

## SERVANTS GUIDE

# Nehemiah Lesson 2

Servants **MUST** prep the lesson & complete the below checklist  
& Sincerely ask God to lead the lesson 😊

### Servants understanding

- Pray
- Read the lesson Summary & Goal of the lesson
- Read full chapter
- Read the interpretation to have good understanding first

### Kids Experience

- Read the kids reading flow.
- Prepare the hard words, pauses to probe GEMS (SPACE PETS)
- Time yourself to practice time keeping.
- Go through the video and have the link ready.

**S** - Sin to confess  
**P** - Promise to claim  
**A** - Attitude to change  
**C** - Command to keep  
**E** - Example to follow  
**P** - Prayer to pray  
**E** - Error to avoid  
**T** - Truth to believe  
**S** - Something to thank for  
**Linked GEM**  
**Hymn GEM**

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# Nehemiah Lesson 2

### 1. SERVANT'S UNDERSTANDING

#### Brief

##### This day in the intro we will cover:

- Last week's verse & summary (in pictures).

##### Readings:

- **The actual reading will cover several verses in Nehemiah 4:6-9,13-16,18,20**

##### Key Points/Reflections:

- In chapter 4 we see the opposition to the building of the walls
- **Building the walls** is the fence defending each and every one of us from Satan and his schemes, building your life with God through His word, prayers, fast, communion, service
- Nehemiah reminds his people of how Great and Awesome God is and that He would fight for them. The men of Judah became aware of this plan and are strengthened by God and from this point on they carried their weapons.
- Weapons are a symbol of being armored by the Lord Himself and His word while they worked (growing your spiritual life and Service all through Him)
- Part of the force stood guards while the others worked, each and every one in his post working with one heart (that how God desire us to be (each with his unique talent and work in life), supporting and completing each other).
- **Trumpet** (also indicates God's word that calls out loud to guide us)

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### Full reading and interpretations

Servant to read [Nehemiah 4 \(NKJV\)](#)

Chapter interpretations:

[Catena – Nehemiah 4](#)

Fr Tadros Yacoub

[Fr. Tadros Yacoub - Book of Nehemiah in English](#)

[Fr. Tadros Yacoub – Nehemiah 4 in Arabic](#)

Reference for meanings and simpler equivalent words:

[Nehemiah 4 with simplified English \(NIRV\)](#)



Settings

#### Select Church Tradition

##### All Commentaries

Includes all of the below

##### Western Theology

All fathers honored in Western Church after AD 1054 (e.g. Thomas Aquinas, Cornelius a Lapide, George Leo Haydock)

##### Byzantine Theology

All fathers venerated in Byzantine Church after AD 1054 (e.g. Gregory Palamas, Theophylact of Ochrid)

##### Early Fathers

All fathers venerated in all churches in communion with the Church of Alexandria (e.g. Athanasius of Alexandria, John Chrysostom, Augustine of Hippo)

### Question

Questions to be ready for **(don't discuss them unless the kids do):**

**Q1. Why did the people dwelling in the lands around Jerusalem get angry seeing the walls being built? Because building the walls means the city is well protected and stable and hard to invade (get in to take any of its lands as before) same like satan when he sees us being protected by God gets furious because he cannot get into our hearts and steal us away from the Lord**

## 2. KIDS / CLASS EXPERIENCE Prep.

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**Total 45 Minutes Class Experience – Don't exceed the time!**

**TOTAL 5 MINS**

### **PRAY / INTRODUCTION**

#### **Start in Prayer**

- > We stand and pray.
- > Pray in relevance to reading the bible: Ask God to talk to us through the bible and help us focus and find lessons learned.

#### **Last week's verse**

**Last week's Recap:** Recap last week in pictures

**This week's VIDEO** **TOTAL 5 MINS**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5Y0P6Mpbqo&t=657s>

- From minutes 6:30 to 10:30

**Time check: 30 mins left**

**TOTAL 20 MINS**

### **BIBLE READING & REFLECTION**

#### **Intro:**

*The last time we met we began our study in the book of Nehemiah. Who remembers why Nehemiah was burdened by the news about Jerusalem? (The walls were broken)  
What did Nehemiah do when he heard this news? (Mourned, prayed, and fasted)  
How did God help Nehemiah? (The king gave him permission to return to rebuild, provided for him and protected him).*

#### **Bridge:**

*After Nehemiah scouted Jerusalem, a plan was made to rebuild the walls (to protect it) first then rebuild the city from the inside.  
Eliashib the high priest instructed each family to build the wall next to their house – and chapter 3 list down all the families and which part of the wall they worked on. Teamwork makes dream work!*

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*Today we will learn about the challenges that Nehemiah faced while building the walls of Jerusalem*

### Nehemiah 4

#### The Wall Defended Against Enemies

<sup>1</sup> But it so happened, when Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, that he was furious and very indignant, and mocked the Jews.

<sup>2</sup> And he spoke before his brethren and the army of Samaria, and said, “What are these feeble Jews doing? Will they fortify themselves? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they complete it in a day? Will they revive the stones from the heaps of rubbish—*stones* that are burned?”

<sup>6</sup> So we built the wall, and the entire wall was joined together up to half its *height*, for the people had a mind to work.

**GEM:** Example to follow. (Had a mind to work)

<sup>7</sup> Now it happened, when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites heard that the walls of Jerusalem were being restored and the gaps were beginning to be closed, that they became very angry,

<sup>8</sup> and all of them conspired together to come *and* attack Jerusalem and create confusion.

<sup>9</sup> Nevertheless we made our prayer to our God, and because of them we set a watch against them day and night.

#### Hard words:

**Furious** --> very angry

**very indignant** --> Upset

**Mocked** --> made fun of

**Feeble** --> weak or faint

**Fortify** --> protect (build fortress)

**Revive** --> bring back to life

**Restored** -->> return

**Conspired**-->> Plot a wicked plan

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GEM: Example to follow. (PRAY and Be at WATCH)

**NOTE TO SERVANTS – ASK THE KIDS IF ANYONE CAN SUMMERIZE**

**RECAP:**

*After Nehemiah and the Israelites started to work on the wall – challenges started to arise from outside (The enemies) and from the inside (from the people feeling discouraged and tired) BUT Nehemiah used the ultimate weapon mentioned in verse 9 “PRAY”*

**Intriguing Questions:**

*Can you think of examples of times where things were challenging, discouraging and hard?! What did you do? What can we learn from what Nehemiah did ... what can you do from now on?*

<sup>13</sup> Therefore I positioned *men* behind the lower parts of the wall, at the openings; and I set the people according to their families, with their swords, their spears, and their bows.

<sup>14</sup> And I looked, and arose and said to the nobles, to the leaders, and to the rest of the people, “Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, great and awesome, and fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses.”

<sup>15</sup> And it happened, when our enemies heard that it was known to us, and *that* God had brought their plot to nothing, that all of us returned to the wall, everyone to his work.

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<sup>16</sup> So it was, from that time on, *that* half of my servants worked at construction, while the other half held the spears, the shields, the bows, and *wore* armor; and the leaders *were* behind all the house of Judah.

### GEMs

- Example to follow
- Prayer to pray
- Truth to believe

### RECAP:

*Nehemiah put a plan ... people will be building but also guarding at the same time. He asked God to protect and help – He reminded the people how GOD is AWESOME And the plan of the enemies failed! YAY!*

<sup>18</sup> Every one of the builders had his sword girded at his side as he built. And the one who sounded the trumpet *was* beside me.  
<sup>20</sup> Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, rally to us there. **Our God will fight for us."**

GEMs: Example to follow (Be always prepared)  
Build "work" and Guard "by prayer" and watch out for each other

dominion -->> nation

### RECAP:

*Plan was a success – everyone build and guard and if someone is in trouble, Blow the trumpet and those are close guards will support. GEM: Example to follow – we should support each other too!*

*Time check: 10 mins left*

**WRAP UP & VERSE OF THE DAY**

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### TOTAL 5 MINS

NOW, facilitate that “The Kids” find out lessons learned.

Remind them with the principle “we ALWAYS find something to learn from the Bible when we read it.”

Tips for Lessons learned facilitation:

Use SPACE PETS Key to help the kids find lessons learned (tool to find the Gems!)

- Sin to confess?
- Promise to claim?
- Attitude to change?
- Command to keep?
- Example to follow?
- Prayer to pray?
- Error to avoid?
- Truth to believe?
- Something to thank God for?

### What did you learn from today's reading?

- Cling to God: learn His word, work with Him (pray, fast, help all around you wisely) and trust He is always there defending you.
- Each and every one of us is blessed by a unique talent or ability so as to complete and support each other acting as one body.
- God's Children should feel for each other (have the heart), especially for those under burdens and with hardships (with problems or sufferings).
- Feeling for each other leads to supporting each other through praying and whatever in hand we can do or offer

### What can you do to apply what you read in your personal life?

- Consider Nehemiah's response to this attack. He did not answer them on their level. He did not say mean things back to them. His response was to humbly pray to the Lord and ask God to help them and he continued the work.
- Romans 12:19-21 tells us, <sup>19</sup> Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.

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**Verse of the Day:**

**Verse to Memorize:** So they said, "Let us rise up and build." (Nehemiah 2:18)

*TIME CHECK: 5 mins left*

**TOTAL 5 MINS**

**Prayer & Dismissal**

We can motivate and guide them to say a simple single sentence.

*TIME CHECK: 0 mins left*

*Please dismiss kids on time*