sheep Gate. There are many unfamiliar names in this chapter but each name is recorded to remind us that God used them to do His work. This reminds me of our lesson from Esther a few weeks ago when we learned that God uses ordinary people to carry out His plans. This work was important because God would use this wall to protect the Jewish people from their enemies and show them that God was with them Neh. Chapter 4 There were some people who could see the Jewish people working to repair the walls. They did not like it one bit. In fact the sight of the walls and gates being repaired made them very angry. God has an enemy. Do you know who His enemy is? Jesus says that the devil is a liar and a murderer. Nehemiah and the Jews continued to work on the wall. When the enemies saw that the wall was continuing to be built they planned to secretly attack Jerusalem and cause confusion. God used Nehemiah to lead His people to set protection around them day and night. The work was hard without the stress of knowing that the enemies could attack the Jews at any time. While the people worked Nehemiah had half of the people who stood guard armed for battle and the other half worked on the wall. Those who worked on the wall worked with a tool in one hand and a weapon in the other. Nehemiah told the people that if they heard a trumpet blast they were to gather together. Sanballat sent Nehemiah an invitation to join him in the plain of Ono. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you? Nehemiah sent back a message to Sanballat saying that nothing like that is happening because he was inventing the rumors himself. Shemaiah suggested that they go to the temple and lock the doors to hide because the enemies were coming to kill him in the night. Nehemiah knew that God had not given Shemaiah this message. Sanballat and Tobiah hired him to cause Nehemiah to be afraid and sin so they could give him a bad reputation as the leader and make fun of him. God was using Nehemiah to lead His people to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem. The work was hard and the enemies made it more difficult by mocking and threatening the Jews and Nehemiah. God is more powerful than any wall and

promises to protect His people from their enemies. He blinds eyes of those who do not believe in Jesus as the Savior of the world 2 Cor. Sin is our greatest enemy. If we do nothing about the sin in our lives we will be punished for our sins. God must punish sin. Jesus came to the earth as fully God and fully man. He was sinless and died on the cross, shedding His blood so that all who believe in Him will be saved. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Just as the Israelites who put blood on their door posts were protected from death, Jesus shed blood cleanses us and removes our sins so we will not be punished for our sins and separated from God forever. Why did cities have walls around them during Bible times? Protection What kind of walls did Jerusalem have at the beginning of our story? Broken walls, burned gates Who were some of the people that worked to repair the wall and rebuild the gates? False the nobles from Tekoa would not do the work Who became angry when the wall began to be repaired? Sanballat and Tobiah How did Nehemiah lead the people to protect themselves from the enemy? Set people with weapons in place to protect the people day and night, people who were working worked with a tool in one hand and a weapon in the other How did Sanballat and Tobiah trick Nehemiah? Asked him to come to Ono-planning to kill him, made up lies that Nehemiah was building the wall to become king, used Shemaiah to scare Nehemiah to run and hide in the temple How did Nehemiah protect himself from these tricks from the enemies? Prayed How long did it take to rebuild the walls and gates?

3: Nehemiah - Life, Hope & Truth

Nehemiah is one of the Bible's most powerful examples of what a godly leader looks like. This newest collection of Creative Bible Lessons helps your students connect with this ancient figure in a way that is both engaging and relevant.

But there are some rich lessons here for you and me! By Rob Kerby There many people who are unfamiliar with the biblical figure Nehemiah. Yet, he was instrumental in the rebuilding and reestablishment of Jerusalem in the 5th century B. The book of Nehemiah, likely written between 445 and 430 B. Nehemiah had a terrible problem almost 3, years ago. So the Lord allowed them to be conquered and taken captive by the mighty Babylonian Empire. There, they were slaves and exiles “ and they mourned for their fallen nation. Their story teaches you and me some incredible secrets to success. Here are 21 life lessons believers can take away from the Book of Nehemiah. Do your job well. Honest hard work is something God seeks from all of us. When the conquering Babylonians were overthrown by the Persian Empire, Nehemiah, was appointed as a servant to Persian King Artaxerxes. Nehemiah did this by sipping any drink served to the king. Daily, Nehemiah put his life on the line. As a result, he became very trusted by the king. The walls protecting it had been pulled down. The city gates had been burned. The people were unprotected from marauders that roamed the countryside, robbing and looting “ and worse. In deep mourning, Nehemiah prayed for the mercy of the Lord, that they might rebuild the walls of the city. The Lord blessed Nehemiah, giving the lowly cupbearer favor with the king. There First Chronicles Prayer is important, not only because it strengthens our relationship with God, but also because it connects us spiritually with Him and the world around us. Ask God for help when you have an impossible situation. We have sinned against You. We have acted very corruptly against You and have not kept the commandments, statutes, and ordinances which You commanded Your servant Moses. All of life, especially the battles we face in the realm of faith, should be bathed in prayer. He is waiting to hear from you. Go to your Father and ask for help. Watch for His answers! And the Lord answered Nehemiah, saying: Jesus placed great emphasis on the Holy Spirit. He actually told the disciples it was better for them that He leaves so they might receive the Spirit. Even in His resurrected body, Jesus can only be in one place at a time. His Spirit, however, can be everywhere. This is why Jesus said His departure is to our advantage. He wants all men and women to experience a relationship with Him through the omnipresence of the Holy Spirit. And this benefit is just the top of the iceberg. Here, Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as the Helper. By trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit, you are getting to know God on earth. Then I said to them, You see the bad situation we are in “how Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates are burned with fire. Come, let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer be a disgrace. The Lord opened the door for Nehemiah to return home and rebuild the walls. So, Nehemiah set to work to get the job done “ enlisting anybody who would help. Tell what God has done. Never be afraid to talk about what God has done for you! Then I told them of the hand of my God which was upon me for good, and also the words that the king had spoken to me. And they said, Let us rise up and build! So they strengthened their hands for the good work. One great way to tell what God has done is to praise Him. Sing and dance like David. Turn up the praise music. Lift your hands in the air and dance with joy for God. They should sing praises to Him with tambourines and harps. Be ready for opposition. No good idea goes unopposed! But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they laughed us to scorn and said, What is this thing you are doing? Will you rebel against the king? One form of opposition we have to face daily is attacks from the enemy. If we want to protect ourselves from the enemy, we must first turn to God. Only He can protect us from Satan, and our will against Him. Dare to fight back. I answered them, The God of heaven will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build, but you have no portion or right or memorial in Jerusalem. Sometimes God will simply run a protective shield around you where nothing will be able to get through to attack you. Other times something will start to slip through to come directly against you, and then God will move ahead of you to take it out. This is where God will take your enemy head on and do battle with it. God will also use opportunities to fight the battle through you. Prepare for the worst. Nehemiah was no warrior, but he realized he had to be ready to fight. And when our enemies heard their plot was known to us and that God had frustrated their

purpose, we all returned to our work. Half worked and half held spears, shields, bows and arrows. Everyone worked with one hand and held a weapon with the other. Each had a sword. There are various types of hope that we can hold onto when we feel like our world is falling apart. When you realize that tomorrow is already taken care of by God alone and the hope you have in Him, then you can find rest. United we stand, divided we fall. However, they were threatened on every side. There were gaps everywhere on the old wall. Even so, they knew they could not win without the Lord. Our God will fight for us. These people were dedicated to do what God called them to do – protect their hometown. They could not be sidetracked by attacks from without or from within. They had to be a people with "a mind to work! Your purpose as a believer is to build the Kingdom of God. Your role in His Kingdom will require your natural gifts and talents. The call to belong to Christ is everything. This will also empower you to live a greater life in Christ. Our faith is worth fighting for. He refused to give in to them. Today, God is still looking for those who will worship Him in "spirit and in truth. We can never allow anyone to silence our praise, empty our congregations or silence our testimony! Our families are worth fighting for. Your family is larger than just those who share your name or bloodline. It is our duty to reach out to them! Building a foundation of hope for our families will help carry them through the storms of life. In order to do this, we must first submit yourself to God. He is the source of our hope. When we come to Him in humility, He restores us. Next, strengthen your faith. God has given us written record of countless ways He has provided hope for believers in centuries in the past.

4: A Number of Things: Getting Creative With Nehemiah

Creative Bible Lessons in Nehemiah will get your students thinking about the kinds of leaders God is calling them to be and provide them with the tools to be that.

His job is to show up and mostly be a second adult body in the room. Usually the teacher is responsible for the lesson content and delivery while Hubby merely needs to help ride herd on the more rambunctious boys, of which there are several. Yesterday Hubby got a phone call from the regular teacher. She was going to be out of town and would he please do the Sunday School lesson this week? Since he is the nicest man on the planet, he agreed, then he got off the phone and came into the living room with a woeful face. The poor man had spent all week with a nasty head cold and the stress of switching jobs. We had plans to go down to L-town in the evening and would likely get back late. I think he had been secretly nursing the desire to skip church entirely and now he had one day in which to plan and execute a Sunday School lesson, an activity he had never had to do before. I have to admit I was somewhat unsympathetic. I had not volunteered for Sunday School duty at our new church on purpose. With years of teaching under my belt I feel that I had put in my time for the moment. But I did take pity and offer to at least be his happy helper and do the herding. He wracked his brain for a suitable lesson. We did get back from L-town late so it was almost midnight and we were sitting at our respective laptops hurriedly Googling free Sunday School lesson plans and materials. He at last settled on the story of Nehemiah rebuilding the wall. A little-known story with lots of drama, he figured it would appeal to a class full of eight-year-old video game junkies. He got to work printing worksheets and making a quick trip to the hour WinCo for supplies. He started with chit-chat about the cold weather and wearing coats. The Hubby handed out the bibles and we helped the uncertain readers find Nehemiah, a little book sandwiched between Ezra and Esther. The kids took turns reading the story, Hubby pausing them to explain the drama as they went along. To my surprise it did play out a bit like a video game. Nehemiah and the Jews were on a mission to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, destroyed during the exile and the "bad guys" Sanballat and his henchmen were bent on stopping them. The workers, all of whom were unpaid volunteers, were forced to work rebuilding their beloved city with their tools in one hand and their weapons of defense in the other. In the back of my mind, I pictured Hubby building his workforce of little digital men, upgrading their armor and weapons while setting them to work on their wall. After a comprehension sheet full of questions that reminded me of some kind of historical Mad Libs, he introduced the climactic activity of the morning. The moves, controlled by dice rolls, would alternate between the groups of children. It turned out to be a complete hit! The kids loved taking turns rolling the dice, building blocks and then tossing foil-wrapped chocolate pumpkins in an attempt to knock down the block construction. Of course we had to establish some pretty strict rules of game-play to prevent the whole thing collapsing into chaos, but the kids were surprisingly willing to behave and take turns. When the dice roll favored the four boys who played Sanballat and his evil henchmen, they sent up such a roar of approval that I was sure it carried upstairs to the sanctuary where the pastor delivered his sermon. Likewise, when the good guys won the dice roll they cheered with enthusiasm. At the end of the class each kid got to take a couple of Hershey Kisses, who had represented the Jews in our game, and a couple of the evil chocolate pumpkins. All in all, I think those kids had a fabulous time in Sunday School today. Although he has done a little practicum teaching before, I imagine that roomful of eight-year-olds was one of the most intimidating things he has faced for a long time. Instead of shirking, he planned a really great, creative lesson and executed it with grace, making each kid feel welcome and also making it a lot of fun.

5: Lesson 1: The Man Who Cried About a Wall (Nehemiah) | www.enganchecubano.com

Read "Creative Bible Lessons in Nehemiah 12 Sessions on Discovering What Leadership Means for Students Today" by Andrew A. Hedges with Rakuten Kobo. We may think of them as the leaders of tomorrow, but the kids you minister to are already leadersâ€”they're the leaders of.

What can we learn from the life of Nehemiah? Ezra and Nehemiah were contemporaries, and they both wrote about the rebuilding of Jerusalem, which occurred approximately seventy years after it was destroyed by the Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar. From ancient times, the cities located in the Middle East were surrounded by stone walls with gates that were guarded for the protection of the citizens. The important men of each city would gather at the gate where they would conduct the business of the city, share important information, or just pass the time. This date is crucial to the beginning of the prophecy as it starts the prophetic timeline, which ends with the second coming of Jesus Christ. We are currently living between the 69th and 70th week. Nehemiah, who was also captive in Babylon at the time, began his writings with intercessory prayer for his people, Israel, just as Daniel constantly prayed on their behalf, beseeching God to have mercy on them and return them to their homeland. Nehemiah listed specific dates, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, in order that there might be a written record as to the issuing of the decree to rebuild Jerusalem. As he was leaving Babylon, he met some Arab men who mocked him for what he was about to do. We his servants will start rebuilding, but as for you, you have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it. God provided all the necessary workers, and the building began. However, they were not without enemiesâ€”those who desired to stop the rebuilding. But God intervened as He had done with Moses Exodus Our God will fight for us! We can learn from the life of Nehemiah valuable lessons in restoring and maintaining a relationship with God. As the people returned to the rebuilt city, the first order of business was to make certain that they understood the Law of Moses. So Ezra, a priest, spent many hours reading the Law before the assembly, making sure they understood what God desired. They celebrated the feast for seven days, and on the eighth day, in accordance with the regulation, there was an assembly. He lived far away from his home, yet he never gave up hope that someday he would return to it. He spent most of his life in exile in a pagan land, yet he never wavered in his faith and trust in the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He was a prayer warrior, putting everything before the Lord in prayer, interceding on behalf of his people, and he was rewarded for his diligence and perseverance. Nehemiah cared so much for his people that he never gave up the hope of their restoration, not only to their homeland, but to the God that first called their forefather, Abraham, out of the same area and made a covenant with him, one that Nehemiah believed would stand forever.

6: Creative Bible Lessons In Nehemiah | Download eBook PDF/EPUB

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Nehemiah was one of the most exemplary leaders in the Old Testament. Nothing is known of Nehemiah except what is written in the book bearing his name. He makes his first appearance in chapter 1 at Shushan, the principal palace of the Persian King Artaxerxes I, where he served as the personal cupbearer to the king. He was also a trusted adviser and counselor. God placed Nehemiah in that important position, serving the most powerful ruler in the world at that time, in order to accomplish His will and purpose. His prayer is an example of humility and genuine faith in the mercy and power of God to intervene on his behalf 1: However, it was four months before he was presented with an opportunity to make his request to the king 2: Even while he was talking with the king, he silently prayed for favor 2: No specific reasons are given for this delay. Sometimes there may be an interval of time before God answers our prayers, and we have to learn to patiently wait until He does. Patience or long-suffering is a fruit of the Holy Spirit Galatians 5: Consider these passages about patience: Nehemiah was a man of patience, and it is one of the reasons he is regarded as one of the greatest God-centered leaders of the Old Testament. His patience was finally rewarded, and the king consented to his request. Nehemiah was appointed governor of Judea; and along with an escort, he was sent to his beloved city Jerusalem. After remaining in Jerusalem for 12 years, Nehemiah was recalled to the Persian royal court. Buckland, has the following to say about Nehemiah: His respect for the Divine Law, his reverence for the Sabbath Despite strong and persistent opposition from Sanballat and Tobiah, who tried to impede the rebuilding of the city wall, Nehemiah was not deterred from his goal. His enemies scoffed at his attempts, threatened to attack the workmen and even threatened to take his life 2: There are few men in the Bible who exemplify the strength of character, faith and trust in God that Nehemiah exhibited. As if this were not enough, imagine having to deal with discouragement and hardships from his fellow citizens, who were distressed because of the greedy callousness of nobles and rulers 5: And to make matters even worse, some of the rulers conspired against Nehemiah with his adversary Tobiah 6: However, these troubles did not stop Nehemiah from fulfilling his responsibilities. When first faced with opposition, he answered his adversaries: He never flinched from his firm convictions. Then he armed the workers and encouraged them with these words: Remember the Lord, great and awesome. And who is there such as I who would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in! Such courage and heroism are admirable! A willingness to sacrifice for the benefit of others Even though Nehemiah had the authority, he and his family did not extract taxes from the people; neither did he acquire real estate for his personal benefit and use. Rather, he focused his attention on completing the work on the wall 5: It is remarkable that he also provided food for people who gathered at his table 5: Nehemiah showed concern for others: He was truly an outstanding servant of God who was willing to set the high standard God required, even if it meant personal loss, discomfort or pain. Thus Nehemiah continues the story of Ezra and recounts the episode of the reconstruction of the walls of Jerusalem and the final establishment of the Jewish community. The span of time covered by Ezra and Nehemiah is around years and extends from the decree of Cyrus the Great in B. When Nehemiah went to Jerusalem around B. Ezra was a priest and Nehemiah was a civil ruler, but they worked together in harmony to promote spiritual and economic reform within the community. Divine intervention vital Without the miraculous intervention of God, the temple and the walls of Jerusalem would not have been rebuilt. The restoration was no stroke of luck caused by beneficent Persian political policy. God is still in complete control of the affairs of nations and is working out details according to His will and purpose. Outline of Nehemiah The book of Nehemiah may be divided into two main sections: Rededication of the community to God. The Persian king grants permission for Nehemiah to go to Jerusalem. Nehemiah inspects the walls by night. Opposition starts, but he stands firm. Lists of those who rebuilt the walls. Opposition to the rebuilding mounts, but the wall is defended against the enemies. Nehemiah takes firm action to set things right. Further conspiracies appear against Nehemiah. Construction of the wall is completed. Lists of those who returned from exile. Public reading of the law; the

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Feast of Trumpets and Feast of Tabernacles are observed. A day of fasting, repentance with a powerful prayer of confession and recommitment is described. A list of those who promised to obey. Lists of those who settled in Jerusalem and the surrounding area. The priests and Levites listed. The walls dedicated and temple duties outlined. After serving as governor for 12 years, Nehemiah returned to Persia around B. When he came back to Jerusalem, he found various abuses had occurred in his absence. He was shocked to discover that Eliashib, the high priest, had given his old enemy Tobiah a room within the temple complex. Other important reforms followed. Then he turned his attention to violations of the Sabbath and forbade trade or work to take place on the day God had set aside as holy to Him Exodus He chided the nobles of Judah: Nehemiah became extremely angry when he noticed that the men of Judah were marrying women from other cultures. He realized the wives from these pagan cultures would introduce their false ideas into the Jewish religious system of worship, and he took necessary steps to stop this harmful practice Blessings for obedience At the end of the book, Nehemiah makes this statement:

7: 21 Life Lessons From Nehemiah - Beliefnet

Creative Bible Lessons in Nehemiah will get your students thinking about the kinds of leaders God is calling them to be and provide them with the tools to be that leader today. See all Product description.

8: "Creative Bible Lessons in Nehemiah" by Andrew Hedges

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